

OLDER PERSONS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The Older Persons Consultative Committee (OPCC) has been appointed by the City of Port Phillip council to be its main advisory body on all issues affecting older residents living in the City of Port Phillip. Encompassing a wide range of backgrounds and views, the OPCC is accessible and engaged.

ANNUAL REPORT January to December 2019

Introduction

This is the Annual Report of the City of Port Phillip Older Persons Consultative Committee (OPCC). The report covers the activities of the Committee for the period January to December 2019.

The Committee was established in 2000 as an outcome of the International Year of the Older Person, celebrated in 1999.

The stated purpose of the OPCC:

The Older Persons Consultative Committee will provide advice to Council and Council officers about policies, plans and services affecting older people.

OPCC Terms of Reference Objectives

- To be the peak advisory and advocacy body on issues affecting the wellbeing of older people (55+) within the Port Phillip municipality.
- To provide advice to Council and its officers on policies, plans and services that affect older people and their interests.
- To advocate to the Community and Council, on behalf of older people, reflecting the United Nations principles of independence, participation, care, self-fulfillment and dignity.
- To connect with other community advisory structures of Council.
- To liaise with other organisations and networks who have a direct interest in older persons in the City of Port Phillip.

Membership

Membership of the OPCC includes:

Members	Locations
Margo Anderson	Balaclava
Freda Erlich	St Kilda
Lesley Greagg	Elwood
Betty Knight	Albert Park
Coralie Ling	St Kilda
Brigid McCoppin	Albert Park
Sue McGowan	Port Melbourne
Alex Njoo	St Kilda
Liz Robson	Port Melbourne
Jane Sims	St Kilda
Jose Simsa	Middle Park
Georgina Tsolidis	Elwood



Office Bearers	Position
Georgina Tsolidis	Chairperson
Jane Sims	Deputy Chairperson
Past Members	
Margo Anderson	Balaclava (April 2017 to December 2019)
Council Representative	
Cr Dick Gross	Mayor (November 2018 – November 2019)
Council Officer/s	Position
Laura Cattapan	Coordinator Access & Inclusion
Sherridan Green	Community Development & Liaison Officer

Past Members

Balaclava resident **Margo Anderson** was a member of the OPCC from April 2017 to December 2019 and represented University of Third Age Port Phillip (U3APP) on the Committee. Margo has a Social Work background and was an active committee member advocating on social justice issues impacting older persons including community safety, housing and homelessness.

OPCC Objectives and Plan January to December 2019

The OPCC Planning Sub Committee was established to develop the OPCC objectives and action plan for 2019. The session was held in the Training Room at the St Kilda Town Hall on Friday 11 January 2019. The Sub Committee was made up of the OPCC Chair, Deputy Chair and ten members of the OPCC who nominated to participate. Council officers Mary McGorry Manager Diversity and Inclusion, Laura Cattapan Coordinator Access and Inclusion and Sherridan Green Community Development and Liaison Officer also attended to provide relevant information and administrative support.

The 2019 Objectives and Plan was developed within the context and aligned to the following documents:

- OPCC Terms of Reference – April 2017
- City of Port Phillip Council Plan 2017-27
- City of Port Phillip Health and Wellbeing Implementation strategy
- OPCC 2018 Objectives and Action Plan
- World Health Organisation (WHO) Age Friendly Cities (AFC) Framework

Seven objectives were identified and aligned to the Council Plan and AFC Framework, they included:

1. Advice and Advocacy: To represent and advocate for the interests of older residents of Port Phillip.
2. Communication and Information: To listen to and communicate with older Port Phillip residents.
3. Diversity: To ensure that the OPCC activities reflect the diversity of the older community.
4. Networking/Partnerships: To continue and further develop information exchange for networking and partnerships.
5. Sustainability, Climate Change: To consider the implications/impact of climate change for the ageing population of Port Phillip.
6. Physical Environment: To continue to promote the concept of Age Friendly Cities.
7. Governance: To ensure transparent, sustainable processes for the Committee.

