

# GLADSTONE SAIKI SISTER CITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Philip Street Communities and Families Precinct

**Date:** 16/05/2024

**Time:** 4.45pm – 6.00pm

## MEETING MINUTES

### 1. Committee Acknowledgments

1.1. Attendees	Yukiko Moore, Ayako Carrick, Maureen Mason, Bev Fellows, Wendy Marsh, Howard Marsh, Robina Cupitt, Aaron Yea, Carolina Bocos, Belinda Lynch (Gallery and Museum Education and Engagement Officer), Barry Meiring (GRC Manager Tondoon Botanical Gardens) Rebecca Creedy (GRC Community Development Officer)
1.2. Apologies	Jaclyn Iwasaka, Gay Sirriss, Peter Masters, Peter O'Dwyer, Chris Moore, Mayumi Rey du Boissieu,
1.3. Guests	Nil

### 2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

2.1 Committee members to disclose	Nil
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### 3. Confirmation of Minutes

3.1 Minutes of April Meeting	Moved: Wendy Marsh Seconded: Bev Fellows
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### 4. Presentations

4.1 Presentations	Nil
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### 5. Committee Correspondence

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### 5.1 Incoming

- Email from Tokoton Taiko advising they are excited to be visiting Gladstone for the event
- Email from Yoshiko Moore, Japan Community of Queensland, to Saiki Committee with promotional film proposal

### 5.2 Outgoing

- Email from Jaclyn submitting RADF application for Taiko Drummer performance and workshops, Email to Tokoton Taiko confirming event is going ahead and we will be proceeding with their quote
- Email to Brand & Communications Team thanking them for updating the website
- Email to Barry and Joel at Tondoon Gardens thanking them for meeting with committee members to discuss signage options for the Japanese Tea House Gardens.

## 6. Standing Business Items

### 6.1 Tondoon Garden Projects and Events

- Saiki Committee send their congratulations to Barry and his team, along with Beau Pitt from Gladstone State High School, on the success of World Bonsai Day held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May.
- Bamboo Tipping Water Feature (shishi-odoshi) to be made by Michael Eberle (owner of Simply Japanese Bonsai) for the Japanese Tea House Gardens. Barry has this in his office and will have this installed before the September event.
- A hand built tsukubai, fully sealed and plumbed for water, was presented as a surprise gift from Michael Eberle to the committee at the Multicultural Festival in August 2022. The committee thank Michael for this welcome addition and have since met at the Tondoon Gardens to identify suitable locations for the Tsukubai and the shishi-odoshi- one being at the entrance to the gardens and the other to be placed in the water in the lower pond. Barry will contact Michael to recommend a bowl size for the feature and the committee will then purchase it.
- Barry has liaised with the Gladstone Area Water Board regarding native fish being released into the pond at the

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	<p>Japanese Tea House Gardens. Barry will proceed with releasing rainbow coloured native fish into the pond. Cr Patrick has suggested comet goldfish (Carassius Auratus) are a suitable Australian native with a similar appearance to Koi.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The committee would like Barry to investigate the requirements to be listed as an authentic Japanese Tea House Garden in Australia and if they can support this in any way. He has yet to find assessment guidelines, the new curator, Joel, will be looking into this.</li><li>• The committee have discussed with Barry the addition of a feature at the entrance to the Japanese Tea House Gardens to guide people towards the garden and mark the ritual of walking into the garden. Concrete lanterns were suggested, the committee are to research ideas for discussion at the next meeting.</li></ul>
6.2 Youth Engagement- Art and Science of Shorebird Book package	Ayako has offered to translate the book into Japanese for sharing with Saiki City, Allan Briggs of Birdlife Capricornia is happy for this to happen.
<b>7. Outstanding Business Items</b>	
<b>8. Other Business Items</b>	
8.1 Interschool Exchanges	<p>Chris has contacted the new Saiki Board of Education contact, Keiko Murai, to discuss the possibility of recommencing the High School exchange program. No response received as yet.</p> <p>Chris will reach out to Principal Kazu Watanabe (contact details received through Russell and Julie Charles) to discuss with him the possibility of commencing high school exchanges again in the near future.</p>

