

Multicultural Subcommittee
OPEN MINUTES

Date: Friday 7 June 2019
Time: 9.04am
Venue: Committee Room 2, Level 2, Civic Offices,
53 Hereford Street, Christchurch

Present

Chairperson Councillor Jimmy Chen
Members Councillor Anne Galloway
Councillor Glenn Livingstone

In Attendance: Councillor Phil Clearwater

6 June 2019

Claire Phillips
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- Part A Matters Requiring a Council Decision**
Part B Reports for Information
Part C Decisions Under Delegation
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The agenda was dealt with in the following order.

1. Apologies

Part C Committee Decision

No apologies were recorded.

2. Declarations of Interest

Part B
There were no declarations of interest recorded.

3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Part C Committee Resolved MCSC/2019/00006

That the minutes of the Multicultural Subcommittee meeting held on Monday, 8 April 2019 be confirmed.

Councillor Chen/Councillor Livingstone

Carried

4. Public Forum

Part B

4.1 Dr Surinder Tandon, Christchurch Multicultural Council

Dr Surinder Tandon, Christchurch Multicultural Council (CMC), addressed the meeting on the CMC's activities.

Dr Tandon sought the City Council's assistance in promoting education about the 2019 election process. The CMC would be inviting some community members to Question and Answer sessions in the community. The CMC acknowledged the support of the City Council, and particularly Councillor Chen, in helping it meet its objectives.

4.2 Anna Gruczynska, Polish Association

Anna Gruczynska, representing the Polish Association Christchurch, provided the meeting with information about the Association. She talked about the initial migration in the 1870s and the recent skilled migrants. The Association provides support to new migrants.

She noted that social isolation was a concern. The Association is active in city events and does appreciate the support of the Council.

4.3 Thi Phan, Hagley College

Thi Phan, Hagley College spoke about the College's Diversity Support Programme running programmes at the College and out in the community. The College has six community liaison workers who speak many languages, working with the community. Students range in age from 20 to 65.

Thi sought information from the Council on how the College could secure the use swimming pools as part of their Physical Education programme. She thanked Claire Phillips for the organisation she had provided following the 15 March terror attacks.

The College will be holding community education sessions to provide training to multicultural communities, which will include a section on elections. Assistance was sought from the Christchurch City Council in promoting education on election processes.

Discussion was held at the conclusion of the Public Forum, and the following points were noted:-

- Separated swimming sessions organised at Pioneer Swimming Pool are held on Sundays from 2-4pm.
- Literacy education programmes for young mums with pre-school children would be helpful.
- The use of major languages during the 2019 election process. The Subcommittee suggest that staff engage with Christchurch Multicultural Council and Hagley College on election processes and ensure that the Local Government election information is made available in major languages at the Council's libraries and services centres.
- Liaison between the Council's Community Development Advisors and Hagley College. The Council needs to continue to support community development outreach programmes.
- Support and enhance skilled migrants.

The Subcommittee members thanked Hagley College for opening the College as a welfare centre during the mosque attacks.

The Subcommittee agreed to provide a Chairperson's report to the Social, Community Development and Housing Committee requesting:

- 1.1.1 That staff engage with Hagley College and the Christchurch Multicultural Council on election processes; and
- 1.1.2 That the Council ensures that 2019 local election information in major languages is made available at the Council's libraries and service centres.

5. Deputations by Appointment

Part B

There were no deputations by appointment.

6. Updates from Mandated Groups

Part B

There were no updates from mandated groups.

An adjournment was taken from 10.14am to 10.22am.

7. Multicultural Report

Committee Comment

Claire updated the Subcommittee on the following matters:

1. **Refugee Resettlement** - On 21 June two refugee families will arrive in Christchurch, from Afghanistan and Eritrea. Claire will provide further details to Subcommittee members when they become available.
2. **Council welcoming signage project update** – Claire displayed the wayfinding welcoming signage. These will be located in the Civic Offices foyers. The information will be shared with community outreach. There will also be signage displayed electronically.
3. **“Our Future Together” Te Kohao Pounamu** – Claire tabled the “Our Future Together” collaborative work plan post the 15 March terror attacks. Community funding is a collaborative approach and is continually sought.
4. **Multicultural Strategy Implementation Plan – Priorities to 2021** – The Subcommittee members reviewed the draft Implementation Plan and suggested minor amendments to some of its content.
5. The Subcommittee members suggested requesting a brief update from the Christchurch City Council’s Ngāi Tahu Partnership Team to the Social, Community Development and Housing Committee on their activities following the 15 March mosque attacks.

Councillor Livingstone departed at 11.18am during the review of the Implementation Plan.

Committee Resolved MCSC/2019/00007

Part C

That the Multicultural Subcommittee:

1. Receive the update by staff on Multicultural activities as summarised in section 3 of the report.

Councillor Chen/Councillor Galloway

Carried

Committee Decided MCSC/2019/00008

Part A

The Multicultural Subcommittee recommended the following:

That the Social, Community Development and Housing Committee recommends that the Council:

1. Request staff engage with Hagley College and the Christchurch Multicultural Council on election processes; and
2. Ensure that 2019 local election information in major languages is made available at the Council’s libraries and service centres.

Councillor Chen/Councillor Galloway

Carried

Meeting concluded at 12.08pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 9TH DAY OF AUGUST 2019

**COUNCILLOR JIMMY CHEN
CHAIRPERSON**

UNCONFIRMED