

WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Pacific Advisory Group Meeting on 16 April 2008

Present:

1. Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako (Chairperson - Samoa)
2. Pisa Joe Alaifea (Deputy – Samoa)
3. Kolovula Murphy (Deputy – Tonga)
4. Martha Samasoni (Tokelau)
5. Malakai Jiko (Fiji)
6. Danny Kauraka (Cook Islands)
7. Mailigi Hetutu (Niue)
8. Mafi Katoa (Tonga)

9. Deputy Mayor Ian McKinnon
10. Councillor Leonie Gill
11. Councillor Iona Pannett
12. Vasi Siohane
13. Marie Retimanu-Pule
14. Ollie Seumanufagai
15. Bessie Fepulea'i

Welcome:

- Warm pacific greetings and welcome from the Chairperson who acknowledged the attendance of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors.

Opening Prayer:

- Mafi Katoa

Apologies:

- Ana To'o, Manuila Tausi; Brenda Talagi; Amarjit Maxwell; Alice Cowan; Harry Tauafiafi, Phoebe Velova'a

PRESENTATION:

Draft Annual Plan and Part Induction No. 7 - Mayor Kerry Prendergast and Mr Baz Kaufman.

Vasi Siohane introduced the presenters and explained that this is the first of many presentations on the Draft Annual Plan being taken to the communities. Copies of the Draft Annual Plan were handed out.

- The Mayor explained the planning processes of the Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP). This is a 10 year plan with a detailed work programme for the first three years. This sets the strategic direction for the City and highlights priorities and is renewed every three years. The Annual Plan focuses on changes to the LTCCP. Council have reduced the proposed rates increase and have introduced some new initiatives into the Plan. Apart from these it is 'business as usual' without many changes.
- The new proposals are as follows:

- Courtenay Place
 - ◆ 24 hour liquor ban
 - ◆ More Walkwise staff
 - ◆ More closed circuit TV cameras
 - ◆ Upgraded street lighting and streetscape

Council want to keep Wellington City safe and overcome the problems associated with our binge drinking culture.

- Climate Change
 - ◆ Bioreactor
 - ◆ Wind farm
 - ◆ Sustainable building features
 - ◆ Sustainable transport options

Council would like Wellington to be carbon neutral as much as possible.

- Sport & Recreation
 - ◆ Artificial surface for Nairnville Park
 - ◆ Access improvements to Hataitai Park
- Annual Pasifika Festival

It would be a good idea to write letters of support from the community for the \$60,000 allocated for the Festival.

- The Mayor suggested that the Pacific Advisory Group discuss the Draft Annual Plan, give feedback and ask for submissions in support of the Pasifika Festival.
- Questions raised on the Draft Annual Plan:
 - Do you have any plans to increase CCTV cameras around the City?
We do and there are already some cameras around, ie, at banks, Civic Square, petrol stations. Walkwise will monitor these new cameras but they are mostly needed around the Courtenay Place area.

- Are Council in the running to buy Vector?
No - Council cannot justify the cost as it is too much. Council has issues around security of supply rather than being an owner.
- What is the time frame for the letters in support of a submission?
Submissions need to be in by 19 May.
- Are Council moving the issue of lighting and security to the suburbs?
According to the Police there is not too much of an issue to deal with in the suburbs but Council do have Walkwise working in two more suburbs now.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

- The Minutes were confirmed by Malakai Jiko and seconded by Kolovula Murphy.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Action Points: Vasi Siohane reported on the following points:

- The upgrade of Frank Kitts Park will not be ready till July 2009.
- The date for next year's festival has been tentatively booked with the Events Team. There are two options available:
 - 31 January the festival can be held at either Waitangi Park or Frank Kitts Park with a wet weather venue of the TSB Arena also being available.
 - 14 February with only Frank Kitts Park available with Waitangi Park and the wet venue not available.
The PAG needs to decide on a date as both dates are tentatively booked at present.
- The question was asked about how long these tentative bookings can be held. Vasi Siohane will ask the Events Team.
- Danny Kauraka asked if the festival thank you cards had been sent out as their community had not received one. Vasi Siohane confirmed that these had been sent out and others have all received theirs.
- Sitting Fees – Vasi Siohane confirmed that payments were now up to date.

- The First Past the Post and STV voting systems discussed at the last meeting, this is now out for consultation with the community to get a response for what system they would prefer. The results will be available by 27 September 2008.

Pasifika Festival

- The question was asked regarding setting the date for the festival whether the PAG had the mandate to decide this without confirmation from their communities. It was pointed out that a decision had to be made on this as soon as possible.
- The question was asked about how much the TSB Arena would cost. Vasi Siohane said that she did not have the figure here but would confirm this at the next meeting.
- It was pointed out that 14 February is Valentines Day and there may be other events happening on that day. The question was asked when the festival in Auckland would be held. *This is held in March.* It was then pointed out that the date of 31 January was still school holiday time and people may be away. **A vote was then held on whether the festival should be held on 31 January or 14 February. The consensus agreed on 31 January at Waitangi Park.** Vasi Siohane and Marie Retimanu-Pule to confirm with The Events Team and report back to the next PAG meeting.
- It was noted that PAG need to start organising the festival now and this should be an Agenda item for the next meeting as the planning and organising of the festival needs to be done by Christmas 2008.
- Vasi Siohane pointed out that there was only one more Induction session left, ie, the presentation on the Treaty of Waitangi for the next PAG meeting. Vasi Siohane and Marie Retimanu-Pule would then work on fitting the Festival planning into the next PAG meetings.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- **Chairperson's Report** – There was no report from the Chairperson. Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako apologised for this and said she would send this out as soon as it was available.