The draft was then presented at the 4 February 2019 meeting for consultation and endorsed by the OPCC at the 4 March 2019 meeting.

Attachment 1.1 City of Port Phillip - Older Persons Consultative Committee Objectives and Plan January – December 2019



Meetings

The OPCC continued to meet monthly. In 2019 a total of ten OPCC meetings were held from February to June and August to December. Meetings were convened at the St Kilda Town Hall. The quorum at each meeting was upheld.

The OPCC members continued to consult on matters relevant to older people residing in the City of Port Phillip and deliberated on specific Council matters concerning older people and the broader community.

Community trends relevant to Council were identified through OPCC meetings where reports were provided from OPCC representatives. The OPCC continued to maintain connections with relevant associations and participate in relevant networks and forums both within and external to Council.

OPCC members represented the following associations/networks and reported relevant activities at the OPCC monthly meetings:

- Fishermans Bend Urban Renewal Area (FBURA) Community Forum - Alex Njoo
- Council of the Ageing (COTA) Victoria - Betty Knight.
- U3APP - Margo Anderson
- Linking Neighbours Leadership Group - Lesley Greagg
- Port Phillip Multifaith Network -Coralie Ling
- Port Phillip Multicultural Advisory Committee - Georgina Tsolidis
- Australian Association of Gerontology - Jane Sims
- Port Phillip Lions Club - Sue McGowan

OPCC members participated in the following forums/training:

- Fitzroy Street site visit
- Fitzroy Street Placemaking community consultation sessions
- Port Phillip Antiracism Training
- Innovative approaches to building respect for older people forum
- Victorian Active Ageing Project (VAAP) Research & Practice Forum presentation
- Embolden Conference
- Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Positive Ageing Network presentation

The following OPCC working groups and subcommittees were established to progress the actions highlighted in the 2019 Objectives and Plan:

- Aged Care Reform Working Group
- Seniors Festival Steering Committee
- OPCC 20th Anniversary Working Group
- LGA Reference Committees Working Group

As part of the consultative role of the OPCC, Council Officers regularly sought advice and feedback on Council activities and initiatives relating to the needs, engagement and inclusion of older people. In turn the OPCC brought to the meetings feedback and issues on Council business that were raised by the community.

OPCC 2019 consultative work directly related to Council business:

Community Bus Review – Jane Sims & Associates Director, Dr. Jane Sims (OPCC meeting March)

Dr. Jane Sims provided an update on the progress of the Review and an overview of the community consultation process which she was conducting, which also included benchmarking with other councils. Jane said that the Community Bus service has a great deal of flexibility compared to other similar services and advised that the service is not designed to be a Public Transport service.

Introduction of Tony Keenan the new General Manager (GM) Community & Economic Development (CED) and update on Port Phillip's Housing Strategy - GM CED, Tony Keenan (OPCC Meeting March)

The General Manager introduced himself and outlined his professional background. He provided an overview of Council's housing strategy. Council is looking at an inclusionary housing model which has been discussed with State Government, however nothing formal has been agreed. He explained that the Homeless Strategy focuses on rough sleeping. He provided statistics and said that the community's perception is that rough sleeping is increasing, however Frankston and Dandenong now have more rough sleepers than Port Phillip.

Council is currently initiating a 'collective impact', where all services working in Port Phillip band together to get better outcomes for people who are homeless. Council recently employed a Port Phillip Zero Senior Project Officer to focus on housing and homelessness. Tony said that the 1990s mental health services have been defunded and assertive outreach services for comorbidity have been stripped back. These measures have had an impact on rough sleeping. There is also now more older women experiencing homelessness.

