

WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Pacific Advisory Group Meeting on 23 January 2008

Present:

1. Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako (Chairperson - Samoa)
2. Pisa Joe Alaifea (Deputy – Samoa)
3. Kolovula Murphy (Deputy – Tonga)
4. Brenda Talagi Cottingham (Niue)
5. Ana To'o (Samoa)
6. Martha Samasoni (Tokelau)
7. Malakai Jiko (Fiji)
8. Danny Kauraka (Cook Islands)
9. Mailigi Hetutu (Niue)
10. Manuila Tausi (Niue)
11. Mafi Katoa (Tonga)
12. Titia Vaerua (Cook Islands)
13. Deputy Mayor McKinnon
14. Councillor Pannett
15. Amarjit Maxwell
16. Marie Retimanu-Pule
17. Vasi Siohane
18. Billie Tait-Jones
19. Chris Morley-Hall
20. Jennifer Rains
21. Bessie Fepulea'i
22. Alice Cowan

Welcome

Warm pacific greetings and welcome from the Chairperson.

Opening Prayer

Brenda Cottingham

Apologies:

Councillor Gill, Harry Tauafiafi, Ollie Seumanufagai

PRESENTATIONS – Induction No. 4 – Jennifer Rains, Team Leader, Grants Team

NB: These are Induction Processes for the new PAG members:

Jennifer Rains, Team Leader, Grants, explained the processes of grants that work across Council. She explained that the final decision regarding the issuing of grants is made by a Grants Subcommittee with Council approving \$2.4million in contestable and contract grants over the year. She explained that general grants come under the different categories of social, cultural, economic and environmental with three funding rounds in July, November and March. These categories are further described as follows:

- **Social**
 - Wellbeing – living in a supportive ongoing community and having access to shelter, education, food and income
 - Build capability and capacity
 - Promote personal and community safety
 - Promote participation and sport and recreation
 - Youth
- **Cultural**
 - Community festivals
 - Maori arts
 - Grass roots/youth participation
 - Other arts
- **Economic**
 - Normally one off grants
 - Projects that may be of benefit to Wellington
 - Strengthening the City's status
 - International linkage
 - Attracting skilled migrants
 - Encourage development of open access – broadband, infrastructure
- **Environmental**
 - Energy and water efficiency – conservation
 - Renewable energy techniques
 - Biodiversity enhancement and stream restoration
 - Community partnerships

72% of all applications are approved with the average grant around \$5,545. Special grants are approved come under the following categories:

- Sports development fund
- Betty Campbell accommodation assistance fund
- Sports and cultural representatives fund
- Mayoral relief fund
- Tawa community grants
- Venue subsidies
- Discretionary fund

Council also administer non Wellington City Council grants as follows:

- Creative communities local funding scheme

- CH Izard bequest
- The Joe Aspell Trust
- Stanley Banks bequest

Questions raised included the following:

What indicators do we have for Pacific groups applying for grants? *There have been no groups applying but some groups have applied that work with Pacific people.*

How many people in the PAG know about applying for grants? We should encourage people to look at the criteria for grants and to apply for them. *Jennifer Rains noted that the next general grant round closes in March.*

Under the cultural grant can the PAG apply for funding for the Pacific Festival? *No these grants are for community groups but someone from the community could apply.*

Are there any reserve funds for emergencies as the timeframe does not suit the community? *No there are no reserve funds as this is why we have three rounds per year to give people time to apply. We can help with the processes around applying for grants.*

If applying late for a grant can an application be resubmitted through the Mayoral fund? *This is not likely because the criteria is the same.*

It was noted that it would be good if Council could consider 10 minutes be spent on grants processes via the radio, ie, via Harry Tauafiafi.

Can you appeal grants decisions? *No all decisions are final but the Grants Team can help rewrite applications.*

Regarding a social disability grant can an individual apply? *No these are for community groups as well. When larger grants are applied for Council like to have a legal entity to apply but may look at individual families as the definition is flexible depending on how much is applied for.*

The point was noted that with larger Pacific families could they be considered a group when applying for some grants.

Deputy Mayor McKinnon then endorsed the comments made by the Chair to make sure that the Pacific people are encouraged to apply for grants with the Grants Team being willing to provide assistance to write applications.

Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting:

The Minutes were confirmed by Pisa Alaifea and seconded by Ana To'o.

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from previous Minutes.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Chairperson's Report

Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako spoke to her report. Issues arising from the Chair's Report included:

- Payments for attending meetings – Vasi Siohane has circulated the forms to the PAG and is still waiting for the forms to be return from Niue. She needs these as soon as possible to arrange for payment for the group.
- Meetings – Vasi handed out a schedule with the new meeting dates. There is still dispute over whether the group should be paid for monthly meetings instead of bi-monthly. This is a political decision with formal processes to go through for the next financial year and this decision needs to be included in the Draft Annual Plan. The group agreed that Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako would meet urgently with Wendy Walker and Amarjit Maxwell to discuss this matter.
- Waitangi Day – there will be three stalls at Waitangi Day representing the Pacific people. Invitations have been received by the PAG members to attend on the day.

Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako then invited the Councillors to speak

Deputy Mayor McKinnon greeted the group and noted that there has been a lot of work going on behind the scenes with the organising of the Pacific Festival. He has been encouraged by the response of the Pacific community and the Councillors are all very supportive. This will be a great event for Wellington and he looks forward to this becoming an annual event. He also thanked the PAG for their contribution.

Councillor Pannett greeted the group, explained who she was and invited any members to talk to her if they had any issues to discuss.

Report from the Tongan Community

The report from the Tongan community was tabled. Issues arising included:

- Number five in report – meeting dates for the community conflict with PAG meeting so Vula Murphy will be unable to attend
- She confirmed that the Tongan community will have two items to perform at the Festival. She asked for help with the funding for costumes and said that it was unfortunate that they were too late to apply for a grant.
- She thanked Billie Tait-Jones for the opportunity to be part of Waitangi Day.

- She asked for a staff profile of Wellington City Council – Amarjit Maxwell and Deputy Mayor McKinnon will discuss this.
- Amarjit Maxwell will formally address the issues raised in the report – Vula Murphy said that she is happy with this process.

It was noted that the issues raised in the report should have been addressed by the last PAG. The issues noted should be part of the agenda for the next meeting. It was decided that there should be a formal response from Council first before these issues were discussed at the PAG meetings.

Absolutely, Positively, Pasifika Festival:

Chris Morley-Hall thanked the members for their forms but noted that some were still missing – there is only one performance group from Niue and none from Samoa. Packs will be sent out giving information and explanations about the day and he will organise the performance schedule. A payment of \$300 per group not per nation will be paid for performances and these will only be paid out to legal entities, ie, church, etc. There are posters to be collected by PAG members for distribution and display. Questions raised:

Will plants be provided in tents? No just tables and chairs. There is a decoration fund but this has been used to decorate the stage with lights, leis, etc. Think of the space as your area and decorate it as you want.

Parking – parking passes will be provided in the information packs parking requirements should have been indicated on the forms issued.

It was noted that six passes would not be enough. The number of passes issued will be finally decided later as some vehicles could possibly park behind the food stalls.

Chris Morley-Hall asked members if they had any contacts of famous Wellington people for the stage as the Hurricanes will be in Australia. It was noted that these people do not need to be famous they could be someone that a nation sees as an icon, ie, elderly, youth, etc. Suggestions need to go to Chris as soon as possible.

What time can people move into the tents? Only in the morning from 6.00am as coming in the night before is a security problem.

Do we need more food stalls as there will be a priority of catering for the VIPs? There are 10 food stalls but do need coffee and cold drink providers.

Has there been any feedback from the Police and Health stalls? Police have come back.

Invitations have been sent out. It was suggested that two more be sent out to Holla(?) and Arby who are ex members of the PAG.

Rubbish will be looked after by Wellington Waterfront.

Security will be provided on the day.

Island Nation performance groups will be mixed up for variety.

Advertising on the radio will start on 7 February via the Radio Network, ie, ZM, The Breeze, Niu FM, etc. The question was asked about radio advertising in the Pacific language. *The costings for this are too expensive and there is no funding available.* It was suggested that this aspect needs to be looked at for future festivals and also Wellington City Council's relationship with the media. It was suggested that Ida do the greetings before the advertising to get the attention of the Pacific people and Harry Tauafiafi could promote the festival on Samoan radio. It was also suggested that \$100 could be allocated to each nation for advertising. Chris Morley-Hall will look into this.

It was suggested that the PAG have an input on the communications strategy for future festivals.

It was noted that the group should not lose sight of the \$40,000 funding that has been allocated for this event. Want to see this as an annual event and could possibly look at how the funding for the festival is allocated.

T-shirts – are there any t-shirts for the PAG to wear and sell? *T-shirts will be for the PAG, crew and workers for identification purposes only and not for selling.*

Bessie then explained what will be happening in the youth area and what performances were expected. She also encouraged everyone to attend the festival.

Island Music – Chris Morley-Hall said he would welcome any contributions from the PAG members for taped music to be used as a background. He also asked for any photographs that members may have to be used for advertising purposes.

It was noted the groups will not be paying for stalls this year but will be for subsequent festivals.

Closing Prayer

Ida Faiumu Isa'ako

Next Meeting: 20 February 2008 (?)

Meeting Closed: 7:55pm