Pacific Forum Workshop

- The posters and fliers have been sent out for the Pacific Workshop starting at 5.30pm on Friday 18 April 2008 at Portico at Wellington City Council. They are expecting about 100 people to attend. The purpose of the workshop is to ask the Pacific youth about their views on Pacific art and what they can contribute. The information from the workshop will then be fed back into the Pacific Forum with the theme being 'Artistic Opportunities for Pacific Youth' The Arts Workshop will be a joint effort by the Pacific, Youth and Arts Teams of Council. The agenda will be sent out to PAG members to promote to their own communities.

- It was noted that this could be a good way to encourage Pacific youth to help build and design fales/tents for the Pasifika Festival.
- Deputy Mayor Ian McKinnon said that this would be a good lead into the Pacific Forum for Pacific youth and said that this would be a good way to encourage Pacific youth to attend the forum and to have a voice.
- The question was asked whether this was the first time this sort of workshop had been held. *Vasi Siohane confirmed that it was and it may be a better way to engage with Pacific communities in future.*
- It was pointed out that there needs to be a clear commitment from Council at the workshop.

Tongan Report

- Vasi Siohane said that a response had been sent to the Tongan community via Kolovula Murphy.
- Kolovula Murphy said that the Tongan community had held a meeting last month. Points noted:
 - Regarding 8.1 this has been talked about but it still does not help us. It was noted that Kolovula could have a discussion with Vasi about how Council can help with a venue, koha, etc as having these in place would encourage people to attend meetings. The Tongan community have always been clear that they have regular meetings which are then fed back into the PAG. It is important that other groups do the same.

It was suggested that all the communities could all meet together one day and then they could go into separate rooms to discuss specific issues. This could possibly be held at the Council offices. It was noted that this will need to depend on what is most comfortable for each different nation. It was agreed with the Tongan suggestion but felt that they do not need to meet every month as the PAG are not meeting monthly for information to be presented to. It would be good to have a set monetary amount for each meeting. It was noted that other nations did not agree to have one meeting for all nations together. Kolovula noted that the Tongan community will continue to meet bi-monthly as their meeting schedules was already set for this year.

 - With regard to point 8.2 it would be good for Council to pay for a slot on Access Radio to take back issues Council want the community to know about as most people listen to the radio. It was pointed out that Council need to have the figures on what they were paying before decisions can be made as Council already have a slot on Samoan Capital Radio. The Samoan Capital Radio contract will be looked at

soon and re-evaluated looking at how this is funded. Vasi Siohane and Marie Retimanu-Pule will look into this and get back to PAG to be fair to other groups.

- With regard to point 8.3.7 – is this already planned as a time needs to be set for the bus group to tour Council facilities. Vasi Siohane will respond to this.
- With regard to point 8.3.5 – this is up to the PAG as this initiative needs to come from PAG. It was agreed to table this. It was noted that a community centres review was being carried out at the moment and maybe the idea of a Pan Pacific Cultural centre could be addressed at this time. Marie Retimanu-Pule and Vasi Siohane will talk to Amarjit Maxwell and Wendy Walker about this.

Draft Annual Plan Submission

- It was asked if there was a template for making a submission. Vasi Siohane will provide all the template and forms. Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako said that a submission would come from the PAG but other individual island nations should make submissions as well. It was noted that a list should be sent out to the different nations and possibly the brochure as well as this is very comprehensive. It was suggested that the group make an oral submission as well.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Vasi Siohane acknowledged (also on behalf of the Niuean representatives) the sympathy and messages received for the late Rev Lagi Sipeli, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Ian McKinnon who spoke on behalf of Council and PAG at the funeral service, and thanked everyone for their support.
- PAG need to start planning for the next festival and need to look at the costs from the last festival. Marie Retimanu-Pule and Vasi Siohane will provide these figures.
- PAG members need to encourage attendance at the festival as this is a showcase event for the Pacific communities. It was noted that the Mission Choir should be booked early for the festival to ensure their availability.
- PAG members need to have the date and time for the Pacific Forum entered into diaries and need to encourage their attendance and from members of their own communities.
- Discussion was held around the venue for the forums with it being stated that Wesley Church has easy access and parking for Te Papa is an issue. It was noted that the number of people attending the forum is decreasing. We have changed the day to see if this encourages people to attend. It was noted that Pacific people do not feel at home in this venue. It was agreed to

table this discussion till the next meeting which will be held after the forum at which time the forum can be reviewed with feedback from attendees.

Closing Prayer:

- Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako

Next Meeting: 18 June 2008

Meeting Closed: 7:35pm