

## **Record of Meeting: Youth Council**

**Venue:** Mezzanine Community Room, Central Library, Victoria St, Wellington

**When:** 4.00 - 5.30 pm, 8 July 2015

### **Present**

**Members:** Anya Bukholt-Payne, Bing-Ying Lou, Daisy Lutyens, Jack Marshall, Morgan Watkins, Niamh Hyde, Sean Johnson, Siobhan Davies

**Councillor:** Simon Woolf

**Officers:** Simon Wright (Policy & Reporting)

**Guests:** Warrick Sue, Haley (CanTeen)

## **Minutes**

### **1. Opening**

Siobhan welcomed everyone.

### **2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Erin Lockhart, Eva McGauley, Grace Nunn, Jack Comer-Hudson, Justina Koh, Oliver Michie, Sebastian Klinkum and Timothy Rutherford for being unable to attend. Bing apologised for arriving late. Cr Woolf and Niamh apologised for leaving early.

### **3. What's on top**

Everyone shared at least one important thing going on in their life including receiving A+ grades for university papers, getting engaged, attending the Aspiring Leaders Forum, receiving a scholarship to attend the Festival for the Future, and being selected to attend the International Conference of Young People for Peace in the Future on 6 August in Hiroshima.

Cr Woolf flagged that member should consider attending a seminar by Dr John Sturrock QC who is an internationally recognised mediator on 27 July. More details will be available soon.

### **4. Conflicts of interest**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

### **5. Previous minutes and matters arising**

The minutes were not ratified due to the lack of a quorum.

### **6. Forward Programme**

This agenda item was not considered.

## **7. General Business**

### **CanTeen**

Warrick Sue gave a brief talk about CanTeen and his role as a youth worker. He introduced Haley who shared her cancer story including about re-starting her 'new normal' life once she was well. She found her old friend welcoming but a little awkward. Their lives had moved on while hers had taken another, very disempowering tack. In general, it is good to ask people who have survived cancer what they would like to talk about as this empowers them; telling their story makes them the 'expert'. For those welcoming a cancer survivor back into a group, it is best to be yourself, be open, ask questions with integrity and be prepared to change the topic of a conversation if the survivor wants to.

### **Revised forward programme**

Members reviewed the finalised policy forward programme to identify areas of interest. The following items were flagged:

- City and regional governance
- City Housing Strategy
- Report on development of plans for the east Te Aro regeneration area
- The children and young person policy work
- Regional Waste Management Plan Update – members agreed that it would be good to work with the Environmental Reference Group on this one and to use a 'climate' lens.

Simon will add these items to the list of items previously identified, which can then be used to propose the work programme to the WCC.

### **Working group updates**

Jack reported that he has prepared a one-page summary of proposed changes to the Youth Council's Manual. He will start a Loomio discussion to agree changes.

### **Recruitment update and transition to new YC**

About half the shortlisted applicants have been interviewed and the rest will be completed in time to appoint new members for the YC meeting on 22 July. New members will be teamed up with experienced members at this meeting to prepare climate change advice based on the 24 June workshop. New members will present this orally at the 19 August meeting, which will also be a farewell/welcome function for members and with parents attending.

Simon announced that this was his last meeting at the Liaison Officer as he has resigned from the WCC. A person has been contracted to perform the role while a permanent employee is recruited. All YC members are invited to Simon's WCC farewell function.

### **Youth Council Social Media**

New administrators for the YC's Facebook are needed as Bing has decided not to apply for another term. Bing has posted content 4-5 times per week for a number of years and the Facebook currently has over 750 likes. There will be a call for administrators at the next YC meeting. Bing will help the new administrators get started in the role.

### **Nelson Youth Council**

Jack, Sean and Anya will meet with a group of Nelson youth councillors and their liaison officer on 22 July. Some of the materials to share include:

- Videos from Film Welly
- Annual Reports
- The Youth Council Manual
- Youth Week materials

Simon will arrange for the mezzanine room to be opened.

### **Helping Save the Children**

Save the Children would like the YC to help with its Race for Survival campaign. Members agreed to help by running the campaign on its Facebook. Members also expressed interest in working with Save the Children, UNICEF and other NGOs on their Convention on the Rights of the Child report to the United Nations. Simon will ensure that Mercy Jumo, the Advocacy & Child Rights Manager at Save the Children New Zealand, is invited to a Youth Council meeting to discuss this possibility further.

### **Ask Away**

Meg Howie met with Sean and Simon to discuss the idea that the YC could run an Ask Away web-campaign for the next Wellington local body elections. Member liked this idea. It was seen as an opportunity to reach out to other youth groups, candidates, the media and sponsors.

Simon suggested that enough work had been done to write to the WCC with a proposed work programme made up of the policy issues that have been identified and projects such as Ask Away and the Convention on the Rights of the Child report. The Chair will work with the previous Chair and Deputy to prepare this.

### **MYD grant application**

Jack M reported that the YC's grant application to learn about the impacts of the Auckland super city amalgamations on youth councils had been unsuccessful. It was noted that a number of members have been on Ministry of Youth Development grant committees. These members should help with the development of future grant applications.

### **Youth Week review**

Positives from the YC Youth Week events included:

- Further developed relationships with other youth groups
- The relationship with the WCC Community Services team provided additional expertise and resources
- The lunchtime performances and events were well received and raised the profile of the YC in the WCC and on Facebook
- The YC's workshop was well organised

There could have been more clarity about the roles of working group members and delivery timeframes, and a better job done of promoting and recruiting for the events. There was a suggestion that the YC should seek help from the WCC Events team next year.

Members thanked Bing for her work to make Youth Week such a success. She will

link photos of the YC's Youth Week events to Ara Taiohi.

Siobhan volunteered to write a short article about the YC's Youth Week events for the Ministry of Youth Development by 14 July.

## **8. Closing**

The meeting closed at 5.45pm. The next YC meeting is due to start at 4.00pm, 22 July 2015 in Community Room on the mezzanine floor of the Central Library.

## **Action and decision summary**

1. Simon to add identified work programme items to the list of items that were previously identified
2. Jack to start a Loomio discussion to agree changes to the Youth Council Manual
3. Simon to add an item regarding Facebook administrators to the agenda for the meeting on 22 July
4. Simon to arrange for the mezzanine room to be opened for the meeting with the Nelson youth councillors on 22 July
5. YC Facebook administrators to organise the YC involvement in the Race for Survival campaign
6. Simon to ensure that Mercy Jumo is invited to a Youth Council meeting to discuss possible collaboration on the Convention on the Rights of the Child report
7. The Chair to send a proposed work programme to the WCC
8. Bing to link photos of the YC's Youth Week events to Ara Taiohi
9. Siobhan to write a short article about the YC's Youth Week events for the Ministry of Youth Development by 14 July.