

# YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL



City of  
Joondalup

MEETING OF THE JOONDALUP YOUTH  
ADVISORY COUNCIL HELD IN MEETING  
ROOM 3 – 3<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR – CITY OF JOONDALUP  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ON  
WEDNESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2004.

## ATTENDANCES

Kate Maassen	Chairperson	Jeremy Manning	Youth Project Officer
Sarah Flatters			
Claire Hand			
Noura Huneidi			
Michael Blanchard			
Amy Kauler			
Jakara Enders			
Blade Shaw			
Chantelle Handley			

## APOLOGIES

Silke Losch  
Lauren Carr  
Katriese Dalgety  
Lauren Hicks

## ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Youth Advisory Council held on 18 August 2004 in Meeting room 3, were accepted as a true and correct record.

**MOVED:** Michael Blanchard

**SECONDED:** Blade Shaw

*CARRIED*

### **Update on Commissioner relationship**

Kate Maassen updated members regarding a recent presentation that was made by herself and the Youth Project Officer to Commissioners' at a Strategy session. The presentation focused on improving the involvement of young people in the decision-making processes of the City of Joondalup and a number of strategies were presented to achieve this outcome. These strategies were outlined for members and discussion followed regarding the future process of these strategies. Members suggested that they would like to be involved in the investigation/development of these strategies. Amongst these strategies was an open invitation for Commissioners' to attend Youth Advisory Council meetings and members were made aware that this might occur in the near future.

#### *ACTION*

*Members to be involved in the investigation/development of the strategies suggested at the recent strategy session.*

### **Twin Cities relationship with the Youth Advisory Council.**

Current Youth Advisory Council member Lauren Hicks is also a presenter on Twin Cities radio and has proposed a stronger relationship between the Youth Advisory Council and the radio station. Unfortunately Lauren was absent from this meeting due to illness and for this reason members agreed that the item be postponed.

#### *ACTION*

*Postpone until next meeting*

### **Recognition of Aboriginal heritage**

This issue stems from the fact that the City of Joondalup does not currently display an Aboriginal flag on a daily basis in or outside any of its buildings except during special weeks such as NAIDOC week. Kate Maassen outlined the background to this issue and suggested that the following recommendation be discussed

*That the aboriginal flag be raised during working hours outside the Joondalup administration building in recognition of the rich local aboriginal heritage.*

Members discussed this recommendation and were supportive the proposed recommendation for the following reasons

- It would recognise the traditional owners of the land that we occupy
- It would set an example to other local governments regarding the recognition of aboriginal heritage
- It would show a 365 day a year commitment to respect/reconciliation in our community.

#### *ACTION*

*That the following recommendation be forwarded to Commissioners*

*That the aboriginal flag be raised during working hours outside the Joondalup administration building in recognition of the rich local aboriginal heritage and original ownership of land.*

### **The Scene Youth Newspaper**

Members discussed the content of the next edition of the Joondalup Scene and suggested a number of articles to be included. Responsibility for writing these articles was allocated and members agreed a deadline for provision of these articles. It is intended that this edition of the newspaper will be printed and distributed prior to the Extreme Youth Festival.

### **ACTION**

*Members to provide articles to Editor by agreed date for inclusion in the next edition of "The Scene"*

### **Youth Curfew**

#### **Background**

In the previous meeting, members raised the issue of a "Youth Curfew" (similar to Northbridge). It was felt that it was timely for the committee to consider this issue for the following reasons:

- The City has not previously stated a policy position on this issue,
- In the lead-up to a State election, "Crime and Safety" is likely to be on the political agenda and a "curfew" may be seen as a possible strategy to achieve this outcome. This raises the possibility of "curfews" being enacted in areas other than Northbridge.

With this in mind the members of the Youth Advisory Council felt that it was timely to consider the issue in depth and to suggest a policy position regarding the implementation of "youth curfews" within the City of Joondalup, for consideration by Commissioners.

To support this debate members conducted significant individual research regarding the topic and an extensive debate occurred via email in the lead up to the formal meeting.

#### **Discussion**

Michael Blanchard proposed the following recommendation be suggested to Commissioners.

*That the Joint Commissioners resists any course of action that limits the free movement of young people such as a curfew within the City of Joondalup*

This motion was debated at length and many opposing viewpoints were presented. The debate can be summarised as follows

- Some members felt that Northbridge curfew was necessary given the age of young people who are present there and the potential risk of harm.
- Some members felt that the “curfew” was largely symbolic (political) and represented a formalisation of pre-existing informal practises.
- Some members felt that a curfew restricted the rights of young people to move freely in the public domain.
- Some members suggested the curfew was a short-sighted solution to a difficult issue and that it diverted attention from the root causes of many of the social issues that exist in Northbridge.
- Some members felt that the “Northbridge curfew” may represent a pilot for future implementation in other areas.

Given the points raised above, members felt that while the curfew may fit the current and unique needs of the Northbridge situation, any attempts to expand the implementation of curfews should be closely monitored.

Therefore the members of the Youth Advisory Council amended the original recommendation such that it now reads

*That the Joint Commissioners endorse the policy position that the City of Joondalup actively resists any course of action such as a youth curfew, that limits the right of young people to move freely within the public domain until adequate and direct consultation has occurred with young people and other stakeholders and all other proactive approaches have been explored.*

#### *ACTION*

*Present the above recommendation for consideration by Commissioners*

#### **Absolutely Everybody**

Members were reminded about the upcoming “Protective Behaviours” workshop that was being planned as a part of the Absolutely Everybody program. Members were invited to participate in this intergenerational program and a number of dates were proposed. These dates will be emailed to Youth Advisory Council members in the near future and expressions of interest will be taken following this email.

#### *ACTION*

*Members to reply to email regarding participation when received*

#### **Extreme Youth Festival**

The Youth Projects Officer reminded members of the Extreme Youth Festival Organising Crew that a meeting would be held on the following Tuesday evening. These meetings occur fortnightly leading up to the Festival.

**Youth Health Needs**

Nothing to report

**Poetry in Motion**

Entries for this competition close in the near future. The Youth Project Officer undertook to compile entries for Youth Advisory Council members and mail prior to next meeting of the Youth Advisory Council so that a decision regarding the competition winners can be made at next meeting.

**NEXT FORMAL MEETING**

Date: Wednesday, 20 October 2004  
Time: 5.45pm  
Venue: Meeting Room 3

**There being no further business, the Chairperson closed the meeting at 7.30 pm.**