

Minutes of the Pacific Advisory Group meeting, 11 April, 2012.

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| Time & Venue | 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Wakefield St. |
| Present | PAG - Tina McNicholas (Chair), Anthony Leaupepe, Siofilisi Taufo'ou, Violet Ekenasio, Malakai Jiko, Martha Samasoni, Fetu Ole Moana Tamapeau, Sainimili Pouvalu, Dan Kauraka Council Officers - Janette Wallace Gedge, Rekha Jatav Councillors – Cllr Ian McKinnon, Cllr Leonie Gill, Cllr Paul Eagle Visitors – Statistic NZ, |
| Apologies | None received |

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| Welcome | Tina Mc Nicholas |
| Opening Prayer | Siofilisi Taufo'ou |
| Presentation: Statistics New Zealand | Gave a comprehensive presentaiton of the information gathered through the census and other surveys and how the information is used. The team gave a folder of information to each PAG member and left a selection of Pacific Population Profiles which are available from Janette. Key message from the presentation was: Pacific people are under-represented in the census information it is vital Pacific Communities understand the importance of completing the information and that the information they provide is confidential and cannot be accessed by any other Government Department. PAG members can assist by taking the messages to their communities – completing the census forms is safe, completing the census is important as the numbers of people in Pacific groups from the census is used to decide funding and level of services needed. Further training is available on how to use the tools available by contacting ritesh.anand@stats.govt.nz |
| Presentation from NZQA | NZQA are currently in the process of reviewing and renewing their Pasifika Strategy. Aaron and Peter gave a presentation on the work of NZQA and the information they are seeking from the Pasifika Community. Key activity has been to assist parents to understand the NCEA. NZQA would like feedback on their strategy for next 3 years. It can be accessed at the link given in the email to PAG members. Two comments from PAG members about how NZQA affects the Pacific Community: |

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| | <p>Sofi commented that he knows many experienced tradesmen who have no formal qualifications and that could be addressed. Anthony suggested that funding for Homework Centres is a useful way of helping to raise Pasifika student achievement.</p> |
| Councillor update | <p>Cllr McKinnon began with a discussion on the Pacific Forum content – he proposed that there will be feedback on the Long Term Plan and asked the PAG members what else should be included.</p> <p>He asked that we think about the value of events in Wellington – the social and economic impact. We want people to earn outside and spend here for events. The Council are looking to include another major event. Developing new event strategy. PAG could consider how does the Pasifika community fit and the Pasifika Festival. Submit as an individual or as a group.</p> <p>The city is facing a big cost in earthquake strengthening the Town Hall - \$20-30M. Plus encouraging private building owners to earthquake strengthen. Have a look at the LTP and see what is being cut out. E.g. no more public toilets being built for 10 years. No more bus shelters.</p> <p>Churches are different form private buildings – he encouraged members to ask about their individual church situation when the new service is available.</p> <p>Cllr McKinnon emphasised the importance of getting ready for an emergency and having water stored in the house.</p> |
| Community updates | <p>Dan: Has been working on recruiting a new Member to fill vacancy. Two names have been put forward, the Cook Island Community are having another meeting and then will get back to PAG.</p> <p>Violet: Has arranged for a rates officer to come to talk to community about rate rebates for older people</p> <p>Anthony: having discussions with WCC about Building licensing, on 27 April there will be a community seminar about grants, funding and Insulation. He has sourced a package where insulation can be installed for free.</p> <p>Martha: just had tournament weekend for Tokelauan community. Event being put together for all young Pacific artists.</p> <p>Fetu: Is now a youth member for Pacific women’s group – Newtown branch. Working on women’s health campaign.</p> <p>Malakai: having a meeting with PIA on how to access cultural fund. Also involved in Healthy eating campaign</p> <p>Sainimili: Wesley Church, Taranaki have new minister. Tongan group gave 11 laptops to families to help children with their studies.</p> <p>Sofi: acknowledged help from WCC to put together Memorial service for King. One of the most memorable events in the community. First time the Tongan community has come together. Money from performances of cultural group goes into the community to help buy laptops. Pursuing help for funding a homework centre.</p> <p>Tina: continuing to have very successful Zumba classes, really nice mix of all ethnic groups in Tawa Community Centre.</p> |

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| | Received money from MPIA for new Fiji language project for 3 years at this stage. Funding from Oscar for school holiday programmes. |
| Minutes of last meeting | Proposed as an accurate record by Malaki Jiko and seconded by Sainimili Pouvalu |
| Matters Arising from the Minutes | <p>Vacancies for members and by-election Election has been set up for nominations to close on 26 April. If we only receive sufficient nominations to fill vacancies those nominated will be declared elected unopposed, if we receive more nominations than vacancies then an election will be held at Te Papa from 4pm on 2 May – immediately before the Pacific Forum. Pacific Forum: PAG members to please distribute invitations to their networks and their churches and encourage community to attend Pacific Forum on 2 May. Fiji and Tokelau representatives to provide names of Ministers and Performers for Forum to Janette asap. Agreed Annual report will be presented to Council in August. Janette to produce draft Annual report for July meeting, all PAG members to send suggestions to Janette for inclusion</p> |
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| Next meeting | <p>Pacific Forum on 2 May 2012, 5pm at Te Papa No Committee meeting in May</p> <p>Next PAG Meeting 13 June, Venue: Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Wakefield Street</p> |
| Closing Prayer | Tina McNicholas closed the meeting and Violet Ekenasio gave the closing prayer |
| Action Points: | <p>PAG Members: distribute Forum Invitations, contact details for performers and Ministers to Janette send suggestions for PAG activity and progress for annual report to Janette for inclusion in draft.</p> <p>Janette: elections, new members, Pacific Forum, draft Annual Report.</p> |