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8.2 Sport and Culture Exchanges	Maureen raised the idea of Sport and Culture Exchanges to promote events in Gladstone and invite residents of Saiki to visit. In particular, the Boyne Tannum Hook Up (fishing), golf and cycling are three sports popular in both cities. The committee's role in this would be obtaining contact information and facilitating a conversation between the groups in Australia and Japan to start the discussion about exchange opportunities. Cr Churchill advised this would be an international point of contact that could sit on the Saiki webpage. The committee is to research local sporting groups and create a contact list to propose the idea. An email would need to be written in Japanese to Saiki City Office first proposing the idea.
8.3 Youth Engagement- online gaming competition	Aaron has confirmed the equipment is working and has set up a user account on behalf of the Saiki Committee. He has proposed the gaming structure to the group and the next step will be finding a suitable location. Ultimately, the committee would like to launch the event and then hand it over to the right group of people/ youths to carry it on.
8.4 Donation of Kimono from Cathy Coronas	Cathy Coronas has spoken with Carolina as she wishes to donate a Kimono from one of her visits to Saiki to the Gladstone Regional Council. Wendy has advised the Kimono will go to Gladstone Regional Art Gallery and Museum for proper storage and safekeeping, this can be done through contacting the Saiki Committee Secretariat. Cathy will contact Rebecca once she has located the kimono from her storage and is ready to make the donation.
8.5 Blue Cards	Blue Card requirements were discussed, and each member is to supply their blue card details to Rebecca for linking as a GRC volunteer. Those who do not have a Blue Card can apply for a free volunteer blue card online.
8.6 Evening event in the Japanese Tea House Gardens	<p>The event will take place on the evening of Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September in celebration of the 28<sup>th</sup> year of the signing of Declaration of Friendship. Jaclyn will work with Mayumi, Carolina and Rebecca to plan the event, which will include Japanese entertainment, workshops and displays, and take place at the Japanese Tea House Gardens at Tondoon.</p> <p>Jaclyn has received a quote from Taiko Drummers. They can do a performance at the event and 2 community workshops (bringing 10</p>

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	<p>drums with them) for \$3580. Each workshop can have up to 20 people in them and would be open to all of community.</p> <p>Jaclyn has also spoken with a Koto player who can attend the event and be available to visit local schools.</p> <p>Jaclyn has submitted an application, through the committee secretariat, for RADF funding to engage Taiko Drummers who will attend the event and do community workshops. Belinda advised the application has been recommended for funding and will go to Council on June 4<sup>th</sup> for endorsement.</p>
8.7 Luminous 18-20 July	<p>Council Events Team have invited the Saiki Sister City Committee to be a part of Luminous in 2024. The event will take place from 18 – 20 July, 5.30 – 9.30pm over the 3 evenings.</p> <p>Rebecca to confirm if these dates have been moved forward a week. Also to discuss with the events team if they can coordinate equipment needed for set up, lighting options etc.</p>
<b>9. Close of Meeting</b>	
9.1 Meeting closed at 6.00pm	Next meeting will be held on Thursday 20th June 2024, 4.45pm at the Philip Street Communities and Families Precinct.

## 2024 Calendar of Project Actions

Actions	Person responsible	Progress to Date
Rebecca liaising with Municipal Band and GRC Multimedia Officer to coordinate a time for audio and visual recording of “Plaza in Saiki” composed music. Awaiting confirmation of suitable time.	Rebecca Creedy	Awaiting response
Installation of bamboo tipping water feature for the Japanese Tea House Gardens	Barry Meiring	Aim to install by September for anniversary event
Release of colourful native fish in the Japanese Tea House Garden Pond	Barry Meiring	In progress

Coordination of an evening event at the Japanese Tea House Gardens	Jaclyn Iwasaka, Mayumi Rey du Boissieu, Carolina Bocos, Rebecca Creedy	In Progress
Blue Card information to be sent to Rebecca for linking volunteers to Gladstone Regional Council	All committee members	In progress
Contact Michael Eberle to recommend a bowl size for the water feature he created and where the committee might purchase an authentic Japanese bowl.	Barry Meiring	
Translation of key points from “The Art and Science of Shorebirds” book for sharing with Saiki City	Ayako Carrick	
Discuss interschool exchanges with Principal Kazu Watanabe	Chris Moore	

### Confirmed 2024 Committee Meeting Dates

The Gladstone Saiki Sister Advisory Committee meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month from February – November.

The venue for these meetings is the Philip Street Communities and Families Precinct Gladstone Ngallil Building, unless otherwise changed by Committee vote.

Time held: 4:45pm - 6pm 2024

January	February	March	April	May	June
18 <sup>th</sup> Planning meeting	15th	21st	18th	16th	20th
July	August	September	October	November	December
18th	15th	19th	17th	21st (AGM)	No Meeting