

## **Minutes for the meeting held 6-8pm, 10 June 2015**

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

**Present:** Sai Lealea (Fiji & Chairperson),  
Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako (Samoa),  
Alapeta Faletau (Tonga),  
Kimi Higginson (Cook Islands),  
Anthony Leaupepe (Samoa),  
Meremine Taiaopo Auelua (Samoa)  
Merio Marsters (Cook Islands),  
Herbert Bartley (Tokelau),  
Alvin Mitikulena (Niue),  
Nicole Rex (Niue),  
Leina Isno (Vanuatu), and  
Councillor Free

**Officers:** Simon Wright (Senior Advisor, Policy and Reporting)

**Externals:** Constable Loretta Hunt-Tevaga from the New Zealand Police

**Apologies:** Ledua Taucilagi (Fiji),  
Sharon Samasoni (Tokelau),  
Silika Kofe-Pouofenua (Tuvalu), and  
Cr Eagle

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

Sai welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Merio gave the opening prayer.

### **Minutes for last meeting:**

The minutes as circulated were agreed without any amendments. Simon clarified the Council's taxi chit policy for advisory group members.

### **Councillor Update:**

Councillor Free gave an update. The PAG's Annual Report will be considered by the Governance, Finance and Planning Committee (GFP) on 11 June. Other issues to note include some work on:

- the better use of the Council's social housing
- homelessness
- the Local Alcohol Policy.

There will be a session at 7pm, 16 June at the Kilbirnie Community Centre to try and find out about the causes of the alcohol problems in the area and to consider making it alcohol-free.

The Council received a large number of submissions on the draft Gambling Policy.

It was noted that the Local Government Commission had decided not to proceed with its 'super city' proposal. It was agreed that regional governance is likely to remain on the political agenda.

### **PAG Annual Report**

Sai and Ida will attend the GFP meeting to present the PAG's Annual Report. Members should contact Sai or the PAG Liaison Officer for a copy of the Annual Report.

### **Pacific Advisory Group Forum Planning**

This year's Forum will be on 16 September. Simon confirmed that the budget for the Forum is \$2,500. An objective for the Forum will be to find out the level of demand for future forums, that is, 1 or 2 forums per year.

Sai will email a query to the Council, via the PAG Liaison Officer, about the discretionary \$10,000 budget that was discussed when the advisory group terms of reference were reviewed.

Members discussed the pros and cons of various venues and provisionally decided that the ASB Sports Centre would be best depending on its catering policy. The PAG Liaison Officer is to confirm the catering policy.

Sai will liaise with the PAG Liaison Officer to organise a subcommittee meeting to develop plans for the Forum within 2 weeks. The subcommittee includes Sai, Ida, Alapeta, Anthony, Merio, Herbert and Alvin.

### **Gambling Venues Policy**

The PAG's submission, which recommended a 'sinking lid' policy, was received and acknowledged by the Council. The PAG would like to invite the relevant officers to provide feedback on what the Council decides and how the PAG's submission was taken into account.

### **Pacific Language Week**

Members reported on language week initiatives being organised by a number of Pacific groups.

A subcommittee including Mine, Nicole, Alvin, Sharon, Merio and Herbert was formed to investigate a PAG fundraising event to support language or other PAG initiatives. The Council liaison officer will find out if the PAG are able to host an event that brings in revenue and help organise a subcommittee meeting.

It was noted that the Council's communications team may be able to help advertise PAG and Pacific community events.

### **Pasifika Festival Subcommittee Update**

Cr Eagle has volunteered to lead a subcommittee review of the Pasifika Festival. Cr Free will contact Cr Eagle and ask him to arrange a meeting within 2 weeks.

Members of the subcommittee, which includes Merio, Meremine, Alvin, Alapeta, Herbert, Leda and Leina, are available most evenings but not on Wednesdays.

### **PAG work programme**

Members reviewed the 4 main items on its agreed work programme as follows.

1.	Strengthen connections between Wellington's Pasifika communities and the Council	Work has been done on this
2.	Advising the Council on how to better engage Pasifika communities	Little progress to date
3.	Home energy saver programme	Work has been done on this
4.	Eight big ideas for economic growth	The community is more interested in issues such as the quality of housing. People need healthy homes.

It was noted that the PAG's work programme should be highlighted at the Forum. Housing issues could be a theme for the Forum, which could feature information about the warrant of fitness programme for rental housing and the curtain bank.