Placemaking in Fitzroy Street and Port Phillip – Program Director Placemaking, Anita Donnelly and Senior Placemaking, Facility Tanja Heil. (OPCC meeting April)

The Program Director provided a presentation on Placemaking in Port Phillip outlining the three priority areas the Council is focusing on: Fitzroy Street in St Kilda, Clarendon Street in South Melbourne and Waterfront Place in Port Melbourne. They stated that recently the CEO has been given delegation to approve street activation on Fitzroy Street so things can be done quickly. Fitzroy Street place planning meetings have also been held with approximately 40 community members attending including the OPCC Chair. People attending get to vote on the projects intended to reinvigorate the area. The OPCC asked if there were any considerations being made about housing and homelessness.

Antiracism Training – Diversity Officer, Ewa Zysk (March)

An OPCC representative attended the training during Diversity Week on 21 March.

Community Safety Plan consultation - Senior Health Development Planner, Alicia Hooper (OPCC Meeting April)

The Officer presented the draft Community Safety Plan and discussed Council's drinking ban and the 12month evaluation. She stated that it is still to be determined whether the ban will be extended. She provided the OPCC with a discussion paper on the Plan and asked OPCC to complete an exercise ranking each of the Council's safety plan strategies and add remarks.

Community Safety Round Table (April)

Two OPCC representatives attended the Round Table sessions and provided input.

OPCC Fitzroy Street Site Walk – Senior Place Making Facilitator, Carine Bourcier and Coordinator Community Strengthening, Leo Kelly (April)

Four members of the OPCC attended the site walk and provide suggestions for improvements including new seating, kids play area, water fountains and a good business mix. The site walk was discussed with the Committee which concluded that Fitzroy Street is a premier boulevard and as such, there should still be seating, which benefits older persons but a range of others as well.

Access and Inclusion Plan consultation - Access Planner, Julia Wanhill (OPCC Meeting May)

The Access Planner gave a brief overview of Council's draft Access and Inclusion Plan and explained that it is a legislative requirement for Council to implement and deliver. She conducted a consultation activity with the Committee based on the key actions in the draft plan and advised the OPCC that its responses would be included in the final plan.

Community Bus Review – Jane Sims & Associates Director, Dr. Jane Sims (OPCC Meeting May)

Dr. Jane Sims presented a summary of the completed Review. An extensive consultation process was conducted with both internal and external stakeholders, including users. Dr. Sims highlighted that with the user survey one fifth of users said that the Community Bus was not just meeting their transport needs but also addressed social isolation. Dr. Sims said that the Review ascertained that Council's Community Bus model is a unique service that provides its users with more autonomy and independence than traditional community transport services. The Council bus drivers also provide passengers with information about other services and links/referrals. The OPCC concluded that the review was a fantastic and thorough report and thanked Jane for her ongoing inclusion of the OPCC throughout the review process.

Charter of Aged Care Rights and Quality Standards - Coordinator Access and Inclusion, Laura Cattapan (OPCC Meeting August)

The Coordinator presented the new Charter of Aged Care Rights and Quality Standards to the Committee. She explained that the new standards are designed to complement the Charter of Rights and aim to strengthen the focus on consumer centered care and improve people's experiences and outcomes of care.

Port Phillip Library Consultation – Director Quest Consulting, Vicki Davidson (OPCC Meeting August)

The Consultant explained that she has been engaged by Library Services to conduct a community consultation to ensure Council libraries are meeting the needs of residents and to support Council to develop a library action plan. She asked the OPCC a series of questions. Some of the responses included; value of the large print books, appreciation of library activities and events, value of the home library service, importance of promoting other issues and events such as Diversity Week; that libraries are wonderful places and none of them should close.

The Consultant then thanked the Committee for their valuable feedback and said that once the action plan was finalized it would be presented to them.

Public Spaces Strategy Consultation - Katrina Terjung Manager Community Capacity and Senior Strategic Planner, Alex Hodgson (OPCC Meeting August)

The Officers delivered a presentation to the OPCC which provided context on why Council is developing a Public Spaces Strategy and in consulting with the OPCC asked how they use open spaces, what are some of the barriers and what could Council do to improve public spaces. The OPCC responded and included seating and accessibility as important for older people.

