

AKAROA/WAIREWA COMMUNITY BOARD
AKAROA MUSEUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA

MONDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2010

2.30PM

IN THE BOARD ROOM, AKAROA SERVICE CENTRE
78 RUE LAVAUD, AKAROA

Committee:

Pam Richardson - Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board representative
Jane Chetwynd and Liz Haylock - Friends of the Museum representatives (FOAM)
Victoria Andrews - Community representative
Meri Robinson - Onuku Runanga representative
Stewart Miller - Chairman Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board - ex-officio

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1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **AKAROA MUSEUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT – 28 JUNE 2010**
3. **AKAROA MUSEUM DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**
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1. **APOLOGIES**

2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 28 JUNE 2010**

The minutes of the Akaroa Museum Advisory Committee meeting held on Monday 28 June 2010 are **attached** for members' information.

The Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board received these minutes at its meeting held on 11 August 2010. The Board made an alteration to Clause 3, bullet point 4 – Draft Terms of Reference - Akaroa Museum Art Acquisition Committee (noted in the attached minutes).

The Board also made comment on the following items:

- **Whale Try-Pots**

The Board **decided** to request that staff present a formal report to the Board on the future of the three whale try-pots on Beach Road, as recommended by the Akaroa Museum Advisory Committee.

- **Fire Bell Tower**

The Board **decided** that staff be asked to urgently arrange appropriate storage for the Fire Bell Tower and pelton wheel and investigate long term storage for these items at the Akaroa Museum, following the destruction of part of the tower due to a recent slip.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Akaroa Museum Advisory Committee held on Monday 28 June 2010 be received.

3. AKAROA MUSEUM DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

3.1 VISITORS

Visitor Numbers

The first three months of this financial year have delivered us fewer than usual visitors. September totals will be impacted by the loss of four days of opening while we waited for our buildings to be inspected for safety following the earthquake.

Recording Visitors

We have recently begun collecting statistics on the number of visitors we receive from the Christchurch City Council area, in addition to Banks Peninsula locals. Previously we had recorded visitors from the wider Canterbury region, but knowing how many Christchurch City Council residents visit our museum will be more useful for Council reporting and policy-making.

3.2 EXHIBITIONS

Our planned programme of exhibitions for the next six months should be able to proceed as planned, although all of our work has been disrupted since the earthquake.

Charting the Long Harbour will open on Friday 22 October, and our summer show on *The Gaiety* in mid-December.

Nga Roimata is planned to be exhibited in Our City during Heritage Week, and has also been nominated for a heritage award. It is hoped that damage to the old Municipal Chambers building, home to Our City, will not disrupt these plans.

3.3 COLLECTIONS

Earthquake 4 September

The Museum was fortunate to suffer only minor damage to both collections and buildings during the early morning quake of 4 September. The sturdy construction of our buildings, the nature of our shelving and an element of good luck all contributed to this outcome. Only 14 small objects were damaged or broken.

Of our new store, which was not damaged at all, the inspecting engineers commented it was "built like a bomb shelter".

Of our heritage buildings, the court house suffered no damage and collections and exhibits barely moved. The recently rebuilt chimney on the Langlois-Eteveneaux cottage cracked at its base and will need to be rebuilt again. The plaster finish on the interior walls of the custom house has been cracked, some of it ending up on the floor.

3.4 PROJECTS

Archaeological Report

An application has been lodged with the Environment and Heritage Committee of the Lottery Board for funding to engage an archaeologist to write up the report on the material retrieved from our building site. The outcome should be known by the end of the year.

Web Site

Some preliminary work has been done on the development of website for the Museum, with assistance from the marketing and communications team of the Council. Post-earthquake demands on those staff mean that we will be delayed in this project.

4. FRIENDS OF AKAROA MUSEUM - PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

4.1 EARTHQUAKE REPORT

Like everyone in the Akaroa area, the Friends were relieved at the relative lack of damage sustained by our public buildings, particularly the Museum, in the earthquake experienced on Saturday 4 September. Congratulations are due to the Museum staff whose dedicated care and custodial work must have contributed to such a low number of items in the collection being damaged.

4.2 ORAL HISTORY AND PUBLICATIONS PROJECTS

Work has continued on both the oral history project and the Museum publications project. The first publication of the newly formed publications subcommittee will be the Worsley Trail Brochure which guides visitors to places of significance around Akaroa relating to the time he spent here. Such items as his birth place, his mother's grave and his bust at the Britomart Reserve. It is hoped this brochure will soon be available for sale at the Museum.

4.3 HISTORIC MONUMENTS AND PUBLIC ITEMS AROUND AKAROA

This winter the elements have not been kind to various historic items in Akaroa. The first catastrophe occurred in August when very heavy rain contributed to a major land slip on the edge of Stanley Park which destroyed the historic bell tower. Possibilities for its future are now being considered by the Council's heritage staff.

Next the earthquake in September caused considerable damage to the War Memorial, as well as to numerous historic buildings both in Akaroa and the surrounding rural area. The Friends are available to help, but it is too early to know how this will proceed.

4.4 ART COLLECTION

I have been nominated by the Friends to be its representative for the first one year term on the Art Acquisitions Committee. The Friends were delighted when the Director of the Christchurch Art Gallery, Jenny Harper, suggested Peter Vangioni should be the art expert on the committee. The next step is for Mr Vangioni, myself and the Museum Director to meet and nominate the final member with a view to the full group having its inaugural meeting before the end of the year.

4.5 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends is scheduled for Friday 24 September when Peter Tremewan will speak about his new edition of 'French Akaroa'.

4.6 SIGN OFF

As this is my last meeting of the Museum Advisory Committee as President of the Friends, I would like to express my gratitude to members for their support and the time they have given to help the Akaroa Museum in this capacity. I would also like to especially thank Pam Richardson for her insightful and considered role as Chairman of the Committee.

Jane Chetwynd, President.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Friends of Akaroa Museum, President's update be received.

27. 9. 2010

- 5. COMMUNITY BOARD ADVISER'S UPDATE**
- 6. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**