

## **Minutes for the meeting held 18 March 2015**

**(6.00pm – 8. 00pm)**

**Venue:** Committee Room 2, Council offices, Wakefield Street

**Present:** Sai Lealea (Fiji & Chairperson), Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako (Samoa), Siofilisi Taufo'ou (Tonga), Alapeta Faletau (Tonga), Sharon Samasoni (Tokelau), Silika Kofe-Pouofenua (Tuvalu), Nicole Rex (Niue), Anthony Leaupepe (Samoa), Ledua Taucilagi (Fiji), Merio Marsters (Cook Islands), Alvin Mitikulena (Niue) and Councillor Eagle.

Councillor Ritchie was in attendance.

**Officers:** Gunther Wild (Manager, Policy and Reporting). Officers presenting to PAG were: Marissa Cairncross; Kate Baker

**Apologies:** Zach Rissell, Councillor Free, Meremine Taiaopo Auelua (Samoa), Herbert Bartley (Tokelau), Kimi Higginson (Cook Islands), and Leina Isno (Vanuatu).

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### **Welcome and opening prayer:**

Sai welcomed everyone to the meeting.

A minute of silence was observed in sympathy and support for Vanuatu.

Siofilisi gave the opening prayer.

The Chair and PAG members welcomed Gunther Wild (Manager Policy and Reporting).

### **Minutes for last meeting and matters arising:**

The minutes as circulated were agreed with a minor amendment, deletion of contact details on page 4.

### **Councillor Update:**

Councillor Ritchie – Natural Environment Portfolio was in attendance. Councillor Ritchie thanked the group for their prayer for Vanuatu.

Councillor Ritchie noted that the Long-term Plan (LTP) is a priority at the moment and she holds some concerns around some projects that have been proposed.

Councillor Eagle was in another meeting at the time, so he will give his update when he arrives.

### **Long-term Plan Update:**

Marissa Cairncross was in attendance for this item. She gave a brief outline of the LTP process, particularly regarding the submission process of the LTP.

Marissa noted that consultation is open from 13 March until 17 April. She advised that you can do group or individual submissions and there will be a special interest group forum, which includes all the advisory groups, and all are welcome. This meeting will be held on 14 April.

She also noted that if you wanted to speak to your submission make sure you add your contact details so that a Council officer can get in touch to book a speaking time.

The group discussed a Pacific Island Forum on the LTP and when and where it could be held.

Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako is happy to identify a venue and date for the forum. Most likely in the first or second week of April.

Gunther Wild to help find a suitable date and organise Councillors and Council officers to attend.

### **Home Energy Saver Programme Targeted Communications Plan**

Gaye Elliot from the Sustainability Trust and Kate Baker were in attendance for this item.

Gaye gave a brief overview of two programmes, firstly the Free Home Energy Assessment, which looks at the warmth, moisture, power use of the property and then an action plan is provided to make the home warmer, dryer and healthier. It is also designed to minimise costs for the home owner.

Secondly, the Greater Wellington Regional Council offer subsidised products that help make your home more efficient energy wise. One example of this product is a windows kit, which is inexpensive, but helps makes homes warmer and drier.

Another programme, is Free Insulation if you have a community services card, have people under 17, over 65 or with people that have health conditions living in the house.

These programmes are available to everyone in the Wellington City Council area.

Kate Baker gave a brief overview on how the programme is being marketed at the moment.

Kate asked for any ideas from the group about how to reach their community.

Nicole suggested that radio, specifically Niu FM would be a good option moving forward, it's better if the message comes from Pacific people.

Sai also suggested that the group could help translate material into different Pasifika languages.

Nicole and Kate will get in touch around marketing the programmes on radio.

The PAG took a break at this time.

### **Pasifika Festival Subcommittee:**

PAG would like to be more involved in the direction setting of the festival. Setting up this Subcommittee is good timing to take stock.

Councillor Eagle gave a brief overview of the Auckland Pasifika Festival and its evolution and considers Wellington is following the same pattern. He is happy to help lead this work and guide it through

Nicole agreed with Councillor Eagle, the group needs to be proactive not reactive. She commented about the lack of stalls that represented all of the Pacific communities.

