

Minutes of the Pacific Advisory Group meeting, 10 October, 2012.

Time & Venue	6.00 to 8.00 pm, Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Wakefield St.
Present	PAG - Tina McNicholas (Chair), Dan Kauraka, Siofilisi Tafo'ou, Sainimili Pouvalu, Violet Ekenasio, Martha Samasoni, Fetu Ole Moana Tamapeau, Maria Solouota, Malakai Jiko, Manuila Tausi, Council Officers - Janette Wallace Gedge, Rekha Jatav Councillors : Cllr Leonie Gill
Apologies	Stacey Kokaua-Balfour, Anthony Leaupepe, Cllr Paul Eagle, Mailingi Hetutu

Welcome	Tina McNicholas welcomed everyone
Opening Prayer	Malakai acknowledged Fiji Independence day in the opening prayer
Councillor update	<p>Councillor Leonie Gill gave an update. She and Councillor Eagle are visiting Brisbane next week to attend a conference and will be going to look at how amalgamation has worked in Brisbane. She will be asking the public as well as talking to Councillors. Brisbane has 26 Councillors and each Councillor has about 15,000 people in their area. You can focus on that area. She will be interested to see how that works.</p> <p>Could be another hui in November for all the elected members in the region to get together and try to work out a consensus to put to Local Government Commission.</p> <p>Note Lowering of speed limits out for consultation</p> <p>Reminder to attend Earthquake resilience meetings</p> <p>Comment from Maria: She will be interested to hear what cross cultural mechanisms are in place in Brisbane</p>
Community updates	<p>Violet: Samoa October White Sunday and Labour weekend. Attended funeral of long serving minister, Rev Kenape Faletoese, who had passed away.</p> <p>Dan: attended useful workshop given by an expert in oral histories and customs. Talked about customs and about Reo. Examined things we no longer say, words we don't use.</p> <p>Fetu Ole Moana: involved in organising fundraiser for women's refuge with fafaine DJ, drag queens and kings, raised \$1370</p> <p>Vahine Orana organised Health day at PIPC, Zumba session, Didn't get as many people as hoped for but some came and took advantage of Health Checks</p> <p>Martha: Competition held to encourage young people to write in Tokelauan. Trade Zone fishing day out organised on the Wharf with BBQ and Geoff Sinclair to encourage young people and parents to go fishing together.</p> <p>Maria: Niue Language week, contingent gone to Niue. Mailigi heavily involved. Constitution day coming up. Long serving</p>

Minister has retired. Attended General assembly of Presbyterian Church. Really good to see young people there. Pacific Synod has been approved through assembly so they can now act on their own and have power to administrate to their own people. Now looking at management of services we provide to our own people

Sainimili: Busy preparing for Tonga Day at Wesley Church on Taranaki. Tonga Day is an initiative of the Tongan Council of Wellington. The Tongan Council was formed by the Tongan church leaders.

Wellington under 13yrs rugby team won against Canterbury lots of island kids in that team. Including Sainimili's son.

Sofi: busy preparing for Tongan Day and Career Expo. There will be lots of cultural performances, food stalls and career expo for the young people with stalls from different organisations giving information about skills and learning that may help Tongan people. Sofi invited all PAG members and their communities to attend.

Language class has finished their first term. Lots of NZ Born and mixed race kids speaking Tongan.

Did Shake out at Homework centre.

Teacher's conference invited group to attend and talk about what teachers could do to help raise educational achievement for Pacific Children.

Malakai – combined service at Taranaki St at 4pm on Saturday for Fiji Day

Malakai attending Smoking cessation training next months and has plied for funding for 2 campaigns from HPA for community action against alcohol abuse

Manuila: celebration in Wainuiomata over last weekend for Tuvalu. Gave out lots of posters and invitations for Pacific Forum

Tina: talking with Fijian Council tenants identified whether some leaflets could be available in Pacific Languages? Some people struggle to understand correspondence. One person could not understand why Somalians have info in their own language, yet there was nothing for Pacific people – Janette to check out.

Council should have a Pasifika strategy in place – suggested that PAG should write as a group to Councillor Eagle. Janette to draft letter based on discussions at the meeting and forward to Tina for comment.