Diversity & Inclusion Manager update – Manager Diversity & Inclusion, Mary McGorry (OPCC Meeting August)

Mary Reported that Council’s current Regional Assessment Team will no longer be funded post June 2020. The Federal Government is looking to introduce a streamlined assessment process that will not be locally based. Currently Council’s Assessment Team provides a lot of care navigation and local knowledge is unlikely to exist under the new model. The Government will be undergoing a national tender to deliver the assessment services and it is likely that it will go to two or three larger services to deliver across the state.

Precinct Planning Update - Cr Bernadene Voss (OPCC Meeting September)

Cr Voss delivered a detailed PowerPoint presentation on the Fishermans Bend precinct. The presentation provided a brief background on Fishermans Bend planning, the planning phases and responses to the OPCC’s correspondence outlining the WHO Age Friendly Cities Framework. She said that the OPCC’s submission linking Fishermans Bend planning to the WHO Age Friendly Cities Framework made sense i.e. if it is accessible for older people then it is accessible for all. Cr Voss offered to take the OPCC on a bus trip to the Fishermans Bend precinct. The OPCC asked about social housing, Cr Voss said that Council advocated for 20% of the precinct to be social housing however this didn’t get up. Developers must only prioritise 6% of their development for social housing. If they can prove why 6% would not be viable to their business, then this could be reduced further. The higher their development the more social housing they will be required to provide.

Draft Parking Policy community feedback – Coordinator Access & Inclusion, Laura Cattapan (OPCC Meeting October)

The Coordinator presented the OPCC with the Draft Parking Policy and provided some context in relation to the changes that are being proposed. She handed out information regarding the policy, which can also be found on Council’s Have Your Say page on the Council website. She explained that the draft policy is proposing many changes and encouraged OPCC members to go online and contribute to ‘Have your say’.

OPCC Fishermans Bend Bus Tour – Cr Bernadene Voss (Monday 28 October)

Cr Voss hosted an OPCC bus tour of FBURA. Nine Committee members attended.

Community Bus Review Update - Team Leader Community Transport, Ron Martens (OPCC Meeting November)

The Team Leader briefly discussed his role and thanked Dr. Jane Sims for completing a comprehensive review. He then presented The Community Bus Review Recommendation Action Plan which outlined the actions, timeframe for completion and progress against each recommendation.

Matters affecting older residents highlighted to Council by the OPCC members.

South Melbourne Market - mechanism that informs people about parking availability was not functioning which makes it difficult for older people and people with disabilities to know there is parking. (OPCC meeting February)

Outcome - This was raised with ASSIST as a customer request and rectified by South Melbourne Market

Council Resident Survey – provided feedback that the person who conducted the survey was rude and it wasn't clear what the survey was for. It was requested that Council inform residents that they are conducting the survey prior. (OPCC meeting February)

Outcome - Organisational Performance Department were informed who contacted the company that Council uses to conduct the survey to discuss OPCC feedback.

OPCC 20th anniversary in 2020 – OPCC would like Council to acknowledge the OPCC's 20th year with a celebration and invite former OPCC members, along with an editorial in Divercity. (OPCC meeting February)

Outcome – A working group was established to begin planning the celebration.

Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality Standard - OPCC agreed to draft a submission. (OPCC meeting February)

Outcome – The OPCC Aged Care Reform Working Group drafted a submission on behalf of the OPCC. The Submission was endorsed by Council on the 21 August. Two OPCC representatives attended the Council meeting to talk to the submission. It was submitted to the Royal Commission on the 2 September.

EveryAGE Counts campaign – OPCC advocated for Council to support the campaign. (OPCC meeting February)

Outcome – OPCC Chair emailed Mayor encouraging Council and Councillors to sign the campaign. This was forwarded on to Councillors to sign up to the campaign.

