

# Youth Council Meeting Minutes

Frank Kitts Park & Mezzanine Floor, Central Library, Victoria St, Wellington

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2016 4:00pm-6:30pm

<p><b>1 – Opening &amp; Apologies</b></p> <p>Apologies given;</p> <p>Damon Rusden Morgan Watkins Sophie Reedy-Young</p>	
<p><b>2 – Playground Policy</b>   Bec Ramsay to present</p> <p>Old playground policy accommodated for those aged 0-15 years, new policy to have “youth provisions”</p> <p>Draft Playground Policy to be put to public in May 2016. Final policy later in year (date unconfirmed)</p> <p>Currently playgrounds are viewed narrowly, new policy is looking to broaden the definition – definition of “play” is broad. A skate park and basketball half court are “play spaces”</p> <p><i><b>Bec Ramsay puts a question to the group, answers tabled below;</b></i></p> <p><b>Q – How do you like to play and socialise outside?</b></p> <p><b>A –</b> Playgrounds don’t have to have set pieces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Trademark meeting places. Not necessarily to play, good to meet at. A free element is very important.</li><li>- People go to cafes to socialise. They go because its dry/warm</li><li>- Mix of uses for playgrounds, both active and passive use of the equipment.</li><li>- Some social stigma associated with “youth” using equipment</li><li>- Suggestion of having some equipment that is for older youth, gave example of large scale climbing equipment. Issue is sharing of equipment with very small children, not that they are both at same park</li><li>- Spa Park in Taupo is a good example</li></ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 members had used a playground in the last week</li> <li>- When thinking of demographics, not everyone uses “skate parks and playgrounds” – so how to provide for “youth play”?</li> <li>- Obstacle courses had a positive reaction from YC</li> <li>- Trampolines</li> </ul> <p><b>Q – What would make skate places more accessible to all youth?</b></p> <p><b>A-</b> Basketball court that has tennis net also, would be good to not inhibit multi use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If working up a sweat, then drinking fountains are a good idea</li> <li>- Specialised spaces are fine – fit for purpose</li> <li>- Separation is positive as it allows for multiple uses in one space without compromising demographic uniqueness and appeal</li> <li>- Youth have mobility that younger persons don’t have, good to keep in mind when developing</li> <li>- Waitangi park is a good example, some of these done well is better than multiple half-baked options that don’t cater to the neighbourhoods “market needs”</li> <li>- Grasslands development in Tawa</li> <li>- Climbing trees/playing in the bush also had a positive response</li> <li>- Designing for youth can result in “paradoxical” use of the equipment (example of sitting on equipment rather than nearby seats)</li> <li>- Cycleways between parks intended for youth</li> <li>- Mt Vic skills development area for biking – falls under youth use</li> <li>- Key driver for going to a playground isn’t use of equipment</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	
<p><b>4 – What’s on Top?</b></p> <p>This was not discussed due to time constraints.</p>	
<p><b>5 – Conflicts of Interest</b></p> <p>No conflicts of interest were declared.</p>	
<p><b>6 – Administrative matters   Attendance &amp; Elections</b></p> <p><b>Leadership model – chair and deputy (Carried)</b></p> <p>Returning officer – Sean (<b>CARRIED</b>)</p> <p>Sean to email all members regarding the election</p>	

**7 – Annual Plan Engagement** | Neil McInnes and Savaia Stevenson to present

Special interest forum for Youth  
Panel hearings open to public

Engagement and consultation process  
Presentation slides made available to YC on dropbox

Process is ongoing – can be involved continuously  
What are the aspirations that young people have for Wellington, how can we align this with objectives and strategies of WCC?

Discussion

- Physical venue has advantages
- Date is the middle of school holidays
- Earlier date could be better
- Marketing it as a networking opportunity
- Frame it as issue based rather than “Annual Plan consultation”
- Framing it in a way that youth can relate to “what will this spot look like in 10 years?”
- If you can convince people that a difference will be made, and show them evidence you will have much greater buy-in and success
- Talking to other youth groups – Evolve, Zeal, InsideOut...
- Variety of demographics, not focusing on less “high-powered” youth groups
- Posters in schools/other networks
- Aggravation of youth could be a good tactic for engagement/controversy

**8 – Animal Bylaw & Dog Policy** | Jessica Clarke to present

- Formal consultation running 1<sup>st</sup> April – 2<sup>nd</sup> May
- Education programme currently has to be run under the existing legislation. Offered to all schools, but only some take it up
- Run at primary schools
- General lack of awareness among youth, very few members had encountered any formal education around dogs
- Police have been to some schools to teach some dog education
- Framing the education as positive is important, rather than fear/danger based
- After school programmes could be a good space for education

It was noted at the next meeting the uncovered administrative matters are to be carried (minutes, attendance and work expectations)

The Meeting adjourned at 5.30pm so the professional development programme could commence.