

Pacific Advisory Group

Minutes for the meeting held 12 August 2015

(6pm – 8pm)

Venue: Committee Room 2, Council offices, Wakefield Street

Present: Sai Lealea (Fiji & Chairperson), Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako (Samoa), Meremine Taiaopo Auelua (Samoa), Sharon Samasoni (Tokelau), Herbert Bartley (Tokelau), Kimi Higginson (Cook Islands), Anthony Leaupepe (Samoa), , Merio Marsters (Cook Islands), Alvin Mitikulena (Niue), Leina Isno (Vanuatu), Alapeta Faletau (Tonga), Siofilisi Tafo'ou (Tonga), Nicole Rex (Niue) and Silika Kofe (Tuvalu), Councillor Free and Councillor Eagle.

Guest: Desmond Tupangaia, Business Development Manager (Central Pacific Collective)

Officers: Gunther Wild (Manager, Policy and Reporting)

Apology: Ledua Taucilagi (Fiji)

Welcome and opening prayer:

Sai welcomed everyone to the meeting. Alapeta gave the opening prayer.

Minutes for last meeting and matters arising:

The minutes as circulated were agreed with minor amendments.

Councillor Update:

Cllr Eagle shared that social housing had been discussed at the Community, Sport and Recreation Committee today. Also potential public space smoke free expansion was discussed. Cllr Eagle noted that he has had lots of non-Council commitments over the last month and noted the great pacific representation within the teams playing in the Scots College vs. St Patrick's college rugby game, held during the previous weekend. Cllr Free noted that she was working to look for options around housing policy and has had a busy programme of BAU during the previous month.

Central Pacific Collective presentation:

Desmond introduced himself to PAG noted Perenises's apologies. Desmond discussed his role at the collective and ran through a presentation that was handed out to the PAG and noted that the collective is keen to add new members.

PAG members discussed with Desmond what work is being specifically undertaken in the Wellington central area and what the criteria is to join the collective. Desmond noted that the collective is very happy to speak to anyone who would like to find out more about the collective.

Pacific Advisory Forum Planning:

The invitation flier has been finalised and sent out to PAG members for distribution to each PAG member's network. PAG expressed their disappointment that all of the ideas that were sent into WCC for the invitation were not incorporated. Gunther apologised for this.

Gunther mentioned that we had been in contact with the venue representatives and were awaiting an invoice for a deposit.

PAG agreed that the MCs will be Alvin and Meremine.

PAG requested that WCC subject matter experts (SMEs) attend the forum for each workshop area to answer questions. Gunther said he will investigate to see who might be available to attend.

PAG agreed that each workshop's facilitators would take notes on the conversation to report back at the end of the forum.

The topics, lead person and group members were agreed as follows:

- Housing Pacific Peoples (large group): (Anthony), Ledua, Alapeta, Leina
- Better Council Services for Pasifika/Governance: (Herbert), Merio, Kimi
- Opportunities in Economic Development/Arts and Culture: (Ida), Siofilisi, Silika
- Youth Engagement: (Sharon), Meremine, Nicole

PAG discussed potential WCC SMEs for Gunther to contact – aside from the Youth Engagement group, who agreed to contact people, themselves. Gunther managed PAG expectations about how many council staff would be able to attend the forum.

PAG acknowledged that it was a milestone that PAG was running the forum, rather than being WCC controlled.

Gunther agreed to organise flipcharts and marker pens for each workshop group for the night.

Actions:

- *Gunther to send invitation list that Sai supplied out to all PAG members - complete*
- *PAG members to send any additional special invitation people through to Gunther for inclusion on the invitation list to be sent from WCC*
- *Gunther to contact potential subject matter experts attend the forum for each workshop area to answer questions*
- *Gunther to organise flipcharts and marker pens for each workshop group for the night*

Pacific Festival Sub-Committee:

PAG agreed that the sub-committee was made up of the following members: Nicole, Alapeta, Meremine, Ledua, Silika, Merio, Sharon, Alvin, Cllr Eagle

The sub-committee will next meet on Monday 17th August at 6pm at Council. Cllr Eagle will facilitate.

Community updates:

The Chair asked members to briefly provide an update on any significant highlights from their communities:

Leina: Is meeting with the Minister of Pacific Island Affairs next week regarding allowing other Pacific Island groups to be part of the Pacific Language Week.

Kimi: The Cook Islands Language Week was a great success. The Cook Islands Prime Minister is visiting Wellington on 23 August 2015. All of the recent Cook Islands celebrations went well.

Meremine: The youth leadership conference to build capability is being held tomorrow.

Sharon: Everything is going well.

Alapeta: Tongan Language week is occurring next month.

Anthony: 150 years celebrations were great. Currently investigating funding options to strengthen the community hall.

Merio: The Newtown Community Centre is assisting with the language school. Currently developing a work book. On 22 August will be the 50 years of self-governance celebrations for Cook Islands excellence.

Alvin: Recently attended the MBIE workshop launching the Pacific Economic Strategy.

Nicole: Currently working on developing a video resource on suicide prevention for the Niue and Tokelauan communities, including a lot of community engagement. Niue Language week will take place in October. Looking to host a health evening in the library.

Herbert: On 20 August, Arts Trust students will be attending an event at the Soup Kitchen. There is also an upcoming event on 22 August at Dowse and a presentation to the Arts Council on 24 August.

Ida: Provided an update on the flag forum. Also noted that the exercise PIC group enjoyed an outing recently.

Silika: Looking forward to Tuvalu Independence Day. Also getting the youth group running.

Siofilisi: The Tongan homework centre is up and running well, with good attendance. Great to see most parents wanting to help and support. However, the landlord is looking at doubling the rent. The Council of Elders have selected the Whanau Ora Project Manager.

Sai: The language week is a large event for the whole Fijian community. Rebecca Brown is keen to work with anyone wanting to work with the Pasifika programme she is responsible for at Te Papa, to coincide with language weeks.

Actions:

- *Sai to organise for someone from Whanau Ora to attend an upcoming PAG meeting*

The meeting closed with a prayer from Leina.

Next meeting:

The next meeting will be Wednesday 9 September 2015.