

# HLSWG Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Monday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2023

**Start time:** 10am

**Location:** Meeting Room 1 Blue Mountains Libraries – Springwood Branch/Hub - 104 Macquarie Rd Springwood

**Host :** Blue Mountains Libraries - Therese Lock, Susan Ambler & Rita Verhoever

**Attendees (in person):** Kristen I (Woollahra), Ray T (Willoughby), Suzanne S (Stanton), Narelle C (Wollongong), Alison C (Kuringgai), Linda T, Eleonora J, Jessica E, Linda K, Jenna W (Blue Mtns), Kristen J, Michele G, Stephen P (Sutherland), Cathy M (Lithgow), Ellen P, Sonya C, Rhonda MJ, Bernadette R (Hornsby), Helena C (Blacktown), Susan BH (Burwood), Sandra B (Canterbury/Bankstown), Prue H (Blue Mountains Council), Megan T & Jenna W (BELONG)

**Attendees (online):** Andrea (State Library), Michelle B (Dubbo), K Charlton, Louise (Kempsey), Kylie S (Canada Bay), Member from Bathurst, Zannia W (Lake Macq), Sharon S, Mess & Bernadette (Campbelltown), Benjamin K, K Quist, Carlos J, Dave

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- Emergency procedures outlined
  - Welcome to Country & Overview of Blue Mountains Libraries provided by Ann Loria – Programs Leader
    - Blue Mountains Libraries total 6 branches from Blaxland to Blackheath
    - Springwood refurbishment completed May 2023 funded by Western Parklands Liveability & State Library Grants
    - Service review ensured retention of all 6 branches, increased operating hours, commitment to dedicated HLS service all endorsed by council vote recorded in minutes.
  - Approved Minutes from previous meeting: Hornsby Library, Monday 15 May 2023  
Moved by Susan Spencer (Stanton)  
Seconded by Helena Castelletti (Blacktown)
  - HLS Overview – Therese Lock (Blue Mountains)
    - Launched HLS pilot program 10/08/23
    - Community services and canvassing during lockdown identified 20 original HLS members, delivered every 4 (four) weeks, which has grown to approx. 35 at present. Two dedicated staff members plus selection support from branch staff. Planning to promote and grow service.
    - Property risk assessment considered along with applications and profiles when signing up HLS members.
    - Delivery is contactless, communication via phone and feedback sheets.
    - Therese extends her thanks to HLSWG for the support provided to date.

MORNING TEA BREAK 11.10 am

- GUEST SPEAKER

Prue Hardgrove – Aged and Disability Service Development Officer – Blue Mountains Council

- Prue provides advocacy and access to a comprehensive suite of services and facilities within the community to support aged and residents living with disability. Prue works collaboratively with services within council and externally to ensure vulnerable people are assisted to avoid escalating issues (rates arrears, extra bins or kerbside assistance, council clean ups etc)
- Prue has produced a “Community Care Guide’ outlining these services and facilitates Disability Inclusion Action Plans.

- GUEST SPEAKER

Megan Thomas – BELONG Blue Mountains – Emergency Centred Preparedness Community Service

- BELONG is a trial grant funded emergency planning service for Blue Mountains residents living with disability, regardless of age or socioeconomic background.
- BELONG helps residents create Personal Emergency Care Plans (PECP) in collaboration with other services (Active Care Network, Police, Fire Service, Council, NDIS providers) that are person centred and incorporate all aspects of the individuals needs.
- collaborating4inclusion [mthomas@belongbm.org.au](mailto:mthomas@belongbm.org.au) 0490 674 073

- Seniors in Focus Seminar – Susan Bradley Hoy

- Confirmed date MONDAY 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – State Library – 9am start
- Register ASAP – Susan has emailed link  
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/seniors-in-focus-seminar-tickets-677184776897>
- Running List for guest speakers to be provided in hardcopy (TBA) to promote to managers (to support attendance)
- Ensure items for HLS display table are placed asap prior to start time.

- General Business

- Concern around app format for eresources (BorrowBox) restricting download opportunities for ENVOY in future. What are services doing around Vision Australia hardware? Some services moving away from hardware purchasing. Vision Australia Library provides direct support.
- Consideration for home based tech support for aged/visually impaired HLS members to use own technology.
- Kaylua Charlton has a number of ENVOYS available for giveaway.

- Meeting Closed 12:40pm

- Tour of new Springwood branch to follow

- Summary of Items to action:

- Susan Bradley Hoy encourages HLS staff to connect with the Aged Care/Seniors/Inclusion staff within their own councils and familiarise with network of support staff.
- Register for Seniors in Focus seminar

Minuted by Alison Clarke 7/08/23