

Minutes for the meeting held 11 June 2014

(6.pm – 8. pm)

Venue: Committee Room 2, Council offices, Wakefield Street

Present: Sai Lealea (Chairperson elect), Alapeta Faletau, Alvin Mitikulena, Anthony Leaupepe, Herbert Bartley, Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako, Kimi Higginson, Ledua Taucilagi, Merio Marsters, Nicole Rex, Sharon Samasoni, Siofilisi Tafo'ou, and Councillors Paul Eagle and Sarah Free.

Officers: Martin Rodgers (Manager, Research, Planning, & Consultation), Charlie Inggs (Project/Electoral Officer) and Michelle Dagg (Administration Support)

Apologies: Meremine Talaopo Auelua

Welcome and opening prayer:

Martin introduced the format of the meeting at 6.15pm.

Sofi gave the opening prayer.

Election for the Chair of the Pacific Advisory Group:

Charlie Inggs explained the process to elect the Chair and Deputy Chair.

He confirmed that valid nomination forms had been received for Sai Lealea and Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako.

Charlie distributed the voting papers and the members voted.

While the votes were counted, the agenda for the meeting was followed.

Minutes for last meeting

Martin informed the meeting that the minutes for the meeting held 19 March 2014 have already been approved by Dan Kauraka, one of the Deputy Chairs of the previous PAG, as per the terms of reference.

Councillor Update:

Councillor Free and Councillor Eagle provided an update on Council-related matters. This included information on Council's Annual Plan, the Regional Council's review of Bus Fares, the Arlington Housing Development, Pacific Wardens and the Pacific Fale.

There was a request for the updates from Councillors to be sent in prior to the meeting so that members can be prepared for any discussion.

Election for the Chair of the Pacific Advisory Group:

The results of the vote were then announced with Sai Lealea elected as Chair and Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako appointed as Deputy Chair. After being congratulated, Sai assumed the role as Chair of the

meeting. He thanked the members for their support and expressed his aspirations for the group and his commitment to working with all members.

Review of Advisory Group:

Letter of expectation from the CEO

The proposed letter setting out the Work Programme for the Pacific Advisory Group was discussed. The group proposed that the Council CEO will report back to the group every 6 months and an ELT member will attend every two months.

PAG supports the letter of expectation from the CEO. It was a positive that the CEO was encouraging involvement and accountability.

PAG will dedicate the next meeting solely to identify the four priorities/topic areas for the letter of expectations, which will align with the Pasifika Action Plan.

Terms of Reference:

Feedback on the draft new terms of reference is required by the end of the week. Martin ran through the draft terms as recommended by the Council's Policy team. He also highlighted what had been recommended by the previous PAG. The following feedback was agreed.

6. Key Membership Criteria

The previous PAG wanted the numbers to increase to 20 with additional representation from Kiribati, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. In the revised Terms of Reference it was suggested instead of the additional four places that it would only be two additional places which would consist of one member from a Melanesian community and one member from the Micronesian community.

Martin was expecting feedback on this from people in these communities who had attended previous PAG meetings.

It is recommended by the new PAG that the positions are filled as soon as possible after the new terms of reference have been passed by Council. This should be through an election process. It was also recommended that a formal invitation to participate in the election should be sent by the Mayor to the representatives of these communities.

6.1 Elections

It is suggested that the following is added to the text

For consideration by the community - Skill Mix. Take into consideration life and work experience for each and that there is a mix of suitable skills.

7. Term of Appointment

A vote was held by PAG on the issue of whether a member could be elected for more than two consecutive three year terms.

The majority voted in favour of keeping the status quo where a member can only serve two consecutive three years terms but may be re-elected after a break.

8. Payment

Discussion was held regarding this section.

There was a recent proposal (sent via email earlier on in the week) to pay members their annual fee in two payments rather than a fee for each meeting. PAG does not consider that the payment proposal is suitable to the way the group operates. The status quo of being paid per each meeting being attended was preferable.

The amount of payment received has not been increased for some time and the Group would like Council to consider a 10% increase.

Pasifika Action Plan:

PAG will dedicate the next meeting solely to finalising the Action Plan and identifying the four priorities/topic area for the letter of expectation.

Community Updates:

The needs to be put back on the agenda. Send it through to Martin prior to the meeting.

Samoan

Pacific people missing out on roles in the new parking team that Council is creating.

Tokelauan

Matariki is on at the moment which is important to the community.

Tongan

The council of leaders are preparing a 2nd container to send over after the disaster on the Island. Porirua City Council helping with this and would like to know whether Wellington City Council can provide funding. Homework Centre will need additional funding as the Ministry of Education funding is near completion.

Cook Islands

The Wellington branch of Cook Island Society is due to celebrate its 50th anniversary of constitution this is be timed to co-inside with the Cook Island language week. The Cook Island Society Hall needs some tree's removed as they are blocking access.

Merio hosted a shared lunch with the isolated/health related issues to discuss the Pasifika Action Plan. There was a plan for a Pacific Island end of year Celebration Dance wearing own Island representative clothes.

Fijian

A Wellington based trust is organising ads on radio to explain ways to sensibly use alcohol in Fijian language. Also the community is getting organised for Fijian language week (2nd year).

Niuean

There is a weekly health talk on Niu FM, Wednesday between 1-2pm.

There was a discussion around publicity for language weeks. It was suggested that using local radio would be great way to capture Pasifika audiences. There was a query around whether the Council could support strategies to reach the Pacific community. It was explained that the policy of the Communications team was that when the Pasifika communities were the target group for a particular Council programme then a tailored approach to communications would be used.

Members asked that the people involved in allocating grants to come to talk to the group.

The meeting closed with a prayer from Alvin at 8.20pm

Next meeting:

The next meeting will be Wednesday 9 July 2014.