

31. COMMUNITY ADVOCATE'S UPDATE

31.1 For members' information attached are schedules of funds distributed in 2001/02 for the Discretionary Funds (since the allocation meeting on 13 February 2001), the Community Response Assistance Fund and the Community Development Initiatives Fund.

31.2 POWER TO ACT

As the Board will not meet again until January 2002 it would be appropriate for consideration to be given to matters that may need to be dealt with in the intervening period. In past years the Board has resolved to give the power to act on its behalf to specified members or a subcommittee, with the application of the delegated power reported back to the Board.

- Recommendations:**
1. That a Committee comprising the Board Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson or their nominees be authorised to exercise the delegated powers of the Board in the period from 20 November 2001 to 27 January 2002.
 2. That the application of any such delegation be reported back to the Board for record purposes.

31.3 COMMUNITY PRIDE GARDEN AWARDS

Caroline Kellaway attended the Christchurch Beautifying Association meeting held on Friday 5 October.

A format and timetable for the Community Pride Garden Awards was presented to the meeting for discussion and the selection process and criteria were discussed at length. Caroline Kellaway put forward the Board Subcommittee's suggestion that the criteria include water conservations, native plantings, tidiness, and obvious care when compared with other gardens in the street. After some consideration the meeting felt that the current criteria was inclusive enough to recognise the different areas. Caroline also raised the Subcommittee's idea that it would be worthwhile asking the residents' associations to nominate gardens that they felt worthy of an award for the Association to include in the judging. The Association is taking the suggestion on board.

The Association emphasises that the focus is on an obvious pride being taken in one's garden, well attended gardens with neat lawns and edges and trimmed hedges rather than what flowers or colours have been used. It was decided that a copy of the criteria should be sent to the community advocates. The Association also intends to visit each of the Community Boards to explain to them how the awards are managed and the process and criteria, so that the Boards will have a better understanding of what actually happens.

The meeting noted that over the years there had been confusion and criticism as to how many awards were being given out and discussed whether the awards should be limited to a certain number per ward. The meeting decided that if the garden met the criteria then there should be no limit.

31.4 PROGRESS ON PROPERTY ISSUES

On Wednesday 18 October 2001 Chrissie Williams, Don Rowlands and the Community Advocate met with the Property Manager and other Property Unit staff to seek progress reports on various Board projects. The status of each project is outlined below.

Windsor School Community Hall - The Property Unit is to establish the Council's equity in the hall and report as soon as possible to the Board on effecting transfer of full ownership of the hall to the school.

South New Brighton Community Centre - Community use of the hall is to be renegotiated with the school. Maintenance issues are to be resolved. The Property Unit is to address the land issues and draw up a new lease.

Owles Terrace Site - The geotechnical investigation of the site has been completed and the Property Unit intends to arrange a seminar in March and report to the April round of meetings.

Parklands Community Centre - The Property Unit is preparing leases for the permanent tenants. The Advocacy Team is to submit a proposal for the management of the Centre.

Dallington Cottage - As the Cottage is to be put on the market, the Advocacy Team will be investigating other buildings in the area for housing the activities currently housed at the Cottage, in conjunction with Anglican Care. Those present at the meeting agreed that the purchase of the property could not be justified and that the Trust be advised of the position.

Collingwood House - In case a lease of Collingwood House is not supported by the Council, the Advocacy Team will be assessing other options for accommodating the groups at the House elsewhere in New Brighton.

31.5 **PROPOSED JOINT BOARD SEMINAR ON ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY DRAFT REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT STRATEGY**

Environment Canterbury is currently seeking submissions on its draft Regional Land Transport Strategy. A copy has been provided to each Board member. The submission period has been extended for the Council and Community Boards until the end of December.

A joint Board Seminar is proposed for Environment Canterbury and Council staff to present the strategy and for formulating a submission. A date in early December is being considered. It is suggested that interested Board members participate in this process.

Recommendation: That the Board members attending a joint Board Seminar on the Environment Canterbury Draft Regional Land Transport Strategy attend as the Board's representatives.

31.6 **NORTHERN ROADING OPTIONS SCOPING STUDY**

The Council and Transit New Zealand are coordinating the consultation process for the proposed strategy for improving the City's northern roading network. The consultation period ends on 21 December 2001.

The project is a partnership between the Council, Transit New Zealand, Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri and Hurunui District Councils. Public feedback is sought before a full report is produced and recommendations made to the respective Councils and/or Boards.