Seating in Fitzroy Street – OPCC are advocating for public seating to be reinstated in Fitzroy Street St Kilda. The Chair and Deputy Chair sent correspondence during 2019 to the Mayor, Councillors and Placemaking Team.

Outcome – Program Director Placemaking presented to the OPCC. OPCC representatives attended a site walk on Fitzroy street with relevant Council Officer highlighting the OPCC's Concern. OPCC representatives attended the Fitzroy Street Community Consultation Forums. Permanent seating is still not installed.

Maintenance of Council's petanque/boccia courts in Port Melbourne – On behalf of some users, an OPCC member raised concerns regarding the condition of the courts as they are used each week by a range of older persons including U3A.

Outcome – The OPCC Chair raised this as a customer request with ASSIST and Council attended to the maintenance of the courts.

Resident correspondence to OPCC – A member of Linking Neighbours (LN) emailed the OPCC Deputy Chair requesting that Council engage a seniors' advocate who could take concerns raised by seniors directly to Council. (OPCC meeting April)

Outcome – The OPCC Chair responded explaining that this would very resource intensive and that the contact already offered by Sherridan, ASSIST and the OPCC should meet any needs.

Residents correspondence to OPCC - Middle Park residents are concerned about street parking in the area during the Grand Prix. They forwarded a petition to Council to take steps to address their parking concerns. They wanted the OPCC to be aware of the petition, as most of the people being affected are older residents, but not to take action as they were doing it themselves.

Outcome – The OPCC Chair sent a response acknowledging their petition and thanking them for letting the Committee know. They were asked to keep the Committee informed of their progress. Middle Park residents were pleased to receive correspondence from the Chair and presented their petition to Council which was successful.

OPCC request to MAV regarding older persons advisory committees – MAV Positive Ageing Officer sent out a survey on behalf of the OPCC to all councils who have equivalent reference committees. (March – August)

Outcome - 14 Councils responded. A OPCC subcommittee was established to progress with networking between interested Councils and their committees.

Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre (MSAC)- Some Linking Neighbours members made the Deputy Chair aware of their concerns with MSAC and community use, particularly for older people. They stated that older people's inclusion had been eroded in recent times. The OPCC discussed the perception that MSAC is becoming exclusive (OPCC Meetings June – December)
Outcome – The OPCC was informed that Council doesn't have a formal relationship with MSAC and that the facility is run by State Government. The Chair drafted an email on behalf of the OPCC outlining issues raised and forwarded it to the MSAC CEO, relevant State Government Department that oversees MSAC, and the Mayor. She received a response from the acting CEO and subsequently met with her to discuss the OPCC's concerns. The MSAC CEO made it clear that MSAC was under the auspice of the State Government and that the Centre's mandate was to assist athletes of all levels, to improve themselves. The OPCC decided to continue to monitor feedback from the community in relation to MSAC.

Adopt a verge – a member of the OPCC brought to the Committee's attention the 'Adopt a Verge' initiative (OPCC Meeting August) and suggested that this should be adopted in Port Phillip.

Outcome – The OPCC representative introduced the initiative as part of the draft Public Spaces strategy consultation.

Public funded buildings – OPCC enquired about public funded buildings and whether there was a time frame whereby these no longer held their status. (OPCC Meeting August – September)

Outcome - Asset Management and Property responded with the statement that when the performance of one of the assets in Council's remit drops, Council will intervene, otherwise public value is being destroyed. Occasionally, the most appropriate intervention is to dispose of the asset and to invest in higher performing assets. That a property was donated or involved fundraising wouldn't ordinarily create a legal impediment to sale.

Action on Climate Change – OPCC asked what Council's response was regarding the climate emergency declaration. Local groups are asking the Council to respond. There is a perception that residents don't know what Council is doing regarding this issue. The Committee concluded that Council needed to put climate change front and centre. OPCC wanted Council to be sustainable and that Council needed to have a strong public profile on sustainability.

