

5. RICCARTON/WIGRAM COMMUNITY AFFAIRS REPORT OF 15 JUNE 2000

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Corporate Plan Output: Riccarton/Wigram Community Board Vol 1 3.2 Text 6	

The purpose of this report is to submit the outcomes of the Community Affairs Committee meeting held on Thursday 15th June 2000.

The meeting was attended by Bob Shearing (Chairperson), Mary Corbett, Paddy Austin and Mike Mora.

Also in attendance were Jane Mulholland (Community Recreation Adviser), Penelope Goldstone (Community Development Adviser), Roger Cave (Community Secretary), Martin Maguire (Community Advocate) and Janice Huddy (Community Advocacy Assistant).

1. APOLOGY

An apology was received from Alison Wilkie.

2. "DOWN WITH SPEED" CAMPAIGN

Keith Permain, Injury Prevention Consultant, ACC, gave a presentation which is currently being run in conjunction with the Land Transport Safety Authority.

ACC is presenting key research information on speeding to a range of organisations within the Community and hopes that greater understanding of the subject will lead New Zealanders to doing more to reduce the harmful impact that speeding has on lives.

Suggestions on what people can do included:

- *"Ring or write to your local police traffic unit, council roading division, or others that you think could make a difference to how fast motorists drive. Ask them what they are doing to reduce speeding in your community, and if there is anything you could do to help them.*
- *If you work for an employer whose staff do a lot of driving, you could ask if there is a policy on what happens if staff speed. Less speeding improves driver safety and reduces fleet costs.*
- *If you are a member of a community organisation, you could focus local attention on speeding in your community. Speeding on streets near schools is a threat to children, for example, but older pedestrians and cyclists are also vulnerable to speeding motorists".*

The Committee **received** the information.

3. COMMUNITY GARDENING UPDATE

Eric Park, Solid Waste Engineer and Muriel Bührs, Community Gardens Facilitator were in attendance.

The Committee received an extensive report by Eric and Muriel which outlined progress since the concept of community gardening was reported in November 1999.

Considerable progress had been made in co-ordinating information on existing community gardening initiatives in Christchurch. Discussion had been held with key stakeholders, to develop the best method to expand community gardening to meet environmental (waste minimisation) and social goals publicly stated by the Christchurch City Council. A detailed project outline for expanding community gardening in Christchurch would be reported to Community Boards when it had been developed.

The temporary Community Gardens Facilitator is currently working with key stakeholders to develop a detailed project outline to promote and enhance community gardens in Christchurch in the year commencing 1 July 2000.

A key component of this work is likely to be the close involvement of the Community Board in supporting local initiatives. It was suggested, therefore that the Community Board consider whether it wishes to:

- Appoint a Board member to “champion” community gardens in the Board area and act as a contact for information both locally and networking with other community gardening initiatives across the city.
- Provide support for a key local garden/group which is able and willing to act as a demonstration garden for other groups wishing to establish a similar initiative.
- Where appropriate, provide support for selected new groups to establish local community gardening initiatives.
- Integrate the above support with other Strengthening Community Action Plan initiatives.

It was noted that the Papanui Community Trust could be a possible venue for a community garden.

The Committee **received** the information.

4. SKATEJAM 2000

The Committee received a report from Jane Mulholland (Community Recreation Adviser) on “SkateJam”, a skateboarding and in-line skating extravaganza staged around the city over March and April 2000.

SkateJam offered skateboarders and in-line skaters an opportunity to congregate at a well organised and safe event. It was an opportunity for young people interested in skating to share ideas and tricks with other skaters. SkateJam also proved to be an education to those who observed the skaters in action, as they displayed the high degree of skill associated with this popular sport.

Suburban malls continue to be a key “hangout” spot for young people in the city. This event created a positive partnership between the Recreation and Arts Team and mall management, which will be able to be built upon in the future for other initiatives.

The Committee **received** the information and supported any further initiatives along these lines.

