

AKAROA/WAIREWA COMMUNITY BOARD
AKAROA MUSEUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA

MONDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2012

2.30PM

IN THE AKAROA SPORTS COMPLEX
28 RUE JOLIE, AKAROA

Committee:

Leigh Hickey - Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board representative
Jim Sunckell and David Miller - Friends of the Museum representatives (FOAM)
Lyndon Graham - Community representative
Meri Robinson - Ōnuku Rūnanga representative
Pam Richardson - Chairman Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board - ex-officio.

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- PART A - MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION**
- PART B - REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**
- PART C - DELEGATED DECISIONS**

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24. 9. 2012

1. APOLOGIES

An apology has been received from David Miller, Friends of Akaroa Museum.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the apology of David Miller be received.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 25 JUNE 2012

The minutes of the Akaroa Museum Advisory Committee meeting held on Monday 25 June 2012 are **attached** for members' information.

The Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board received these minutes at its meeting held on Wednesday 18 July 2012. The Board decided to ask staff to provide advice on maintenance/restoration work for the inscription on the Britomart Memorial, after it was reported to the Museum Committee that it was becoming illegible.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Akaroa Museum Advisory Committee held on Monday 25 June 2012 be received.

3. PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

4. AKAROA MUSEUM DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

4.1 VISITORS

Visitor numbers

With the doors of the Museum shut, the only visitors we can count are those who attended the series of July talks, a total of 75. The talks were a very successful collaboration with the Friends of the Museum.

Web Site

Visitors wishing to use the Museum's services can still make contact by phone, email and now, via our new website www.akaroamuseum.org.nz.

Family History Expo

We are taking another opportunity to reach audiences in October, when we will be participating in a Family History Expo to be held in Christchurch. Over two days, staff will join other local and national history organisations to promote the Museum's services and resources.

4.2 EXHIBITIONS

Keeping the Museum in Mind

The Museum's closure has shifted our current focus from exhibitions on the walls inside the Museum to a programme of activity that can be delivered outside the Museum – we are calling it **Keeping the Museum in Mind**. This programme will include exhibitions, interpretation of key historic sites around the town, talks and events. We are aiming to deliver a new activity each month, from October.

Current

The first in our programme of Keeping the Museum in Mind is an exhibition titled *An A-Z of Akaroa Ancestors* which was installed in the windows of the empty shop across the road from the Museum early in August. Very positive feedback is being received from locals and visitors about this exhibition.

Upcoming

Two projects interpreting aspects of Akaroa's history will roll out over October and November. *A Second Point of View*, and our mobile *Story Boards* will provide visitors with access to local history at various key locations around the town. These should be particularly appreciated by cruise ship visitors who step off the wharf in Akaroa keen to learn about the town's history. With the Museum closed, their access to information about our unique stories will be substantially reduced.

4.3 COLLECTIONS

Galleries cleared

Since the Museum's closure on 21 June, staff have worked hard to clear all the galleries of collections, dismantling exhibitions, emptying cases and moving objects into the store. In observance of cultural protocol, a blessing ceremony was held before taonga were shifted to the store. The store has also become workspace for staff, not an ideal scenario but all are feeling grateful to have some part of the building above 34% of NBS where they are able to work.

Valuation project

A major project being tackled while the Museum is closed is that of a valuation of the collection. Necessary for insurance, and part of responsible asset management, the valuation will be carried out by expert consultants during November.

4.4 PROJECTS

Facilities rebuild

The Museum recently made it onto a list of “top 27” community facilities prioritised for decisions around repair/rebuilding. Council has undertaken to make a decision about the facilities on the list by December.

DEEs have not yet been completed for the three heritage buildings the Museum manages (Langlois-Eteveneaux Cottage, Court House and Customs House).

Re-opening Scenarios

Museum staff have worked through a variety of scenarios for re-opening, including different combinations of spaces and buildings, in order to be able to react quickly should a partial, temporary reopening be possible for the summer.

This process has involved identifying key objects, themes and stories that we know are most popular with our visitors, and that we can display and interpret effectively in reduced spaces with minimal cost.

If a summer opening isn't possible, the **Keeping the Museum in Mind** programme will be stepped up so we can share our history with visitors in other ways.

4.5 EVENTS

Friends of Akaroa Museum AGM Guest speaker Nancy Tichborne Akaroa Sports Complex	Friday 28 September 2012 – 4.30pm
First cruise ship of the season Sea Princess 2000 passengers on board	Saturday 13 October 2012
Family History Expo St Albans Shirley Club, 269 Hills Road, Christchurch	Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 October 2012
Inside Out Garden Tour Friends of Akaroa Museum/ Akaroa District Promotions (ADP)	Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 November 2012
Akaroa Civic Trust AGM Guest speaker Fiona Farrell and book launch, John Wilson Akaroa Boatsheds	Friday 30 November 2012 – 4.30pm
Last cruise ship of the season	5 April 2013

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Museum Director's update be received.

5. FRIENDS OF AKAROA MUSEUM (FOAM) - PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

5.1 WORKSHOPS

FOAM held three very successful winter workshops, attended by approximately 75 people. The timing of these just after the temporary closing of the Akaroa Museum buildings due to new earthquake standards helped keep the profile of the Museum in the public eye.

Rick Menzies spoke on the history of Menzies Bay, the highlight of his presentation being the facilitating of the loan of a Menzies carved desk to the Museum.

The Museum staff gave a presentation on "Home care of our Treasures" and we know with their combined knowledge we have a lot of subjects for a series next year.

Steve Johnson, Astronomer, held an audience captive on "Our Night Sky".

5.2 PURCHASES

FOAM had the opportunity to obtain some very rare Peninsula books, from a private collection, and with the help of a wish list from the Museum Director, we were able to purchase these for \$3,235. The person we purchased the books from also donated a first edition copy of Maori Patterns Painted and Carved by Menzies, a very generous gift.

5.3 RETIREMENT

I will be standing down as President of FOAM and will therefore not be on this committee. Following the November meeting, Council staff will be advised of the new Chair and who the representative will be on the Akaroa Museum Advisory Committee for the approval of the Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board.

5.4 GENERAL

The Annual General Meeting of FOAM will be held on Friday 28 September 2012 at the Akaroa Sports Complex commencing at 4.30pm.

Inside Out garden tour, a combined fundraiser of Akaroa District Promotions and FOAM is being held on the weekend of Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 November 2012. Tickets are available at the Akaroa Information Centre.

Jim Sunckell
President of the Friends of Akaroa Museum

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

6. CORRESPONDENCE

7. COMMUNITY BOARD ADVISER'S UPDATE

8. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION