

**Environmental Reference Group Meeting
4 February 2008 Committee Room One, Wellington City Council
MINUTES**

Present:

Councillor Wade-Brown (Chair)
Ian Hunter
Liz Hibbs
Ian Shearer
Debbie Firestone
Tushara Kodikara
Ruth Paul
Tim Park
Waruna Padmasiri

WCC Officers:

Ken Bowater (Policy)
Michael Oates (Open Space and Recreation Planning)
Adele Gibson (Policy)

Apologies:

Chris Horne
Dave Kettell
Councillor Pannett
Tim Park (WRC)
Ralph Chapman
Mike Ennis
Nicky Karu (WCC Treaty Relations)
Jim Ebenhoh (Strategy)
Mike Mendonca (CitiOperations)
Zach Rissel (Policy)

Previous minutes

Agreed as accurate (Ian Shearer/Tushara - Carried)

Matters arising

Climate Change Update

- The Climate Change Action Plan was agreed in principle by the Strategy and Policy Committee (SPC) on 5 December.
- SPC set a goal date for carbon neutrality for its corporate activities, of 2012.
- Emissions reductions targets have been set as follows:

Table 2: Council Targets

Base Year	2010		2020	2050
Existing Targets	2003	stabilise	20%	---
Proposed Targets	2003	stabilise	40%	80%

Table 3: Community Targets

Base Year	2010		2020	2050
Existing Targets	2003	stabilise	10%	---
Proposed Targets	2003	stabilise	30%	80%

Information Sharing and Announcements

The contributions of Stephen Sargent to the ERG were acknowledged by the Chair. Stephen, a member of the ERG since June 2006 and formerly an architect with JASMAX and BRANZ, passed away in April 2007.

A vote of thanks was put and carried with acclamation (Chair/Ian Shearer). Jim was the support officer for the ERG since August 2005. His contributions and leadership were much appreciated by the members.

Ian Hunter

- The Karori Wildlife Sanctuary has declared Karaka a weed due to its smothering impact on competing seedlings.
- The Wellington Civic Trust is planning an architecture tour for 16 February.

Councillor Wade-Brown

- Support is sought for e-Day in September.
- Consultation is under way as part of the Ngauranga to Airport Strategic Transport Study – closes 22 February.
- Transition Towns [<http://www.transitiontowns.org.nz/>] – National Street Party Day is being held on 23 February.

Tushara

- Climate Day of Action – a very event.

Northern Reserves Management Plan

Mike Oates introduced the breadth of this work and will return in April to open further discussion. Public consultation will be open from 3 March to 2 May (<http://www.wellington.govt.nz/haveyoursay/publicinput/index.html>). Please send a request to Mike (mike.oates@wcc.govt.nz) if you would like a copy of the draft plan.

Advisory Groups review and Terms of Reference

Adele Gibson outlined this work and presented a comparative analysis of the Terms of Reference across four groups to guide the ERG proposed Terms of Reference changes. The consequent discussion is reflected in the draft changes.

Membership

An extremely strong field of forty applications were received for the vacant positions on the ERG. After considerable discussion three applicants were selected to be offered the positions. It was also agreed that applicants could be invited to submit their names for a 'future contacts' list with a view to their opinions being canvassed should there arise particular issues or opportunities where their expertise may be sought. It is noted that the group still lacks Maori representation and relies on the assistance of mana whenua partners.

Draft SPC Report

No feedback was offered beyond the Terms of Reference comments. Debbie agreed to draft a statement from the Group to be presented to SPC in conjunction with the report. Please notify Ken if you are available to present the Group statement (21 Feb, 9.15 am). Ruth agreed to support any member who is available.

Other

The idea of offering a forum during the week of World Environment Day (Thursday 5 June) was discussed with enthusiasm. Nothing was organised at this stage.

The draft ERG 2008 Calendar (see below) was discussed. Please email Ken any additions. The Forward Programme for the Strategy and Policy Committee can be found at http://www.wellington.govt.nz/haveyoursay/meetings/committee/Strategy_and_Policy/2008/07Feb0915/pdf/05_forward_programme.pdf.

Agreed Ken to seek permission from members to post names and contact numbers on the Council website.

Next Meeting: 7 April

Environmental Reference Group 2008 Calendar

(Please email updates to Ken)

ERG Meetings (5.30 to 7.30 on the first Monday of every second month)

Date	Theme / Key Items	Location
4 Feb	ToR, Membership, SPC report	Committee Room 1
7 Apr	Northern Reserves Management Plan (Mike Oates) Water Conservation and update on resource consents for treatment plants (Maria Archer)	TBC
19 May (2 Jun is QB'day)	World Environment Day Recycling Options – TBC (Mike Mendonca)	TBC
4 Aug	Climate Change Action Plan progress - TBC (Zach Rissel)	TBC
6 Oct	Environmental Education network matrix – TBC (Ken) Transition Towns – TBC (Celia)	TBC
1 Dec	Draft update report to SPC (Ken)	TBC

Other

Date	Item	Action
13 Dec – 10 Feb	Herbarium Amoris photo exhibition at the Botanic Gardens' Treehouse	

6? Feb	Ohariu-Makara electric fishing, 4pm Waitangi Park (contact Ruth)	
13 Feb	Transport Meeting	
16 Feb	Architecture Tour – Wellington Civic Trust	
17-20 Feb	'Eyes on Earth Raumati '08'; a multicultural youth sustainability conference to be held in Whaingaroa (Raglan)	
18 Feb	Trees in the Urban Environment at Victoria University's Murphy 101 (Wellington Botanical Society meeting)	
21 Feb	Symposium by Victoria University on carbon-neutral electricity	
21 Feb	ERG update report to SPC	
30 Mar	South Coast Marine Reserve opening (contact Matt Barnett, DoC, for details)	
5 June	Arbour Day World Environment Day (week)	
September	e-Day	