Outcome – This issue was forwarded to Sustainable Programs which responded that Council would be considering a motion by Cr Baxter to declare a climate emergency at the next Council meeting on Wednesday 18 September 19. Members of the OPCC could consider attending to speak in support of the motion. A OPCC representative attended the 18 September Council Meeting and spoke on behalf of the OPCC in support of Notice of Motion.

South Melbourne Market – An OPCC member met with the Interim Manager of the South Melbourne Market to discuss concerns that the Market was becoming less age friendly (OPCC Meeting September)

Outcome – The OPCC concerns were noted and they will progress these during the Market review in 2020.

Advocacy for continuation of the Victorian Active Ageing Project (VAAP) – OPCC felt that this project had achieved good outcomes for older people and it was disappointing that the project had not been refunded. The Chair sent a letter to the Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers on behalf of the OPCC regarding the decision not to refund the Project. and cc the Commissioner for Senior Victorians and the Mayor were cc'd (OPCC Meeting October - December).

Outcome – The Chair received a computer-generated acknowledgement that her email had been received by the Minister's Office. It was agreed by the OPCC, that the decision to not refund the initiative sat with State Government Department representatives. It was decided to write directly to the Department of Health and Human Services. The Chair provided correspondence to DHHS. The reply received stated that funding would not be extended.

Resident correspondence to OPCC – An 88year-old resident wrote to the OPCC regarding an access issue she was experiencing with MSAC's hydrotherapy pool (OPCC Meetings October).

Outcome – The Chair responded to the resident highlighting that the Committee doesn't advocate on behalf of individuals however they are in the process of raising concerns from older residents with MSAC management.

Seniors Exercise Parks and Resident correspondence to OPCC – A Linking Neighbours member emailed an example of a senior's exercise park in Spain (OPCC Meeting October – December)

Outcome - The OPCC responded saying they were aware of a trial taking place with the City of Wyndham and NARI National Ageing Research Institute and are awaiting the findings, prior to advocating for such facilities to Council.

OPCC activities and engagement with external groups and organisations include:

Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Positive Ageing Network Presentation – Professor Georgina Tsolidis, OPCC Chair and Laura Cattapan Coordinator Access & Inclusion, (29 March).
The Chair and Coordinator delivered a PowerPoint presentation ‘Establishing priorities for Council, advocacy and working collaboratively with other advisory groups’. The presentation provided information on the OPCC background, achievements, membership, governance, and 2019 priorities. At the end of the presentation the Chair invited like reference committees to work in collaboration with the OPCC on issues that impact older people.

Innovative approaches to building respect for older people Workshop - Director Celebrate Ageing, Dr. Catherine Barrett (26 March)

A member of the OPCC, Coordinator Access and Inclusion and Community Development and Liaison Officer attended the training and reported back to the OPCC at the April meeting.

Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Positive Ageing Officer, Jan Bruce (May - December)

MAV Positive Ageing Officer forwarded an email on behalf of the OPCC to Victorian councils with older person’s reference committee asking if they would be interested in connecting. 14 Councils responded. The OPCC established a working party which will continue to work with interested Councils.

Seniors Rights (Elder Abuse) “Knowing and Protecting Your Rights Forum” acknowledging WEAAD, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (12 June)

The OPCC conducted an information session on Seniors Rights (Elder Abuse) in collaboration with CaSPA Care and Linking Neighbours. It was hosted by CaSPA Care and had over 45 people attend.

Victorian Active Ageing Partnership (VAAP) Research and Practice Forum, OPCC and Linking Neighbours Presentation ‘Activism, Action and Engagement – Ageing in Port Phillip (29 August)

The OPCC Deputy Chair, Coordinator Access and Inclusion presented on the work of the OPCC, and their advocacy achievements and how older residents give and receive the message. The breakout session was very well attended and received very positive feedback.

U3APP Seniors Festival Community Forum, ‘Are Victoria and the City of Port Phillip ageing well?’ (12 October)

The OPCC Chair was a key note speaker at the forum along with The Hon Luke Donnellan MP, Minister for Child Protection and Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers, Commissioner for Senior Victorians, Gerard Mansour and the Mayor Cr Dick Gross.

