

Te Rūnanga Taiohi o te Kaunihera o Pōneke

Wellington Youth Council

Minutes

Date: Wednesday, 16 November 2022

Time: 4:00pm – 5:30pm

Venue: Ngake (16.09), Level 16 Tahiwi, 113 The Terrace, Wellington and Zoom

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:	Andrew Ackerley, Ben Bridle, Artemis Crawford, Keelan Cy Heesterman, Finley Duncan, Nīkau Edmond-Smaill, Ella Flavell, Kalani Fransen, Caspar Levack, Henry Lockhart, August Metherell, Teresa Ng, Ashleigh Putt-Fallows, Anastasia Reid (Chair), Kady Saxon, Josh Taefu (Deputy Chair)
Liaison Councillors:	Councillor Ben McNulty, Councillor Nīkau Wi Neera (alternate)
WCC Staff:	Meredith Blackler (Chief People and Culture Officer), Greer Forde-MacNaughton (Youth Engagement Advisor), Emily Deans (Democracy Advisor), Ariel McLean-Robinson (Community & Neighbourhood Advisor), Jared Corston (Senior Resilience Advisor Place & Connection)

Meeting Procedures

The meeting opened at 4:01pm with a karakia.

1. Apologies were received from the following members:

- Silas, Leandra – for absence.

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

2. No conflicts of interest were declared.
3. Youth Councillors shared what's on top for them.

Items

1. Updates

- Anastasia welcomed Youth Council's new liaison Councillors Ben McNulty and alternate Councillor Nikau Wi Neera!
- Greer gave an update on what's going on at WCC:
 - The independent electoral commission submissions have closed but we got an extension until 21 November and are still looking to submit on making the voting age 16.
 - Greer will meet with the Aro Park development group from BGI to discuss wider youth engagement with young people and Council and will keep you updated on the progress.
 - Groups of year 9 students from Rongotai College emailed us and the Mayor with their ideas about important things to change in Wellington – we are organising the Mayor to visit the school.
 - WellingtonNZ are doing a new campaign and want to capture youth voice – let Greer know if you are interested in being involved.
- Emily gave an update on upcoming hui and meeting dates:
 - The (paid) LGWM hui is now on 1 December at 5.30 please let Emily know if you'll be there in person or online.
 - The Advisory Group orientation is now on Tuesday 22 November at 4.30pm – this is optional but a good chance to meet Councillors and other Advisory Group members.
 - The meeting dates for 2023 are now confirmed as follows and the calendar invitations will follow:
 1. Feb 8 2023
 2. Feb 22 2023
 3. Mar 8 2023
 4. Mar 22 2023
 5. Apr 5 2023
 6. Apr 19 2023

7. May 3 2023
 8. May 17 2023
 9. June 7 2023
 10. June/July induction joint AG hui – date tbc
 11. August 9 2023
 12. August 23 2023
 13. Sept 6 2023
 14. Sept 20 2023
 15. Oct 4 2023
 16. Oct 18 2023
 17. Nov 15 2023
 18. Nov 29 2023
 19. Dec 13 2023
 20. Spare joint Advisory Group hui - date tbc
- There's a follow up from the Jenny Elliott at the waste team on reusing hospitality waste; "I'm not aware of restrictions on the types of food that can be donated generally, it's more a question of what the food rescue orgs are able to accept depending on their customer base, and the facilities they have to safely transport and store prior to distribution."
2. Youth Hub Concept & Design session, *Presented by Jared Corston & Ariel McLean-Robinson*
- Ariel and Jared presented slides about Youth Hub and spoke about how we now have secured a venue!
 - The landlord is starting to work on the space for us and we want to hear your ideas about what to do with the space.
 - Youth Councillors had 15 minutes of solo floor plan design and then 20 minutes of group design to come up with ideas for the Youth Hub floor plan. Each group presented their ideas to Youth Council.
 - Group one wants to see the following things in the new Youth Hub:
 - Comfy chairs, software, plugs and good wifi.
 - A multilayer cinema workshop area with modular walls that come in and come back with projector on the wall to fold up when not in use.
 - A statement couch by the window with cushions and beanbags, with small shelves and books with a sensory swing and plants.
 - Could create custodians of the plants with regulars who take care of specific plants.
 - A basketball hoop.
 - Locally commissioned artist work on the pillars.
 - Somewhere to display student artwork.
 - Bring in dress for success with facilities to borrow clothes for job interviews.
 - Big open shelf with board games, arts, crafts and study guides.
 - A kitchen is really important - free kai and potentially community pantry.
 - Table tennis and a pool table.

- Area on a wall that was half chalkboard/whiteboard for people to draw whatever they want.
- Stage for people to perform with instruments as part of the resources.
- Generally having the big open, flexible space – easy to move things out and around.
- Group two wants to see the following things in the new Youth Hub:
 - Have sports area in the lowered area in the corner.
 - A quiet space for studying and chilling.
 - Setting spaces and areas with flexible walls that could be taken down – closed off or kept open.
 - Agree with the idea of whiteboards and a desk at the front.
 - Lots of seating!
- Group three wants to see the following things in the new Youth Hub:
 - Agree with having a board game shelf and to have a Multi-purpose space, a kitchen and quiet space.
 - A little café by the windows at the left.
 - Don't think we should have a stage as that would be really loud – youth hub should be a quiet space. Live music would be loud which is not very accessible.
 - Need to have comfy rocking chairs and headphones that people can borrow – can't always control how loud others or ourselves are speaking.
 - Could be easier to raise the space, but if the lower space will stay like that please make sure there is a ramp that any wheelchair user can use.
 - If there's a library to take and leave a book, there needs braille books there.
 - Another thing that could be too loud is washing the dishes by hand – need a dishwasher (or more than one). Nobody needs to wash dishes by hand as it's really loud and unsettling. An alternative could be two dish drawers.
 - Maybe a collapsible stage that is use occasionally at specific days and time?
 - A sign about there being live music would be good but maybe not to leave instruments around.
 - Soundproofing practice rooms is really important.
- Group four wants to see the following things in the new Youth Hub:
 - No bad vibes!
 - Set up social pressure to be a kind human and not abuse the space.
 - Make sure there are age restrictions (United Nation defines youth as persons between the ages of 15-24)– to make the space safe for everyone.
 - No parents – staff are trained to look after youth.
 - No concrete or lino – as it's unwelcoming.
 - Free coffee and tea is important too.
 - Outlets everywhere, cheap/free printing.
 - Help pamphlet station.
 - Free contraception, free painkillers, free pads and tampons.
 - Clear area about information about youth hub itself eg. event schedule.
 - Please do not make it a bright green, yellow and orange tone and make sure it doesn't look like a council area.

- When people walk in they should know what's free and available and what's not free immediately.
- The youth hub team took away all the notes and designs. There will be more of this style of workshops where any young person in Wellington can come and express their ideas.
- Once all workshops are held, the team will review all of the feedback and use it to produce an initial design with our architect for further consultation. This includes the survey, community hui, group consultations, design workshops & background info (the information that supported the project being established).
- Youth Councillors thanked the youth hub team for their time and mahi.

The meeting concluded at 5.33pm with a karakia.

Information

Next meeting date: Thursday, 1 December 2022

Portfolio / Working Groups:

- Māori & Pacific Island working group (led by Ashleigh)
- Youth Hub (led by Josh)
- Communications working group (tbc)