

31. COMMUNITY FUNDING COMMITTEE

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author John Shanks, Board Secretary
Corporate Plan Output: Community Development and Hillary Commission Funding	

At the meeting of the Board held on 1 September 1999, the following report from Ruth Evans, Community Development Adviser was considered:

“The purpose of this report is to update the Board with regard to a Nga Mata Whaka representative on the Board’s funding committee.

Following the decisions made by the Community Board at its meeting on 4 August 1999, a letter has been forwarded to the Te Runaka ki Otautahi O Kai Tahu conveying the thanks of the Board for its cooperation in nominating Ms Sandy Hunt for appointment to the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Funding Committee to represent the Tangata Whenua. Ms Hunt has also been written to, welcomed to the position and thanked for undertaking this important community task.

In considering this matter, the Board also resolved “that the Board investigate whether a representative of Nga Mata Whaka (ie Maori groups other than those of Kai Tahu background) should also be appointed to the Community Funding Committee.

This matter has been very carefully and sensitively discussed with Ms Brenda Lowe-Johnson, the outgoing Chair of the Community Funding Committee, to ensure that appropriate guidance is given to the Board.

Ms Lowe-Johnson offers the following thoughts for the consideration of the Board in making a decision on this very delicate question:

1. *“In Maori matters, the Tangata Whenua is always the first point of contact in consultation processes. In the South Island this is Kai Tahu.*
2. *There have been very few Maori funding applications received in recent years by the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Funding Committee, despite vigorous efforts by Ms Lowe-Johnson to promote the availability of this funding source to both Maori and Pacific Island groups. In the present funding round, there were no funding requests received from Maori groups. Ms Lowe-Johnson suggests that this very small number of Maori-based funding applications does not justify a need for having an increased Maori representation on the Community Funding Committee. If the number of applications received from Maori applicant groups were to increase dramatically in the future, that may be the time to reconsider this question and to consider the possibility of additional Maori representation on the Community Funding Committee.*
3. *If additional community representation is desired on the Community Funding Committee, it may be appropriate for the Board to consider seeking Pacific Island representation on the Committee rather than additional Maori representation.*
4. *In the spirit of the Treaty of Waitangi, which the Council supports, Tangata Whenua is always consulted first.”*

The Board resolved that this matter be deferred for consideration at the next meeting.

In accordance with the Council's requirements in honouring its obligations under the Treaty of Waitangi, each Community Funding Committee has a Maori representative on it. It is understood that these representatives have been appointed after consultation with the Tangata Whenua, which in this area is Kai Tahu. In each case, each of these representatives when on the Funding Committee acts on behalf of the community at large and not as the representative of a particular interest group.

Community representatives on Funding Assessment Committees are appointed for a three year term ending in November of the year following the Council election ie next month. The Council intends to advertise in November seeking expressions of interest from people volunteering to serve on Assessment Committees and nominations for these committees. In a further development, the Council is also to consider a proposal that separate committees meet to consider Hillary Commission and Community Development grants. If Council should adopt this proposal, the elected members would serve on each funding committee but would meet with different community representatives for the Hillary Commission and Community Development grants.

The present status of the community representatives on the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Funding Committee is as follows:

- a) The Board has appointed a representative of the Tangata Whenua to serve for the coming three year term.
- b) Mr John Hoskin, a replacement appointee, has served for two years on the Funding Assessment Committee, and is happy to make himself available for a further year.
- c) Ms Jackie Kissel, has served for three years and, because of the pressure of other commitments, is not able to offer herself for appointment for a further term on the Committee. There is thus one vacancy available for the Board to fill after nominations for Community Funding Committees have been invited by the Council.
- d) Ms Jenny Smith has served for a full three year term on the Committee but would be happy to accept re-appointment for one more year, as she believes that this would be of assistance to the Community Board in ensuring a continuity of personnel and approach on the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Funding Committee.

CONCLUSION

In terms of three year appointments there are two positions for appointment for the forthcoming term on the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Funding Committee. After the Council has advertised seeking expressions of interest from persons interested in being appointed or nominating others to the Community Funding Committees, it would be appropriate for the Board to make two appointments to the Committee.

The opportunity will become available in November for any interested persons to offer themselves for appointment as representatives of the community at large to the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Funding Committee.

Chairman's

Recommendation: For discussion