

## Minutes Youth Council Meeting

**Venue:** Mezzanine Community Room, Central Library, Victoria St, Wellington

**When:** 4.00 - 5.30 pm, 16 September 2015

### Present

**Members:** Cameron Wright, Damon Rusden, Jack Comer-Hudson, Melissa Gibson, Morgan Watkins, Jack Marshall Niamh Hyde, Oliver Michie, Petelo Leaupepe, Sean Johnson, Siobhan Davies, Sophie Reedy-Young, Teri O'Neill, Timothy Rutherford,

**Officers:** Helen Walker, Kate Irvine, Geoff Lawson (Policy & Reporting)

**Guests:** Chris, Sam and Georgia

### 1. Opening

Siobhan welcomed everyone.

### 2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Anya Bukholt-Payne, Ben van den Eykel, Eva McGauley, Justina Koh, Rose Mwipiko and Sebastian Klinkum. Cr Woolf also apologised. Petelo and Niamh apologised for leaving early.

### 3. What's on top?

Everyone shared at least one important thing going on in their lives.

### 4. Conflicts of interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

### 5. Previous minutes and matters arising

Minutes for 2 September – Siobhan moved and Niamh seconded that the minutes were a true and correct record of the meeting. Passed.

### 6. Social housing

Geoff Lawson gave a brief recap of his presentation on social housing (given at the meeting of 2 September). Given the Youth Council's high level of interest in social housing, Geoff said it would be helpful to his work if the Youth Council could prepare some information about

- the scale of youth housing as an issue in Wellington
- international models of social housing provision

The members agreed there would be one working group made up of all members with the exception of Niamh and possibly Anya.

Melissa will be the working group lead. It was agreed that social housing would be discussed at the next meeting.

## **7. General Business**

### **Youth Conference**

The 2015 Lower North Island Youth Councils' Conference is being held in Levin on Tuesday 29 September. Kate and Salote Austin will both take council vehicles to transport the youth councillors. Kate advised that parents/guardians of those attendees who are under 18 should advise her that they were aware of and happy with the arrangements being made and that an email would be sent to the youth councillors advising of that.

There was some discussion as to whether the Youth Council should do a presentation at the conference and it was agreed that if there was a slot available, they would. Kate and Ollie to follow up with Marcus Boshier, Regional Youth Participation Advisor, Ministry of Youth Development. Marcus is co-ordinating the conference.

### **Professional development**

Kate led a discussion on professional development. It was agreed that the Council would not sponsor two people to the Rotary Youth Leadership camp however individual members could apply through the Rotary selection process. Kate provided brochures on the camp for interested Youth Council members to take away.

The Youth Council discussed why they became members of the Youth Council and what they hoped to get out of it. They noted making a difference, community involvement, influencing council decisions; ensuring youth voice is heard; being close to local government. The issues or topics that members are interested in considering further for professional development are:

- Networking
- Negotiation
- Writing submissions
- Selling an issue
- Facilitation
- Communications and media
- Events management
- Interviewing
- Team building.
- Chairing / meeting management

The Youth Council asked for a further discussion about professional development at their next meeting.

### **Identifying Youth Councillors on the WCC website**

The Youth Council page on the WCC website needs updating and a current photo can be uploaded. There was some discussion about naming people in the photo and also whether we should name the current members of the Youth Council on the website. Member's names for other Council advisory groups are on the website.

In relation to the photo it was agreed that if one person in the photo does not want to be named then no one will be named. In relation to naming the current members of the Youth Council on the website Helen will email members and ask if they are comfortable to have names on the WCC website as a member of the Youth Council.

### **Meeting Room**

There was some discussion about whether the Youth Council could hold its 2016 meetings in Committee Room 1 - Helen to action. It was agreed that the meeting day and time should remain as Wednesday 4pm.

### **Working group updates**

- Alumni Society – Ollie is the working group lead.
- Add Housing as a working group.
- Delete the variety event working group.

### **Miscellaneous**

Morgan noted that the pedestrian lights around the parliamentary precinct will continue to have an image of Kate Shepherd.

Question of officers as to why inner city recycling bins were removed.

Noted that the Wellington City Council had agreed to participate in a trial of on-line voting for the 2016 elections and the Youth Council had advocated for this.

### **Joint letter of objectives**

Kate advised that Gunther Wild, Manager Policy and Reporting will attend the meeting of September 30 to discuss the joint letter of objectives that the Youth Council and Wellington City Council need to agree. There was some discussion about an appropriate process for the letter to be developed. The Youth Council sought assurance that the process was a collaborative one and that their preference was that the Youth Council would present the WCC a preliminary letter rather than have the WCC develop the first draft. Sean noted that the Youth Council would want to include issues such as Election 2016.

## **8. Closing**

The meeting closed at 5.30pm. The next YC meeting is due to start at 4.00pm, 30 September 2015 in the Community Room on the mezzanine floor of the Central Library.

### **Action and decision summary**

1. Include leadership development on the next agenda
2. Kate and Ollie to follow up on doing a presentation at the Youth Council

### Conference

3. Helen to check if Committee Room 1 is available for meetings next year
4. Helen to follow up on whether to include names on the WCC website
5. Helen to check why recycling bins were removed from the inner city
6. Helen to send an email to Youth Councillors attending the conference who are under 18, with letter to their Parent/Guardian attached seeking confirmation on travel arrangements. Response emails to be sent to Kate Irvine by Thursday 24 September.