

Record of Meeting: Youth Council

Venue Bothie Room, Level 4, Wellington City Library
 When 4-5.30 pm, 8 February 2012

Present

Members: Katja Heesterman, Stevenson Pule, James Wall-Manning, Zared Wall-Manning, Ben Ogilvie, Zoe Doole, Jack Marshall, Morgan Watkins, Duncan Armstrong, Ruth Corkill.
 Councillor: Cr Simon Marsh, Cr Paul Eagle
 Officers: Simon Wright, Rekha Jatav
 Guests: Brydon Sundgren, Sebastian Collin Smyth, Edgardo Vincent Reyes, Therese Kyne, Stephen Mathew, Ani-Piki Tuari

Minutes

1. Opening

Katja welcomed the group including the guests who have applied to become YC members. Katja explained that despite tendering her resignation last year, she will act as chair until a new appoint is made and also to present the YC's 2011 Annual Report to WCC's Strategy and Policy Committee.

2. Apologies

Bing-Ying Lou, Kieran Meredith, Brittany Trilford, Devon Robinson, Cameron Oldfield.

3 What's on top /

Everyone shared a highlight from the holidays and one thing they would like to achieve with YC in 2012. Ambitions included developing stronger relationships with more youth groups, providing WCC with better advice on major decisions such as the Long Term Plan, making the YC more visible inside WCC and in the community.

4. Previous minutes and matters arising

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

5. Portfolio report backs / Forward programme

Katja explained how individual members are assigned portfolios areas to keep abreast of. Portfolio holders are expected to raise issues of potential interest with the YC. The purpose of this is to help set the YC's work programme. Members need to review their portfolio areas for the next meeting.

6. General Business

Recruiting new members

Katja provided an update on the recruitment process. The YC currently has 8 vacancies and 11 people have applied to join. Applicants will be interviewed next week with a view appointing new members by the 22 February meeting.

Process for electing chairs

Katja outlined the process for electing chairs. The election will take place at the meeting on 22 February. Members can nominate themselves or be nominated by other members. Members who cannot attend the 22 February meeting can express interest in becoming the chair or nominate themselves by emailing Simon Wright before the meeting. Only members attending the 22 February meeting can cast a vote in a secret ballot. Simon will count the votes and announce the results. The nominee with the greatest number of votes will become the chair. The nominee with the second greatest number of votes will become the deputy chair.

Feed back on Lease Policy review

YC members appreciated Colin Drew's update on WCC's Leases Policy Review and feedback on how their input had been used. YC would to stay involved in this work. Katja will contact Colin to request this.

YC also requested a briefing on WCC's earthquake prone buildings work. Simon is to arrange this. A view that YC should look at community resilience and review its Facebook page in 2012 was also expressed.

Annual Report for presentation to SPC on 23 February

The draft Annual Report was discussed and amendments made. Questions were raised about why some YC initiatives or discussions in 2011 did not progress to tangible actions. This sort of question should be assessed in the next Annual Report.

Member also discussed why they want to host a youth forum in 2012. A Youth Forum would be a way to educate youth about WCC and local democracy. It could also inform a WCC decision, e.g. the Long Term Plan, and it could happen later in 2012.

This discussion led to further questions about whether YC is a representative body because its members all youths or whether it should canvass widely so that it can represent views, and about how to be seen as 'valuable' by WCC and youth. The need for a prioritised work plan and for developing key relationships, including by making oral submission to WCC, was discussed.

Green paper on vulnerable children

James led a discussion about the Government green paper on vulnerable children and points YC would like to make in its submission. James will work with Zoe and Morgan to develop a draft YC submission for the 22 February meeting.

Members were encouraged to share a survey on the second hand effects of alcohol with their networks. The survey will inform a submission by Children's Commissioner's Young Peoples Reference Group.

Draft accessibility action plan

Zoe and Jack led a discussion about a paper they had written with Bing. They will develop a draft YC submission for the 22 February meeting.

Questions from prospective new members

There was not enough time for this agenda item. Prospective new members were

encouraged to talk directly with current members after the meeting if they had any queries.

GWRC Bus Review

A group of current and prospective members went to the briefing on the GWRC Bus Review by Tass Larsen. This was an optional session for Youth Council and the Pacific Advisory Group members to inform WCC's submission to GWRC on the Bus Review.

7. Closing

The meeting formally closed at 5:30 pm.

The next meeting for 2012 is on 22 February.

Action Summary

1. Members who cannot attend the 22 February meeting can express interest in becoming the chair or nominate themselves by emailing Simon Wright before the meeting.
2. Katja will contact Colin Drew about keeping YC involved in the Leases Policy Review.
3. Simon will arrange a briefing on WCC's earthquake prone buildings work.
4. James, Zoe and Morgan to develop a draft YC submission on the Green Paper on Vulnerable Children for the 22 February meeting.
5. Zoe and Jack to develop a draft YC submission on the Accessible Wellington Plan for the 22 February meeting.