Tina Proposed: that Council reviews its existing resources and recognises the importance of translating the key resources into the languages represented by PAG. Seconded by Maria

Other business: Pauline Winter has been appointed CEO of MPIA. Formerly Head of Pacific Advancement at AUT.

Minister for Pacific Island Affairs, Hekia Parata is also responsible for Education and sits in Cabinet. Her focus is to strengthen the number of early childhood education centres. Is open to Pacifica groups to putting forward expressions of interest or talking with her about any ideas they may have relating to this.

MPIA and Ministry of Education have a new approach regarding working together at policy level. They will be focussing Pasifika strategy on the top 25 schools with the largest numbers of Pacifica students across the country. Fifty percent of Pacifica students nationwide attend these schools. Porirua College is on the list and the only one in the Wellington region.

Lots of PI students and their parents don't understand how NCEA works. MPIA is holding workshops for parents to help them understand. Workshops are being held mostly in Auckland but can be held in Wellington upon request.

Fetu Ole Moana commented that even if parents do understand NCEA it may not get the student into the university of their

	<p>choice. They may have to do more. Performance based funding is a pressure.</p> <p>Tina continued: MPIA has had to streamline their work and narrow their area of focus. Main focus will now be on education and the Pacific languages framework.</p> <p>Sofi commented that MPIA has been very supportive of the Wellington Tongan Leaders Council and the council will make a big difference.</p> <p>Languages framework is still being supported.</p> <p>Martha: reported there is likely to be a dance festival over 2 weeks in June next year.</p>
Pacific Forum	<p>Packs of posters and invitation given to PAG members to give to churches. Some more to come that will be sent to PAG members.</p> <p>Request that earthquake kits should be displayed so that people see what should be in them.</p> <p>Suggested that we include a How to prepare video.</p> <p>Could we also have the Mayor's report translated to different languages?</p> <p>Asked for more copies of the PAG Annual Report to be available</p> <p>Performers will come from Tuvalu and Cook Islands Communities as agreed. Manuila and Dan to get back to Janette with the names of the performers and Ministers.</p> <p>Catering to be done by a community group. – being finalised. Paper plates and plastic cutlery perfectly acceptable.</p> <p>It was requested that in future a budget is made available to print a substantial number of copies of the Annual Report.</p>
Pacific Festival Planning	<p>Update on recruitment from Maria: one outstanding applicant was interviewed. Has lots of experience and well connected to Wellington. She will provide a step up for the festival and showed lots of respect and integrity.</p> <p>Tina suggested that PAG endorse the process of recruitment and request WCC to move forward with reference checking as quickly as possible and if all is ok to go ahead and employ her.</p> <p>Suggestion to set up a subcommittee to work with her so we can move forward quickly with the Festival planning. Proposal moved by Malakai and seconded by Fetu Ole Moana.</p> <p>Janette to attend subcommittee meetings to take action points and to assist with report back to PAG.</p> <p>Subcommittee was agreed as: Malakai, Fetu Ole Moana, Martha, Violet, Dan.</p> <p>Fetu Ole Moana wished it to be noted that WCC was recruiting Pacifica staff.</p>
Minutes of last meeting	<p>Minutes of last meeting moved with one spelling correction: Tina moved, Malakai and Sainimili seconded</p>
Other business	<p>Tina made the point we need to produce a work plan as the current work plan has now been completed. The work plan will focus on what PAG intend to work towards in the last part of their term.</p> <p>The work plan should include clearly defined objectives:</p> <p>e.g. Council resources translated. Each member could commit to getting five families enrolled into the insulation of homes</p>

	<p>programme. Training another 6 families in earthquake preparedness. Feeding what's important back into council. Next meeting will focus on forward programme, City Housing and any visitors to keep their presentation to 30 minutes.</p>
Next meeting	<p>Reminder Pacific Forum, on Thursday 8 November replaces November PAG Meeting</p> <p>Next PAG Meeting, Venue: Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Wakefield Street, Wednesday 12 December, 2012</p>
Closing prayer	<p>Sofi gave the closing prayer</p>