
REPORT 9
(1215/12/IM)

REPORTS BACK FROM COMMITTEES/PORTFOLIO RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Purpose of Report

To provide the Community Board members with a reporting back facility regarding their portfolio responsibilities and other activities they have been involved with as a member of the Tawa Community Board. A copy of activities covered by the Chair of the Board is attached as appendix 1.

2. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Tawa Community Board:

- 1. Receive the information.*

CHAIR'S REPORT COVERING MARCH 2013

MATTERS ON THE GO

NEIGHBOURS' WEEKEND IN TAWA

March was when it all happened, around 45 neighbourhood gatherings taking place on one of three weekends. See my separate report on this.

REGIONAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW

We have arranged a community meeting to be held at the Tawa Community Centre later this coming Sunday afternoon to give people the opportunity "... to learn more about the proposed changes. What are your views about Tawa becoming part of the new Porirua ward? Will there be a place for the Tawa Community Board in the future? Does there need to be? Come and have your say."

Brian Hannah (WCC) who gave a report on the Regional Governance Review at our March board meeting will give a presentation for 20 minutes. This will be preceded by Bruce Murray taking five minutes to provide a background on the history of Tawa and local government over the years. 30 minutes or so will be allowed for questions and discussion.

BOARD NEWSLETTER

We have formally agreed to publish and distribute a minimum of two community board newsletters each year for distribution to all 4600 households in Tawa. Work is well under way on a newsletter scheduled for distribution in mid-April.

COMMUNITY ENEWSLETTER

Tawa Community Board issues covered in the March eNewsletter were Neighbours' Weekend in Tawa, Local Government Reform proposals, and the hanging baskets, both the reduction in watering and how the baskets were initially funded.

TAWA PRIMARY SCHOOLS' CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

In the past couple of weeks I have visited the six primary schools and the Intermediate in Tawa, meeting two of the three new principals, handing over community board information and teeing up with each school a date to speak to their senior students about this year's Tawa Primary Schools' Citizenship Awards and how they might strive to be the winning student at their school.

APPENDIX 1

THE HANGING BASKETS

One week we were advising the community that the irrigation system watering the plants in the hanging baskets had been reduced to 30% of the previous level (because of water supply restrictions), the next week it had been turned off completely – as per Council instructions.

We subsequently put a request to the community (using our email network) for volunteers to take turns manually watering the plants one evening each week for four to five weeks from Easter onwards. More than 35 people responded. 24 have been rostered (four each evening) to use “unofficial” water to keep the plants alive, in addition to the Wednesday Guides taking charge of Wednesday evenings.

It has been a great community response and indicative of the fact that people are appreciative of the hanging baskets being an asset not only to our Main Road shopping centre but to the community as a whole.

COMMUNITY BOARD BEST PRACTICE AWARDS

My report covering February 2013 omitted the fact that at the very end of that month I forwarded two entries for the Community Board Best Practice Awards. The winning entries from community boards throughout the whole country will be announced at the Community Boards conference in Wanaka in May.

The entries relate to:
Neighbours' Weekend in Tawa 2012
Tawa Primary Schools' Citizenship Awards

MEETINGS AND EVENTS IN MARCH

- 06.03.13 Attended (briefly) the Teddy Bears' Picnic organised by the Tawa Community Centre at Duncan Park. Involved a substantial number of preschool children and young schoolchildren and their parents/carers.
Helped judge the tug-of-war at Grasslees Reserve between two local gyms, DC Fitness and Resolve Fitness.

- 07.03.13 Met with Graeme Hansen, WCC traffic engineer Charles Agate, and Montessori Preschool owners in Hinau St to discuss parking issues outside preschool.
Met with journalism student to discuss local issues.
Met briefly with New World supermarket manager.
Went with Robert to 2-hour Draft Annual Plan evening meeting in central Wellington.

- 09.03.13 Own street barbecue in conjunction with Neighbours' Day.

- 11.03.13 At monthly meeting of the Tawa Progressive & Ratepayers' Association.

APPENDIX 1

- 13.03.13 Met with WCC vegetation manager Dean Virtue and fellow WCC officer at Tawa Cemetery to look at overgrowth problems and to discuss merits of a working bee.
- 14.03.13 Tawa Community Board monthly meeting.
- 18.03.13 Informal get-together of community board (Ngaire, Chris, Margaret, Robert and me) to discuss Regional Governance Reform issue.
- 21.03.13 Round table meeting at community centre to discuss emergency planning in Tawa. Organised by Ngaire and Kerry McSaveney from WREMO.
- 23.03.13 Attended Greenacres School Mad Hatters' Easter Gala.
- 28.03.13 Drew winning tickets in Easter Raffle for Tawa College French trip.

Malcolm Sparrow
Chair, Tawa Community Board
4 April 2013