

Minutes for the meeting held 8 July 2015

(6pm – 8pm)

- Venue:** Committee Room 2, Council offices, Wakefield Street
- Present:** Sai Lealea (Fiji & Chairperson), Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako (Samoa), Meremine Taiaopo Auelua (Samoa), Sharon Samasoni (Tokelau), Herbert Bartley (Tokelau), Kimi Higginson (Cook Islands), Anthony Leaupepe (Samoa), Ledua Taucilagi (Fiji), Merio Marsters (Cook Islands), Alvin Mitikulena (Niue), Leina Isno (Vanuatu), Councillor Free and Councillor Eagle.
- Guest:** Lynette Tyrrell (Senior Advisor Pacific, Department of Internal Affairs)
- Officers:** Gunther Wild (Manager, Policy and Reporting) and Rachel Rogers (Pacific Controller Initiative)
- Apologies:** Alapata Faletau (Tonga), Siofilisi Taufu'ou (Tonga), Nicole Rex (Niue) and Silika Kofe-Pouofenua (Tuvalu)
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Welcome and opening prayer:

Sai welcomed everyone to the meeting. Kimi gave the opening prayer.

Minutes for last meeting and matters arising:

The minutes as circulated were agreed.

Councillor Update:

Cllr Free noted that there were no formal meetings in July, but she had been having lots of public meetings, noting a particular example of housing in Strathmore. Cllr Eagle acknowledged the Manu Samoa vs. All Blacks game and the Tongan Community celebrating the coronation. Cllr Eagle also noted that the super city plans had not succeeded and encouraged PAG to find a Pacifica candidate for next year's council elections. Cllr Eagle noted that there were two policies coming before the CSR Committee in coming months that PAG will be interested in – housing and gambling.

Lynette Tyrrell presentation:

Lynette introduced herself to PAG and the role that she has in the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA). It is a new role and the only one that is specifically focussed on Pacifica. Lynette ran through a presentation and noted that her biggest challenge ahead was developing a Pacific Strategy for DIA. Lynette was keen to work with PAG to work in with the Wellington communities when developing the strategy and also find out more about how PAG operates with elections etc. PAG also invited Lynette to attend the upcoming forum and to bring one of her senior managers too.

Actions:

- *Lynette to send the presentation to Gunther to distribute to PAG members*
- *Gunther to send PAG members emails to Lynette for future contact on Pacifica matters*

Rachel Rogers presentation:

Rachel presented to PAG and ran through her role at WCC related to everything to do with safety. Rachel particularly focussed on the Pacifica Community Patrol that is the first of its type in the country. It now has 28 vetted patrollers. Rachel noted that they would like to have more people join the patrol and passed out forms for the PAG members to take away and give to people.

Pacific Advisory Forum Planning:

Alvin circulated a hard copy of notes from the sub-groups meeting for discussion. PAG agreed that the date is confirmed as 16 September 2015 and the venue as Ioane Vito hall. PAG asked if the budget can be increased by \$500 to \$3000.

PAG discussed who will be the MCs at the event. It was agreed that it would be Alvin with a young female PAG member as co-MC (either Meremine or Nicole).

PAG discussed the theme of the Forum. Everyone liked the original idea of Wellington Pasifika into the future, although there was discussion around the idea of adding 'prosperity' into the theme. PAG also discussed having a young Pasifika person speak at the event (like a school Dux). The sub-group will decide and report back.

It was agreed to have a separate all-forum discussion around housing policy, followed by the following workshop themes (with workshop leaders and team members noted, below):

- Update on housing review policy: (Anthony), Ledua, Alapeta, Lena

- Update on Pasifika Action Plan: (Ida), Sai, Alvin
- How Pasifika can utilise council services/facilities better: (Herbert), Merio, Kimi
- Economic and job development: (Ida), Siofilisi, Silika
- Youth Engagement: (Sharon), Meremine, Nicole

PAG agreed that each workshop team would discuss the workshop idea further, including refining the topic and relating it back to the Pacific Action Plan, and how to run their workshops – and feed this back to the sub-group via Alvin.

PAG also agreed to send any agenda ideas through to Alvin to discuss with the sub-group. All feedback to be through to Alvin by Monday, so the sub-group can meet on Tuesday evening at 6pm.

The group discussed potential WCC support on graphic design for designing invitations. Gunther noted that the marketing and communications function in the Council is run like a standalone business that charges all costs back. However, Gunther will check as to what the cost for this service would be.

PAG agreed that the dress code for the forum would be traditional dress.

Actions:

- *Nicole and Meremine to confirm who will be the co-MC at the event*
- *Forum sub-group to agree theme*
- *Gunther to confirm the ability to stretch the budget to \$3,000 – confirmed that a total budget of \$3,000 is available*
- *Gunther to confirm support resources – confirmed that WCC is able to provide pads and pens*
- *Alvin to propose forum agenda and circulate by Friday 10 July*
- *Each workshop team discuss the workshop idea further – and feed this back to the sub-group via Alvin by Monday 13 July*
- *Gunther to book meeting room for sub-group for Tuesday 14 July – confirmed library mezzanine meeting room*
- *Gunther to check the cost of invitation design support*

Pacific Language Week:

This is in progress and being discussed in conjunction with the festival sub-committee.

PAG Work Programme:

PAG agreed that the forum workshop leaders need to be mindful of the programme and ensure the workshop discussions tie in with it.

Community updates:

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

Alvin: The elephant has arrived safely at Auckland zoo. The community is going well. Noted that he will look into a community representative on the Pacific Patrollers. The High Commissioner has become the head of the diplomatic corps – and the community is very proud of her.

Ledua: Noted thanks for the movie night support and noted the one off test match next week.

Meremine: Discussed the Tongan Association going to Auckland and the Victoria University Samoan Students Association are preparing to go to Christchurch for the annual so'olaga conference. Noted the Manu Samoa vs. All Blacks rugby game today and the economic boost is generating revenue for Samoa.

Sharron: Everything is going well.

Herbert: 60 people went to Tokelau.

Ida: Ministry of Health review of rheumatic fever showed good results for Wellington. Wellington Region Pacifica Services Trust.

Kimi: Launching book that is the story of Cyclone Martin by Rachel Reeves to be held at the Helen Smith community room at Pataka Museum on Thursday 16 July from 6-7.30pm.

Anthony: Meeting with WCC and family that got eviction notice. Met with DIA on buildings issue. Good living wage march held.

Leina: Written letter to Minister of Pacific Island Affairs regarding allowing other Pacific Island groups to be part of Pacific Island Week. Sai is coming along to meeting with the Minister, and Leina would welcome any other PAG member joining. The Solomon Islands is gearing up for independence celebrations. Papua New Guinea is busy.

Merio: Language class has turned 1.

Sai: The movie night went well and is a good way for other groups to raise money as the fundraising group takes \$9 of every \$20 ticket sold. On 23 July the Fiji netball team are playing at Te Raupraha arena. Sai will organise for someone from the Pacific Whana Ora to come to a PAG meeting.

Alvin: There have been changes made to immigration medicals. They now have to be undertaken by a specific GP through the physician panel.

Actions:

- *Sai to organise for someone from Whana Ora to attend an upcoming PAG meeting*

The meeting closed with a prayer from Meremine.

Next meeting:

The next meeting will be Wednesday 12 August 2015.