

## Record of Meeting: Youth Council

Venue Committee Room 2, 101 Wakefield Street, Wellington  
 When 4-5.30 pm, 21 March 2012

### Present

Members: James Wall-Manning, Ben Ogilvie, Zoe Doole, Jack Marshall, Morgan Watkins, Cameron Oldfield, Lily Simmons-Donaldson, Bing-Ying Lou, Therese Kyne, Edgardo Reyes, Ani-Piki Tuari, Brittany Trilford and Ruth Corkill.

Councillor: Cr Simon Marsh

Officers: Simon Wright, Rekha Jatav, Jane Patterson

## Minutes

### 1. Opening

James and Zoe welcomed the group.

### 2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Roma Simmons-Donaldson, Brydon Sundgren, Duncan Armstrong, May Palemia, Stevenson Pule, and Zared Wall-Manning.

### 3 What's on top /

Members introduced themselves and described how they were.

### 4. Previous minutes and matters arising

James moved the minutes as true and correct. Jack seconded the motion and it was passed.

### 5. Portfolios/Forward Programme

#### Round up of what's going on

It was noted that Nick Smith had resigned his local government portfolio and that Gerry Brownlee is the new Minister of Local Government, and that the Government has flagged a major reform of local government. There was discussion about how the creation of the 'super' Auckland Council had affected youth councils. It was thought that the process for amalgamating the youth councils formerly run by the 7 territorial authorities of the Auckland region had not initially been successful.

It was noted that the Tawa pool is still closed as it requires earthquake strengthening.

Members were encouraged to attend the first student-organised food fair at Wellington East Girls College on 22 March 2012.

#### Assigning portfolios

Members were asked to indicate their top 3 preferred portfolios. The Chair and Deputy Chair intend to assign portfolios for the next meeting.

## **6. General Business**

### **WCC advisory groups, their roles and how to be successful**

Jane Patterson, the Manager of the WCC's Consultation and Engagement team, spoke about WCC advisory groups, their role and how to be successful. To be seen as successful, she advised that YC get involved in issues early, develop a plan for the year, provide advice on WCC issues and learn as much as possible about the WCC. She then asked YC to break into 2 groups and discuss 3 questions:

1. How well do you think you are working as a group?
2. How do you think you can make yourselves as effective as possible?
3. Is there anything lacking that we should help you with to make you great?

The groups reported the following:

- YC members are good at open, free discussions. They are respectful towards each other and usually able to find consensus when working in groups
- YC has good relationships and levels of contact with Wellington City Councillors Marsh and Eagle
- The more experienced YC members are positive about the way things are shaping up for 2012
- YC is getting involved in issues much earlier than in the past
- The portfolio system give members focus, encourages some specialisation and shares the work load between members
- YC members need to 'allocate' themselves. By giving, more people will take them seriously.
- YC members need to communicate better between meetings even when they are not in working groups
- The YC Facebook page needs to be keep up-to-date and active and YC needs a greater presence in other publications
- Need more regular updates between meetings
- Better publications on current issues, feeding information to youth
- Need badges to help raise the profile of the YC.

The YC then had a free ranging discussion that covered the following:

- Bing will take responsibility for maintaining and refreshing the YC Facebook page, and for updating access rights to the closed group. Jack is to assign Bing administrator rights.
- YC members are to use the WCC social media guidelines to help decide on content and style. Content should be factual. It might include meeting summaries. Simon is to distribute the guidelines.
- Members were informed about the YC communication's policy. Only the chair can speak to the media on behalf of the YC (or the deputy chair if the chair can't). If the media are seeking a YC position, members should refer the matter to the chair. Members are, however, free to talk with the media as individuals but should make clear at the beginning of any interview that they are not speaking on behalf of the YC and they cannot speak on behalf of WCC. Members must inform the YC chair of interactions with the media. Simon is to organise an induction session with someone from the Communications and Marketing team.
- It was clarified that YC meetings are open to the public and that members can invite people to attend meetings.

- Simon is to circulate a list of member email addresses and cell phone numbers. Members agreed not to share these with people who are not YC members.
- YC members can give presentations to groups about the YC
- YC members should also be able to write articles for other publications. A communications strategy/protocol for doing this need to be developed first. James, Zoe and Simon are to work on this.

### **Bus review**

The bus review working group tabled the submission it had prepared on behalf of the Youth Council on the Greater Wellington Regional bus review. Members felt that submission read very well.

### **'What the Council does' session for Wellington Mission for Youth**

The working group reported that they were going to meet the WMY teacher directly after the YC meeting to plan the session.

### **Feedback on the YC Arts and Culture Strategy submission**

WCC feedback on the YC's submission on the Arts and Culture Strategy was tabled. Members felt the WCC feedback was excellent because it told them how their input had influenced the final strategy and also gave them a sense of what other submitters had said. Simon is to let the Arts and Culture team know that YC would like some form of regular update.

### **Web Alerts**

YC members were encouraged to sign up for WCC web alerts, especially for 'news', 'consultation', 'Strategy and Policy Committee' meetings and 'Council' meetings.

## **7. Closing**

The meeting formally closed at 5:30 pm.

The next meeting is on 4 April 2012 in Committee Room 2.

### **Action Summary**

1. James, Zoe and Simon are to assign portfolio for the next meeting
2. Bing will take responsibility for maintaining and refreshing the YC Facebook page, and for updating access rights to the closed group.
3. Jack is to assign Bing administrator rights for the YC Facebook page.
4. YC members are to use the WCC social media guidelines to help decide on content and style
5. Simon is to distribute the WCC social media guidelines
6. Simon is to distribute the communications policy
7. Simon is to organise an induction session with someone from the Communications and Marketing team
8. Simon is to circulate a list of member email addresses and cell phone numbers
9. James, Zoe and Simon are to work on a strategy/protocol for member articles for publication in a range of magazines and media
10. Simon is to let the Arts and Culture team know that YC would like some form of regular update
11. YC members are to subscribe to the WCC web alerts service, especially for 'news',

'consultation', Strategy and Policy Committee' meetings and 'Council' meetings.