Issues were noted with the support the Council has been providing to the PAG. For example, it was noted that the PAG has been supported by a large number of liaison officers during 2015 causing continuity problems. This issue will be raised during the presentation of the PAG's Annual Report.

The next agenda will include a review of the Council policy forward programme and a further review of the PAG's agreed work programme.

Sai signalled that he will continue to invite Pacific advisors from Government agencies, diplomatic corps and international agencies such as the Red Cross to PAG meeting in order to exchange information and develop relationships. He is likely to invite an advisor from the Department of Internal Affairs to the next PAG meeting.

### **Report on Pacific Controller initiative**

Constable Loretta Hunt-Tevaga from the New Zealand Police reported that the Pacific Controller initiative is generally being well received. Initial recruitment can be difficult but having Pacific Controllers working alongside the Police is proving effective. A legal entity is now being considered to enable fundraising for the initiative.

The initiative is supported by the Council. Rachel Rogers, the Team Leader for Safe City, will be invited to the next meeting.

Sai will write a letter of support for the Pacific Controller initiative to the Police Commissioner seeking a continuation of the programme.

### **Community updates:**

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

*Merio Marsters* advised that there had been a successful workshop at Te Papa.

*Herbert Bartley* advised that the former McDonalds site in Porirua may be redeveloped as a Tokelauan community space.

*Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako* reported on the Walk of Faith Event, which was held on 30 May.

*Anthony Leaupepe* advised the PAG of a meeting he will be attending on 17 June with Wellington City Council's City Housing regarding a series of evictions. He encouraged PAG members to join a match to support the Living Wage Campaign starting at 9am, 24 June at the Wesleyan Church on Taranaki Street.

*Kimi Higginson* reported on a breakfast function at the Cook Island's High Commission and on preparations for Language Week. The event will coincide with the fiftieth anniversary of self-government. It is White Sunday on 19 July.

*Alvin Mitikulena* and *Nicole Rex* noted that the Niuean community is alive and kicking.

*Sai Lealea* noted that the Fijian language week committee is organising their language week event and that there has been coordination with the Auckland and Christchurch committee. Members were invited to purchase tickets for a movie night fundraiser. The film is "Jurassic Park" and the viewing is on 29 June. He also noted a warm clothes are being collected for recently arrived Fijian agricultural workers in Nelson and Hawkes Bay.

*Leina Isno* reported on aid efforts in Vanuatu the wake of Cyclone Pam. \$35,000 were collected for the Red Cross. She noted that her community would like to take part in Pacific Language Week next year.

### **General Business**

It was agreed that that the Pasifika Action Plan and the PAG's work programme should be standing items on the agenda.

Members were encouraged to sign up for the Council's web alerts (<http://wellington.govt.nz/webalerts>) to stay abreast of Council issues and actions.

The meeting closed with a prayer from Kimi.

## **Next meeting:**

The next meeting will be Wednesday 8 July 2015.

## **Decision and action summary**

1. Sai to email a query to the Council, via the PAG Liaison Officer, about the discretionary \$10,000 budget that was discussed when the advisory group terms of reference were revised
2. The next agenda will include a review of the Council policy forward programme and a further review of the PAG's agreed work programme
3. PAG Liaison Officer to confirm the catering policy at the ASB Sports Centre
4. PAG Liaison Officer to invite the relevant officers to provide feedback on what the Council decides and how the PAG's submission was taken into account
5. Sai to liaise with PAG Liaison Officer to organise a Forum subcommittee meeting to develop plans for the Forum within 2 weeks
6. The Council liaison officer to find out if the PAG are able to host an event that brings in revenue and help organise a fundraising subcommittee meeting
7. The next agenda will include a review of the Council policy forward programme and a further review of the PAG's agreed work programme
8. Cr Free will contact Cr Eagle and ask him to arrange a meeting of the Festival review subcommittee within 2 weeks
9. PAG Liaison Officer to invite Rachel Rogers, the Team Leader for Safe City, to the next meeting
10. Sai will write a letter of support for the Pacific Controller initiative to the Police Commissioner seeking a continuation of the programme
11. The Pasifika Action Plan and the PAG's work programme are to be standing items on the PAG agenda
12. Members should sign up for the Council's web alerts (<http://wellington.govt.nz/webalerts>) to stay abreast of Council issues and actions.