Arrangement of a seminar is being considered for the three affected Community Boards following the open day consultation sessions, possibly in conjunction with the appropriate standing committee. An open day for St Albans/Shirley will be held on Monday 26 November 2001, from 4.00 to 8.00 pm, at the Shirley Community Centre.

31.7 **COMMUNITY BUS TOURS**

It is suggested that two bus tours be arranged to familiarise Board members with projects and points of interest within the wards. Two separate tours are proposed, one for each ward. Advocacy Team members and area officers will be in attendance to provide comments. A representative of the Automobile Association has also expressed interest in attending.

If members are interested, the tours will be arranged on Saturday mornings in December: Burwood ward on 8 December and Pegasus ward on 15 December. Members' suggestions of sites to be included are welcome.

Recommendation: That the Board hold two community bus tours in December to familiarise Board members with current projects and issues in each ward.

31.8 **CULTURAL EVENT**

The Board may also wish to consider hosting an event to acknowledge Maori and other ethnic communities in Burwood/Pegasus and foster relationships with these cultural groups.

This could involve inviting a range of these groups to meet Board members and staff for an afternoon tea. Cultural performing arts groups could be invited to the gathering.

Such an event could be arranged for early in 2002.

Recommendation: That the Board host a cultural event early in 2002.

31.9 SEMINAR WITH LOCAL MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

At the seminar meeting with local members of Parliament on 14 September 2001, two initiatives were raised for consideration by the incoming Board:

- Development of Codes of Conduct with hoteliers and the Police.
- A joint visit with the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board to a local producer of a bio-degradable packaging product (made of starch and dissolves in water).

The Board may wish to initiate action on these matters.

31.10 INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF VOLUNTEERS BOOKLET AND FUNCTION

The Board's Subcommittee organising a booklet and function to commemorate the International Year of Volunteers met on 10 October 2001.

Approximately 130 community organisations have responded to the request to submit lists of their volunteers who have contributed for more than the past 12 months. The lists are being compiled into a booklet, with an introduction from the Chairperson of the Canterbury Volunteers Centre.

A copy of the booklet and a certificate is to be presented to representatives of each organisation at a function on Sunday 9 December 2001 at 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm at the Roy Stokes Hall in New Brighton. It is intended to provide refreshments and entertainment.

The Subcommittee decided that an additional \$1,000 be requested from the Board to cover the full costs of the event.

Recommendation: That the Board recommend to the Council that an additional \$1,000 be allocated to the International Year of Volunteers from the Board's Discretionary Fund.

31.11 BOARD SEMINARS

The Board may wish to consider a schedule for Board seminars.

The Board's practice has been to hold such seminars monthly in the middle of the period between the Board's ordinary meetings. The meetings have provided an opportunity to consider in-depth three or four issues and to hear from individuals and groups in a less formal situation.

It has been suggested that members may prefer the seminars to be scheduled on Wednesday afternoons rather than Tuesday afternoons. The following dates are suggested should the Board continue the practice of monthly seminars:

Wednesday 20 March 2002	Wednesday 14 August 2002
Wednesday 17 April 2002	Wednesday 18 September 2002
Wednesday 15 May 2002	Wednesday 16 October 2002
Wednesday 19 June 2002	Wednesday 13 November 2002
Wednesday 17 July 2002	Wednesday 4 December 2002

No seminar is proposed in February because of the special meeting scheduled for Wednesday 13 February 2002.

The meetings would be held at the Ascot Community Centre commencing at 4.00 pm.

In addition, the Board may wish to continue the practice of holding six monthly seminars with local members of Parliament and with local Environment Canterbury Councillors, at dates to be set by the Board Chairperson.

Recommendation: That the Board adopt the schedule of Board seminars for 2002 outlined in the Board agenda.

31.12 NEW BRIGHTON REVITALISATION

The Council special meeting on Tuesday 9 October 2001 decided not to proceed with the proposal to vary the 1978 Special Order which created the pedestrian mall.

The Council resolved to recommend to the incoming Council that a community forum on New Brighton be convened at the earliest possible opportunity.

An officer project control group has been established and draft terms of reference for the community forum are being prepared. It is intended to report to the Board's next meeting in January 2002. It will be recalled that the Council has provided funding in the 2001/02 year and 2002/03 of \$1.2 million.

It is proposed that a representative group of members of the New Brighton community be invited to join the Community Forum early in the new year.

Recommendation: That three Board members be nominated to represent the Board on the proposed Community Forum on New Brighton.

31.13 COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

Collating information for the community directory is at an advanced stage. Publication and distribution is intended prior to Christmas.