

19. COMMUNITY ADVOCATE'S UPDATE

- 19.1 For members' information a schedule of the Discretionary funds distributed for the 2000/01 financial year since the allocation meeting on 15 February 2000 is attached.
- 19.2 For members' information a list of all Board Committees, Subcommittees and Working Parties is attached.
- 19.3 For members' information a schedule of Board meetings to be held during 2001 is attached.

19.4 DRAFT NATIONAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION STRATEGY

The Minister of Energy released the Draft National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy for public consultation on 29 March 2001. EECA worked with a number of Councils and the Ministry for the Environment to prepare the Draft Strategy.

Submissions close on 1 June 2001 and the Minister will release the final Strategy by 1 October 2001.

19.5 ESTUARY SEMINAR

An Estuary seminar is to be held on Saturday 9 June 2001, jointly hosted by the Council and Environment Canterbury. The seminar is entitled Changing the Climate - the Future of Your Estuary. It will be held at the Mt Pleasant Community Centre from 9.30 am to approximately 3.00 pm. Invitations have been sent to all Board members. It is hoped to attract a broad base attendance and engage the public in Estuary initiatives. The seminar topics include planning issues, ecology, water quality, community monitoring, recreational use and conflict, natural hazards, cultural significance, land and property development and catchment issues.

19.6 NEIGHBOURHOOD WEEK 27 OCTOBER TO 2 NOVEMBER 2001

The Joint Board coordinating committee for Neighbourhood Week 2001 met on 6 April and 4 May 2001. Attached are the minutes of the meetings.

19.7 COMMUNITY BOARDS CONFERENCE 10-13 MAY 2001

The third Community Board Conference was held in Invercargill from 10 to 13 May 2001. The theme of the conference was "Working Together".

Chrissie Williams, Glenda Burt and Carole Evans and I attended with representatives of other Community Boards from Christchurch, joining approximately 220 Community Board members from throughout New Zealand.

The Prime Minister addressed the Conference on the opening night speaking of the value of Community Boards in their communities. She referred to the current review of the Local Government Act advising that the Government had some far reaching changes for inclusion in the discussion document to be released in June. She wanted to see a new approach, which had communities controlling their own destinies.

The Minister of Local Government, Hon Sandra Lee, addressed the Conference the following morning also referring to the Local Government reform programme. A copy of her speech has been circulated separately.

Other attendees and speakers at the Conference were Basil Morrison, President of LGNZ; John Hutchings, Strategic Leader, Environment and Infrastructure LGNZ; Martin Gallagher MP, Chair of the Local Government and Environment Select Committee.

The Conference adopted a number of remits relating to future structure of a New Zealand Community Board Liaison Group and possible relationships with LGNZ.

Yvonne Palmer, Chairperson of the Shirley/Papanui Community Board will continue in her role as Chair of the Liaison Committee.

Peter Francis who has served the Liaison Team as administration officer since its inception three years ago stepped down and Peter Dow, Community Secretary (Fendalton/Waimairi) was appointed to the position.

The Conference format provided many opportunities for networking with board members from throughout New Zealand. It is pleasing to report that Christchurch is still quoted as a model for other Councils and that the experience of Board members from Christchurch was keenly sought.

19.8 RAWHITI DOMAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

As requested by the Board, the Parks and Waterways Unit has commenced work on reviewing the Rawhiti Domain Management Plan. The issues are being identified and contact will be made with key stakeholders for their input. There will be wider consultation with the community on the draft Plan.

19.9 ACCOMMODATION FOR BURWOOD/PEGASUS ADVOCACY TEAM AND ASSOCIATED STAFF

The views of the Board on options for accommodating the Burwood/Pegasus Advocacy Team and associated area staff were sought at the Board's Seminar on 15 May 2001. Action is being taken to follow up the outcome of the Seminar and progress will be reported at the meeting.

19.10 ALLOCATION OF 2001/02 PROJECT FUNDING TO BEXLEY WETLAND TRUST AND TRAVIS WETLAND TRUST

In allocating \$2,000 of its 2001/02 Project funding to both the Bexley Wetland Trust and the Travis Wetland Trust, the Board invited the recipients to specify a project for the funds. The Bexley Wetland Trust intends to use the funds for designing a viewing platform and then apply for a grant from the Community Trust to build the platform. The Travis Wetland Trust will use the grant for an interpretation panel in a bird hide that is soon to be built. Both Trusts thanked the Board for its ongoing support.

19.11 EGERIA DENSA WATER WEED

Parks and Waterways staff held a meeting at the Manhattan on Avon, Tuesday 8 May 2001, and invited stakeholders with an interest in the Avon River to attend. The purpose of the meeting was to present information about the Diquat weed control trials undertaken over summer in the Kerrs Reach section of the Avon River. Results of the monitoring and survey results were presented by staff from the City Solutions Unit, Landcare Research staff and National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Limited representatives.

Stakeholders were informed that, as a result of the surveys done on aquatic plants, invertebrates and fish, it appears that Diquat is an effective control agent, which has little effect on the other species that live in the river. The future strategy is to apply the Diquat and harvest the weed shortly after. Monitoring of weed growth will continue in conjunction with results of any Diquat application.

There are plans to try to classify Egeria as a pest, and submissions are welcomed on a Pest Management Strategy, which has been circulated for public comment. Interested groups are invited to contribute submissions by 1 June 2001. The suggestion was made that Regional Council Chief Executive Officers should consider a strategy for the entire South Island at their next meeting.

19.12 DON ROWLAND'S VISIT TO UNITED KINGDOM

Don Rowlands has circulated a report on his recent visit to the United Kingdom, covering:

- Attendance at a Local Government Association Conference: "Well-being: Mainstreaming into the Modernising Agenda".
- A visit to the Lewisham Council in London.

Of particular interest in Lewisham is a community renewal project in New Cross Gate with many similarities to the current project in Aranui. A copy of the report on the project is available from the Community Development Adviser.

19.13 SOUTH BRIGHTON SCULPTURE PARK

The Board is awaiting a report from the Parks and Waterways Unit on the implementation of the conditions of a licence granted for the use of part of South Brighton Beach Park as a working/exhibition area for sculpture. This report is expected to be made to the Board's meeting on 2 July 2001.

19.14 STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS - SCHOOLS

Following on from the initial meeting held on 21 February 2001 with the Ministry of Education and schools in Burwood/Pegasus, preparation is underway for a further meeting in June. The ideas generated at the first meeting have been grouped into possible action points. At the next meeting it is intended to invite the participants to take responsibility for following up particular initiatives. The invitation to the meeting will encourage both school principals and Boards of Trustees to attend.

Recommendation: That the Board appoint representatives to attend the Estuary Seminar on 9 June 2001.

Chairperson's

Recommendations:

1. That the Board consult with the community in August regarding Capital Works through meetings with different sector groups rather than by receiving deputations to a special meeting.
2. That all Board members be encouraged to attend the Estuary Seminar and all attending be considered representatives of the Board.