

## WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Pacific Advisory Group Meeting on 25 August 2010

#### **Present:**

1. Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako (Chairperson - Samoa)
2. Kolovula Murphy (Deputy – Tonga)
3. Danny Kauraka (Cook Islands)
4. Manea Allan-Moetaua (Cook Islands)
5. Tina McNicholas (Fiji)
6. Martha Ahmed (Tokelau)
7. Mailigi Hetutu (Niue)
8. Brenda Cottingham (Niue)
  
9. Bessie Fepulea'i
10. Marie Retimanu-Pule
11. Trudy Smith

#### **Welcome:**

- Warm pacific greetings and welcome from the Chairperson who thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

#### **Opening Prayer:**

- Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako

#### **Apologies:**

- Ana To'o; Deputy Mayor Ian McKinnon; Councillor Leonie Gill

#### **PRESENTATION – Aroha Rangi & Chris Wellington, Policy Team**

- Aroha Rangi gave a presentation on the Terms of Reference of the PAG. She asked members for their thoughts and ideas on whether the current ToR are still current and consistent with Wellington City Council outcomes including the purpose of the PAG to strengthen engagement between Council and the Pacific people and to build the Pacific Community's knowledge of Council processes. Other points covered in the presentation included:
  - The role of PAG and representing issues.
  - Responsibilities of the group – work together; the work programme and connecting with Council.
  - Responsibilities of individual group members
  - Role and responsibilities of the Chair and Deputy Chair
  - Membership of the group – make up and term
  - Selection of members of the group

- Ceasing membership
  - Induction of members
  - Operation of the group – work programme; feeding information; fees (remuneration).
  - Accountability
- Concern was noted about the end of the current term for the present PAG members and the need for continuity. PAG members asked whether there was any possibility of extending the current PAG members' term to April 2011 because of the timing of the Pasifika Festival as there will not be enough time for the new committee to organise the festival. PAG membership is not consistent with other advisory groups in Council where there is only a change over of a few members. It would be good to have a rolling membership for the PAG because some issues that come up are repetitive. **Action:** Aroha to come back with information about the election process. Aroha noted that this is the first time all the advisory groups have been reviewed at the same time with the groups having been set up to respond to different community needs.
  - PAG noted that if members are doing work in their communities then they will be voted back onto the PAG.

#### **PRESENTATION – Cheryl Mennie, Public Trust – Thomas George McCarthy Trust Grant Applications**

- Cheryl Mennie said that it was noticed at the recent board meeting of the TG McCarthy Trust that they are not receiving enough applications from the Pacific community. This Trust gives grants from a \$2.5m grant pool and covers the Wellington region up to Wanganui. They fund charitable organisations that work with various groups in the community. Their funding round opens in March and closes on 30 June. The application form is straight forward and does not require a lot of information. The three main questions asked on the form are the purpose of the organisation (what do you do and what are you set up for), who is the organisation supporting and how and are you supporting the community, and how is this grant going to help benefit the people that you support. Grant applications are decided at the October board meeting.

#### **Questions & Comments:**

- What projects does this Trust fund? *Age Concern covering elder abuse and neglect services – paid for the salary of the coordinator; youth - scouts, girls brigade, Skylight, Welltrust drug and alcohol funded the coordinator's salary; newsletters for groups; syringes for Mary Potter Hospice; Te Aroha funded a canoe trip for youth. The Trust does not support individuals, sports groups or service clubs.*
- Does the Trust discriminate if a group already receives funding? *No we encourage groups to self fund. The Trust will also contribute towards rent and will provide funding for items like swings for language nests. The Trust does automatically fund schools every couple of years so they are eliminated in the funding round.*

- Cheryl said that she would email all the information through to Bessie to forward onto the PAG members. The website for the Trust is [www.tgmcCarthy.trust.org.nz](http://www.tgmcCarthy.trust.org.nz). It was agreed that Cheryl should be invited to attend a PAG meeting next year, possibly February 2011, to update members.

### **Terms of Reference – Continued Discussion**

- Points of discussion included:
  - PAG need to work to the Council's Forward Programme to develop a work programme for the year.
  - Would like the sitting fee to be increased. It was noted that this has to be agreed by all the advisory groups so that the fee remains consistent over all these groups.
  - Advisory groups need to be seen to be working.
  - Are smaller island groups able to recruit members from outside Wellington City, ie, Tokelau and Tuvalu? This should be included in the ToR.
  - Why does Samoa have more representatives on the PAG? *This was set up as part of the original PAG because of population.* Should this now be re-looked at and discussed?
  - If you are not available to attend a meeting can you have someone else represent you at a PAG meeting by proxy? This would give other people experience. This does cause problems of not having consistent people at the table and raises the question of who would nominate this representative.
  - Is there representation on PAG reflecting all age groups? *The community elects members. This process could possibly include the election of a youth member as a youth view is not represented on the committee.* It was noted that there is a Youth Council advisory group that has Pacific representatives.
  - Are you happy with the three year term? *We would like to see some wording around continuity. Could possibly have members that are elected by the community and some that are appointed. Does Council see a need for continuity of members? The DHB board is a good example of this.*
  - What would the work programme look like? *Would be better if we could see the policy programme and this would give better interaction. Every year we have an induction on the Annual Plan.*
  - Accountability – do you feel you are heard? Do you have enough interaction with Councillors and are the reporting lines clear enough? *Yes and we also have the forums to provide feedback. It was suggested that the Youth Council could report back at the Pacific Forum so they get the opportunity to report to the community.*
  - It was suggested that Aroha and Chris attend the next PAG meeting to give an update on the ToR.

### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

- The Minutes from the previous meeting were moved as a correct record by Danny Kauraka and seconded by Tina McNicholas.

## **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- The Climate Change Workshop is this coming Saturday, 28 August. There have been a good number of RSVPs received. We will need assistance on the day in terms of helping on tables, keeping things going and scribes. In the morning session there will be speakers and for the afternoon session there will be one speaker talking about households. **Action:** Bessie to send out a copy of the programme once this has been completed. It was noted that Wellington City Council is the first council to hold this type of workshop and there has been a lot of interest from other councils. PAG would like it noted that this idea was first mooted at the PAG meeting. Bessie noted that consideration is being given for climate change to be the theme for one of the forums next year.
- RWC funding – Bessie sent an email out to members regarding the DIA grant funding that closes in September. Grants will be given out for one off events that are being held as part of the RWC. **Action:** Bessie to talk to the RWC team at Council and ask for feedback about Pacific events, ie, venues, programmes.
- City Housing upgrade – Bessie tabled feedback from the Community Action team and information about the upgrade of the different complexes. City Housing are starting work on the Regent Street flats in October and the Newtown Park Flats next year.
- Forum – the forum is on 15 September. **Action:** The programme is still in draft form and Bessie will send this out to PAG once it has been confirmed. Anton Carter from Creative New Zealand will be discussing filling out application forms, City Arts will talk about murals around Wellington and there will also be an update from the RWC team.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

- The Tongan homework sessions are running well. The Fijian community have received their annual funding from DHB to hold exercise classes, nutrition classes and their community garden project will be going ahead.
- Events - There is an Incredible Families seminar being held in Newtown. There is a Maori and Pacific Disability Forum being held on 17-18 September.
- Brenda Cottingham noted that she has been promoting the drinking of water to her community and the community have noted beneficial results.

### **Closing Prayer:**

- Danny Kauraka

**Next Meeting:** Pacific Forum – 15 September 2010  
Next Meeting – 20 October 2010

**Meeting Closed:** 7:50pm