

AGENDA: ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY GROUP

Meeting of 27 September 2011, Committee Room 1, 101 Wakefield Street, 5.30 to 7.30 pm

1. Attendance

Present: Thomas Bryan, Janette Wallace Gedge, Lachlan, Rosemary, Jason, Kendall, Angela, Linda, Lorraine

Apologies: Iona Pannett, Alan Royal, Lisa Matthews. Lisette
Council staff:

2. Welcome from the Chair

Thomas welcomed the group

3. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes of the AAG meeting held on 30 August 2011 were approved as true and correct record
(Rosemary/Linda)

4. Long Term Plan – Martin Rodgers - Research, Strategy, Urban Design & Heritage

Discussion:

Beginning of the consultation process. Input is welcome from the AAG

4 community outcomes, eco-city, people centred, connected city, dynamic central city

2 Questions the Council would like answered...

What should the priorities be for the next 10 years to achieve the outcomes?

How could Council help the community to contribute to achieve the outcomes?

Timeframes – Councillors decide priorities mid/late October, (therefore 14 October is a key date), but discussion on 2040 can be ongoing

Council have committed to include definitions and explanations to assist understanding of the long term plan

Actions:

- Submission already made on 2040 plan likely to be a good basis for a submission (with more detail)
- Sub group will discuss and respond to the most appropriate way to make a submission
- AAG to identify groups the Council should approach directly to encourage their participation and give an indication of how best to engage with these groups
- Align the accessibility action plan with the topics in the 2040 plan
- Submission could include a request for definitions of various items: connectedness, accessibility etc
- Kendall, Lachlan, Rosemary and Jason to draft a response – by 14 October (Kendall will distribute information to seek comment from AAG members)

5. Accessibility/Disability Forum – Janette Wallace Gedge Consultation and Engagement

Discussion: Accessibility forum to be held Monday, 5 December, 5.00 – 7.30pm, Te Papa. What would the AAG like to have included, noted, actioned? Who should we encourage to attend and how to engage with them? Opportunity to have Council report on progress they have made. Attendees likely to be local disability community groups, council and all stakeholders related to accessibility. Consultation on the action plan opens to the public on 3 December.

Actions:

Possibility is to use the forum to launch/advertise the commencement of consultation on the draft accessibility action plan? Focus on education rather than gathering feedback.

Question needs clarification - Is the accessibility action plan able to be launched on 5 December? Janette will report back via email before the next meeting.

Janette to inform the group about the expected format of a shorter forum.

Sub group to work on the planning for the forum via email before the next meeting

AAG members to give feedback on the image circulated by Janette – photos from city housing presentation?

Image from Barrier Free NZ Trust of the stages of life and how disability will affect us all at one time or another.

6. Report from the Chair

- Lisa and Thomas reviewed the positions which need to stand down, Alan, Lisette and Thomas. Calling for nominations before the end of the year, interviews early next year, ready to start first meeting in 2012. December meeting will include nominations and voting for position of Chair.
- Acknowledge the passing of Jules.
- Sports stadium visit was cancelled and needs to be arranged again. Rosemary's comments and questions were not shared with Craig, just with the AAG members. Possibility of 5 or 5.30 at night. Janette will arrange the visit and the shuttle for approximately two weeks time(11 October – 14 October)
- Reinforcement that no member speaks on behalf of the group unless the entire group endorses the content of the information being shared.

7. Officer's report

- Drafts arts and culture strategy now open for consultation – arts subgroup will write a submission
- Janette will arrange the sports stadium visit
- Janette to check if the AAG can use Council logos in their submissions/publications and email the group

8. Questions to AAG follow-up actions (See Appendix 2)

9. AAG Sub-group updates

Arts and Culture – no meeting held during past month. Kendall visited a few groups to discuss how to encourage ways to increase participation of persons with impairments to arts events. Next meeting report back on various meetings attended by sub group members

Transport/Urban design – cable car submission submitted. Highlighted even within Council the AAG is still not fully utilised. How to get influence across the entire Council? Action plan once adopted should drive business unit commitment to accessibility.

Information and governance – older persons' policy submission submitted. Good response received so effort has been encouraged.

10. Other business

- National Literacy Day (Rosemary)

Went by largely unnoticed. Information sheet circulated to AAG because literacy in night schools has been cancelled by Minister of Education. Same has happened with sign language courses.

- The Adult Dyslexia Support Group (Rosemary)

Having to find a venue to meet. Worry is that without a regular meeting place, membership may falter. Lachlan to provide names and details of possible providers to Rosemary.

- AAG Disclaimer (Jason)

Risk is that the access advice given by the group could be considered legal and binding recommendation on compliance. Issue raised by a member of public in relation to a housing matter of Council. Suggestion was to have a disclaimer to attach to all

recommendations/suggestions. Four ideas suggested: 1) advice offered is not the sole source, 2) suggestions based on personal opinion rather than compliance 3) consultation cannot be considered binding 4) where advice on compliance to building regulation is required recommendation that an external expert such as Barrier free NZ Trust is used. To be placed on the agenda for a full discussion at next meeting, with guidance from Council secured prior to the discussion. Janette will invite appropriate person from Council to address the next meeting.

- **John Dorsan** – Cross country vehicle club

Offer to transport persons with a disability to use their recreation facility. Suggestion it is offered more widely than just PWD's, to older persons and others with less visible impairments. AAG to distribute offer to community groups if they can provide a flyer of some kind. Notice in Dominion Post – Council section or on website, Council alerts etc. Janette to respond to the request.