Every Age Counts Campaign, Ashton Applewhite, US Ageism Activist & Author Presentation, 2 November

Two OPCC members and Community Development and Liaison Officer attended the presentation and reported back to the OPCC at the December meeting.

OPCC Forums and Events

The OPCC hosted the Embolden 2019 Festival in partnership with Celebrate Ageing (1-3 September)

The Embolden Festival was held in the auditorium at the St Kilda Town Hall and included a Fashion Parade, a Market of Great Ideas and a wide range of presentations and events. Nine partner organisations and 50 volunteers supported the event with 61 presentations and over 400 delegates.

The theme 'You, Me, Us' explored the important role that interdependence plays in age friendly communities. It addressed a tendency for 'othering' those whose age, ethnicity, ability, socio-economic status, sexuality or gender are not the same as ours. It provided opportunities for participants to learn from each other and drew in a range of cultural groups to share stories and strategies about respect for older people. The theme acknowledged the importance of tackling the stigma and shame some older people experience in relation to their dependence on others.

Key themes included:

- common-unity: it takes a village to achieve respect
- valuing independence and embracing interdependence
- learning from each other
- cross-cultural respect
- capacity building through partnerships
- what works - reflection on action.

OPCC members were included as key speakers in discussion panels and also participated in the Market of Ideas.

The City of Port Phillip Seniors Festival 7 – 20 October 2019.

The OPCC continued to be involved with the planning and hosting of the Port Phillip Seniors Festival 2019 through the OPCC Seniors Festival Subcommittee. The subcommittee met bi-monthly with support from Port Phillip's Community Development and Liaison Officer.

The 2019 Seniors Festival provided older residents of Port Phillip a great opportunity to get out and about, meet people, get dancing, try new activities and have fun!

The Mayor declared the festival open on Monday 7 October with 'Spectacular' in the St Kilda Town Hall, with 180 people in attendance. The Council continued its 'After Dark' program with 12 events after 6.30 pm including 'Go Greek Dance' opened by Cr Voss at the Port Melbourne Town Hall. This event was run in collaboration with the Port Melbourne Greek Community Seniors Citizens Club with 146 people attending.

Each year Council runs a grants program that provides local community and recreation groups with the opportunity to put on specific seniors' festival events, many of which are held in Council facilities. This creates a great sense of community ownership of the festival. This year Council funded over twenty-six local community groups and organisations with more than \$17,000 allocated to events throughout the municipality.

This year the Festival Program had over 60 events with over 4,500 people attending. Council hosted 14 events, including:

- Spectacular - Festival Launch
- Fancy That! Starring Monica Dullard – extra funding from Victorian Seniors Festival
- Go Greek Dance
- Soul Moves – instructed dancing session
- The Soul Groove – at Temperance Hall
- Zumba Gold – exercise class
- In conversation about a Spanner in the Works with Sisters in Crime

OPCC Promotion and Communication

2019 OPCC promotion:

- OPCC DL Brochure distributed throughout the community including Town Halls, Community Centre's and Libraries.
- OPCC was featured in the promotion of the Embolden2019 conference.
- OPCC feature in Port Phillip's Seniors Festival Program
- Divercity Magazine October/November edition
- Diversity Magazine May/June edition
- OPCC Port Phillip website refresh including a new photo.
- OPCC regularly featured in Linking Neighbours member letters.

Acknowledgement

The OPCC would like to acknowledge the support throughout the year of the Councillor nominated by Council to support the OPCC, Cr Dick Gross.

This report was prepared by Laura Cattapan Coordinator Access and Inclusion and supported by Sherridan Green, Community Development and Liaison Officer.

It was confirmed by the OPCC Committee at the 25 May 2020 OPCC meeting.

Professor Georgina Tsolidis
OPCC Chair
2019