5. THE BIG SK8 OUT

The Committee received a report from Jane Mulholland, (Community Recreation Adviser) on “The Big SK8 Out”, a series of skating workshops held during the April school holidays. The aim of these workshops was to provide introductory level skaters, ages 10 – 14 years, with the skills and expertise to confidently and safely skate Christchurch skate parks. Specific workshops were also held for female skaters. The workshops were very successful and created a lot of interest and energy amongst Christchurch skaters.

Following the earlier January workshops, a core group of skaters got together and formed a skate club. Members of this club made up the crew of tutors for the April workshops. This was a positive development within the sport of skating in Christchurch. Council Officers will be working with this club to ensure the momentum continues over the winter months.

Once a stable skate club is established in Christchurch it is envisaged that such a club would take over the role of running skate workshops such as the ones presently being run by the Council. In the meantime it is important the Council works with key skaters to keep the momentum going, and encourage networking amongst skaters.

With the cooler winter months ahead it is not envisaged skating workshops will be held in the July school holidays.

Jane Mulholland, will follow up the possibility of the Carrs Reserve as a skating venue.

The Committee **received** the information.

6. U-TURN YOUTH PROGRAMME

Penelope Goldstone (Community Development Adviser), John-o Watson, Senior Tutor with the Pathway Trust and Grant Harris, Field Worker in Schools, were in attendance to speak about the project.

The following letter was tabled from John-o Watson.

“Pathway Trust is a registered charitable trust set up to meet the needs of the poor and disadvantaged and particularly those whose needs are not being met by government agencies and other organisations.

The U-Turn programme is modelled off a successful Australian programme and is headed by John-o Watson under the umbrella of Pathway Trust.

John-o is based in Hornby as is the Trust who occupy premises at Halswell Junction Road and this enables the Trust and U-Turn to work in the local area.

U-Turn aims to have a positive impact on behavioural patterns in the client’s lives due to the dual emphasis on both practical or artistic skills, morals and attitudes such as honesty, integrity, reliability, self discipline and accountability. These will be imparted through on-going mentoring by three staff who have a firm grasp and understanding of the environment clients come from.

U-Turn operates a ten week training course followed by a week long camp. The course takes clients through a variety of practical tasks and outdoor activities to identify the future direction a client should take in life. The camp bring together all that has been learnt and sets the scene for commitment for clients to go further.

Ongoing mentoring after the initial ten weeks occurs until the clients have matured to proceed on their own.

Pathway Trust has employed three tutors to run the programme with John-o, the senior tutor.

The U-Turn programme aims to start on Monday 19 June 2000.

Pathway Trust relies on the support of charitable donors and has secured start up funding from WINZ and CDC but requires further funds. This application is seeking funds of \$2,000 to cover the costs of running the camp in ten weeks time.

We would be grateful of your financial support and would report to you on progress with the programme.”

- Recommendation:**
1. That a grant of \$2,000 per programme be made to the “U-Turn Youth Programme” to support the first two programmes from the Community Initiatives Fund.
 2. That the appropriate evaluation and reporting procedures be put in place.
 3. That further funding will be considered in conjunction with Council Officers working with the Pathway Trust to find other funders.

**7. NEIGHBOURHOOD WEEK
SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER – FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2000**

Mike Mora reported that a further meeting had been held. It had been decided to go ahead with korflute banner signage that would be put around the neighbourhoods.

Following the next joint Board/Neighbourhood Week Committee meeting, information would be sent out to residents groups and neighbourhood support groups.

Neighbourhood Week was also seen as an opportune time to promote “community gardens”.

This item to be brought up on the next Community Affairs Agenda.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

Thursday 20 July 2000 at 4.00pm.

Chairperson’s

Recommendations:

1. That the report be received.
2. That Alison Wilkie be nominated as the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board member to “champion” community gardens in the Board area, working in conjunction with the Community Affairs and Environmental Committees.
3.
 - (a) That a grant of \$2,000 per programme be made to the “U-Turn Youth Programme” to support the first two programmes from the Community Initiatives Fund, if sufficient participants are found.
 - (b) That the appropriate evaluation and reporting procedures be put in place.
 - (c) That further funding will be considered in conjunction with Council Officers working with the Pathway Trust to find other funders.