

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author John Shanks, Board Secretary
Corporate Plan Output: Community Activities	

A) REFERRAL FROM PREVIOUS BOARD

The purpose of this report is to bring before the Board for its consideration a matter which was previously considered by the Community Board at its meeting held on 2 September 1998 and which was referred for the consideration of the incoming Board.

Board members will recall that, at the meeting on 2 September 1998, a report on planning for Neighbourhood Week 1999 was considered with a request that Community Boards set aside funding to cover the cost of funding some neighbourhood events during Neighbourhood Week, which is to be 1 to 7 March 1999. Neighbourhood week is a project initiated by the Shirley/Papanui Community Board and designed to gauge the support in the community for a programme empowering people to create a happier and safer environment. The theme for the week is "Encouraging Better Neighbourhoods". Planning for Neighbourhood Week 1999 has been undertaken by a Committee of representatives from each Community Board.

At its meeting on 2 September 1998 the Board decided:

1. That this proposal be made an agenda item for the first meeting of the incoming Board.
2. That the Board recommend to the incoming Board that a sum of money be allocated to Neighbourhood Week from the Board's Discretionary Fund and that a sub-committee of three members of the new Board be set up to allocate this money to neighbourhood groups when these have presented their proposals for Neighbourhood Week to the new Board for consideration.

As requested by the outgoing Board, this matter is now placed before the Board for its consideration.

The report before the Board on 2 September 1998 recommended:

1. That the Community Board give consideration to setting aside a small sum from Discretionary Funding to make grants to neighbourhood groups for local gatherings during Neighbourhood Week, 1-7 March 1999.
2. That the Community Board make suggestions of projects or events that they would like to promote during the Week."

The report did not offer guidance on the quantum of "a small sum".

Recommendation: That the Board give consideration to the previous Board's recommendation.

B) UPDATE REPORT ON THIS PROPOSAL

Barbara Lindsay, Secretary, Shirley/Papanui Community Board provides the following update report on this proposal.

The purpose of this report is to remind the Board of their involvement in of Neighbourhood Week 1999, 1 – 7 March. This report is to be considered by all Community Boards.

BACKGROUND

“In October 1997 a report was considered by the Shirley/Papanui Community Board on ways to encourage better neighbourhoods. Other Community Boards gave their approval in principle to the idea and it was agreed that a joint Board committee be established to progress the ideas raised and to work towards the holding of Neighbourhood Week.

It was envisaged that a number of initiatives would be launched during this week and, through a publicity campaign and networking with community spokespeople, people would be encouraged to make themselves known to their neighbours.

In a partnership with the Papanui Police the Shirley/Papanui Board provided a subsidy for a person to work on updating the city-wide list of neighbourhood support groups contacts on the Police database. Letters went to the co-ordinators of these groups throughout the city, advising them of the philosophy of neighbourhood week. Some Boards provided subsidies for these and other neighbourhood groups to hold informal get-togethers during Neighbourhood Week 1998 and a lot of positive feedback was received as a result.

JOINT BOARD COMMITTEE

This Committee met on several occasions, the last being during September 1998. The Boards will now need to nominate representatives from the new membership.

The Committee decided that it would promote the concept of Neighbourhood Week and would encourage members of the community to undertake events and activities that are appropriate for them. Individual Community Boards would be tasked with encouraging and sponsoring local initiatives.

Ideas put forward for consideration by Boards were as follows:

Sponsorship of small neighbourhood events, eg BBQs, street parties; balloons displayed on letter boxes; bumper stickers; fence/letterbox stickers; static displays in Malls; ‘neighbours who care fairs’ in local parks.

WALK A CHILD TO SCHOOL DAY

On 3 March 1999 the road safety advocates from the City Streets Unit are planning to hold a 'Walk a Child to School Day'. This aims to promote walking as a safe, healthy way of getting to school and is to be 'sold' in terms of safety, health and environmental benefits.

SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT

The Council Children's Advocate had been included in early planning. She agreed that anything done at local level builds good relationships and that a leaflet could be distributed from her office giving a number of activities that could be engaged in.

Each Board representative was asked to get the name of a follow-up person from their local schools (or the board of trustees), the objective being to define a programme to be run in the area during Neighbourhood Week.

SHOPPING MALLS

The Committee formulated a list of ideas to be circulated to the major malls, with the management of each being asked to indicate which of these they would be prepared to adopt. Committee members agreed that malls should be encouraged to provide amenities for the public, such as seating and that an award recognising the 'Most Neighbourly Award' might encourage this.

WINDOW DISPLAY

The Committee has the east window of the Civic Offices booked for a display to promote Neighbourhood Week, between 15 – 22 February 1999.

- Recommendation:**
1. *That the Board nominate a representative to the joint Board Committee and that a meeting be held during February to plan for Neighbourhood Week 1 – 7 March 1999.*
 2. *That the Board give consideration to setting aside a small fund to promote Neighbourhood Week.*
 3. *That the Board consider ideas to promote local community events."*

Chairman's

Recommendation: For discussion