

Te Rūnanga Taiohi o te Kaunihera o Pōneke

Wellington Youth Council

Minutes

Date: Wednesday, 15 June 2022
Time: 4:00pm – 5:30pm
Venue: National Library of New Zealand and Te Awe Library

Purpose

- Assist and advise the City Council on how to help grow a great City where young people thrive and contribute to the City Council's priorities.
- Bring extra insight to Council (a youth perspective) to solve problems facing a challenging world.
- Develop the capabilities of its members (including leadership and engaging wider youth).

Membership

Chairperson:	Anastasia Reid
Members:	Artemis Crawford, Nīkau Edmond-Smaill, Ella Flavell, Henry Lockhart, Josh Taefu (Deputy Chair), Waimarama Tapiata-Bright
Liaison Councillors:	Cr Tamatha Paul, Cr Jill Day (Alternate)
WCC Staff:	Emily Deans (Democracy Advisor), Silas Phillips (Māori Strategy Advisor)

Meeting Procedures

The meeting opened at 4.15pm.

1. Apologies were received from the following members:
 - Henry – for lateness;
 - Waimarama – for early departure;

- Anastasia, Ali, Leandra, Greer, Meredith, Councillor Day, Councillor Paul – for absence.

No issues were raised with the minutes of the previous meeting.

2. No conflicts of interest were declared.

Items

3. Tour of He Tohu at the National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa, *Presented by Anna Tiaki (Senior Learning Facilitator at the National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa).*
 - Youth Council Members learnt about He Tohu and the three significant documents housed there. Some interesting things were:
 - There are 1.7 million objects housed at the library including newspapers, photos, papers, journals, paintings etc.
 - The significant taonga “Te Wehenga o Rangi rāua ko Papa” by Cliff Whiting (Te Whānau-a-Apanui) takes pride of place in the National Library of New Zealand reading room.
 - Many different people have done tours of the Te Tohu – including the Director of the CIA in the USA!
 - The documents held in He Tohu are:
 - **He Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tireni** (The Declaration of Independence of the United Tribes of New Zealand), drafted by James Busby and signed by 52 Rangatira between 1835 and 1839.
 - **Te Tiriti o Waitangi**, signed in 1840 on ship and land by 540 rangatira, including 19 women. Te Tiriti is comprised of 9 sheets (2 of parchment and 7 of paper) and the Waitangi sheet (with the three written articles) placed to directly face Parliament as a wero (challenge) to the government.
 - **Women’s Suffrage Petition** was brought to parliament in 1893 with 32,000 signatures (including about 30 men) which are on 540 sheets of paper. The vote passed 20/18.
4. Debrief, *Presented by Silas Phillips.*
 - Silas introduced themselves and spoke about how we will try to have a discussion to move the understanding we gained from the He Tohu tour to comprehension and how we can bring the ideas we gathered today into Youth Council.
 - Youth Councillors shared how they’d like to know how to bring Te Tiriti and events of the past into everyday life. Tauwiwi members mentioned wanted more clarity about when to speak up and when to listen and how to talk to friends and family about Te Tiriti.
 - Youth Councillors raised the challenges of aligning differing values in different spaces, for example values at home, school and Youth Council.

- There was a discussion of how to engage more in the submission process with other rangatahi outside of Youth Council.
- Youth Councillors agreed about the importance of getting to know each other and the new Youth Councillors in informal settings. This is part of the plan for the induction of new members.

5. Updates

- Josh gave an update on recruitment. We have now communicated with everyone who was successful, and we have 10 new Youth Councillors! The induction invitations have now been sent for **Thursday the 30th of June at 5pm**. This is not a paid meeting, but it would be awesome if Youth Councillors can make it (there are also zoom links available). Josh also mentioned that him and Anastasia are planning a Youth Council dinner (possibly after the zoo trip) and a photoshoot as part of the induction programme.
- Henry gave an update on the elections working group. Some of the feedback the group gave to Greer was incorporated into the plan, which is awesome. The key focus right now is getting people enrolled and updating their addresses on vote.nz. The Council has started the election promotion and the Elections Group are working on thinking about communication with the university halls.
- Josh gave an update on Youth Hub. There hasn't been a meeting for a while but hopefully the Youth Hub property is now confirmed. Emily reminded Youth Councillors to read the three blurbs prepared by Ariel and to vote on their favourite in the chat.
- Emily reminded everyone to please fill in the survey sent around by Greer: <https://forms.gle/qPFvaFDNSkHHsuA66>
- Henry mentioned that the [District Plan is being approved for public notification on Thursday 23 June](#). Emily added that following this process it will go out for public consultation (including coming to Youth Council in August).
- Please note **the next Youth Council meeting is Wednesday 6 July**.

The meeting concluded at 5.33pm.

Information

Next meeting date: 6/07/2022

Portfolio / Working Groups:

- Recruitment working group (led by Anastasia)
- Election working group (led by Henry)
- Youth Hub (led by Josh)
- Communications working group (tbc)