Ida noted that it is important that members of this group are present for initial meetings to have their perspective and voice. She also suggested that they needed to bring back key stakeholder and sponsors to help fund the event.

Subcommittee could invite Pacific High Commissioners to help guide the event. But the PAG must lead this work.

Members of PAG Pasifika Festival Subcommittee: Councillor Eagle, Silika Kofe-Pouofenua, Ledua Taucilagi, Sharon Samasoni, Merio Marsters, Alapeta Faletau, and Leina Isno.

Sai would like to see some governing principles developed for the subcommittee to help guide the event.

The Subcommittee will meet before the next PAG meeting.

### **Annual Report:**

Historically, Council officers drafted up an Annual Report and a PAG member presents it to the Governance, Finance and Planning Committee.

The report holds the highlights of year for PAG and any significant matters that arose in the year just been.

Gunther Wild to find and circulate the previous Annual Report to PAG.

Sai and Gunther to work together to compile this Annual Report and it will be on the agenda for the next PAG meeting.

### **Pacific Action Plan:**

Councillor Eagle suggested that items within the Pacific Action Plan should be integrated into PAG's submission to the LTP. He is happy to help lead this work, identify opportunities and initiatives that are significant to PAG into the LTP and to present to Councillors. Anthony Leaupepe and Alapeta Faletau to help Councillor Eagle with this work.

Gunther and Sai to work together to identify the status of the Pacific Action Plan.

### **Community updates:**

The Chair asked members to briefly provide an update on any significant issues from their communities.

Sharon Samasoni noted no major updates from her community.

Alapeta Faletau discussed the Pacific Future Funds. 50 Families will get help with health and housing. The Fund will employ one coordinator to run all the projects.

Merio Marsters advised that the community is celebrating WW1 commemoration in April. The Cook Island Prime Minister was hosted by the High Commission in Wellington; tertiary students were invited to participate. Cook Islands language classes started this term, every Tuesday at Newtown school, 4.30pm-5.30pm.

Ledua Taucilagi noted that there is a Fijian Language Week Committee election next week. Group of government delegations coming to Wellington next week, this will be held at Te Papa.

Sai Lealea noted that there was a language and culture workshop in Masterton, 20 people attended.

Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako noted that patrollers are going well. There has been a lot of feedback and they are recognisable by the community. Recently the church was involved with an exhibition Samoan Kilikiti match, showing that they are working with Council. Housing policy, it is an ongoing concern for her community.

Anthony Leaupepe is pulling together a submission for the Living Wage. Going to a March in Lower Hutt, there are empty housing corporation houses and there are people that need accommodation.

Nicole Rex made a personal submission on the super city, did a section on radio about the super city as well. Attended the Auckland Pasifika Festival, and in particular the Niue village. PMN are making an album with Niuean stories to mark 100 years since Niue battalion fought in WW1. PMN has a partnership with Samoan Capital Radio programme, so PMN are broadcasting live from Wellington now. Niuean and Cook Islands language programmes will be broadcasting from Wellington to help build a local feel. Nicole also noted that it is important that PAG have workshops on accessing funding, tendering for contracts with Council.

Siofilisi Taifo'ou notes that Tongan community expresses their sympathy for Vanuatu and the devastation that cyclone Pam caused. Language classes going well, these classes are aiming to help students.

Alvin Mitikulena discussed thinking about a Pasifika Councillor onto Council. PAG is token, should have someone sitting at the Council table. PAG should help support an individual to get onto Council.

Silika Kofe-Pouofenua noted that Tuvalu Island was affected by the cyclone. Thankful for New Zealand assistance in this state of emergency.

Councillor Paul Eagle gave a brief overview of the process for regional amalgamation. He then updated the group about the process the Local Government Commission are carrying out now in terms of submissions and hearings.

Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako and Merrio Marsters noted that they are going to the Vanuatu Relief Event tonight.

The meeting closed with a prayer from Ledua Taucilagi.

**Next meeting:**

The next meeting will be Wednesday 8 April 2015.