

3. CORRESPONDENCE

3.1 Mount Pleasant Community Centre and Ratepayers' Association Inc: Variation of Grant Purpose

The following letter has been received from Bruce McKessar, Mount Pleasant Community Centre and Ratepayers' Association Inc:

I write on behalf of MPCNet (the Mount Pleasant Community Centre Computing Network) which is a group within the Mount Pleasant Community Centre and Ratepayers' Association Inc, concerning the grant you awarded us for "Community Worker Wage Assistance". Since the time of receipt of the grant the circumstances surrounding the group have developed slightly differently from how we anticipated.

As you can see from the attached sheet, we have offered 27 classes over the past 18 months, all staffed by volunteers, who have given over 700 hours of their time. In addition to the tutors' logged time, many more hours have been spent on course development and review, technical support, and promotion of the courses. Our intention had been to provide clerical support for these efforts, but while there has been some use in that area, the need has been significantly less than anticipated, because of the strong volunteer ethos.

As a consequence, we should like to support the tutors in a slightly different way, namely by upgrading the centre's office computer hardware and software, thus making the ongoing course development, technical support, and course promotion less time-consuming.

We anticipate continuing growth in this area of our activity; already we have gained a reputation for the quality of our teaching, and the friendly manner and pleasant environment that are a significant component in the ease of learning of new ideas which might be slightly scary otherwise. In addition, we are receiving enquiries about more advanced courses, and some are already under development.

The Community Centre committee is thrilled with the success of this project, which fulfils one of the two major requirements of the local community, as identified in the survey commissioned on our behalf in 2001. (The other was child-care, which is now well catered for in our community).

Accordingly, on the committee's behalf, I should like to request a variation in the terms of the grant, so that we might use a portion of the money awarded to us for a hardware/software upgrade to enable us to give greater support to our volunteers' course development and delivery.

I attach further information concerning development funding and expenditure to date on a separate sheet, and a copy of the quote that we have received from our technical support company for the upgrade.

I hope that our request to use the money in a way that will more usefully support our volunteers to achieve the Centre's goals will meet with your approval, and I look forward to hearing from you.

The Community Advocate comments: The attachments referred to above have been separately circulated to Board members. The Board allocated \$2000 from its 2003/2004 project fund to the Mt Pleasant Community Centre and Ratepayers' Association Inc for community worker wage assistance. Staff support the Board accepting the request for a variation in the use of these funds as the project purpose remains aligned to the original application.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: For discussion.

3.2 **Linwood College 50th Jubilee Committee: Archival Transfer of Historical Printed Photos Covering Period 1954 to 2002 to Digital Media.**

The following letter has been received from Alan Parris, Linwood College:

The sub-committee set up to try and achieve this project is a subset of the Linwood College 50th Jubilee Committee.

Its focus is to try and complete this project so it would be available for :

- Past pupils to view it during the celebrations and be able to see themselves, their friends and acquaintances as they were and as they are now*
- Historians to have access to digital images for their research for the community*
- The community to see how Linwood has evolved*
- Archival storage that is independent of the deteriorating quality of the printed paper photos.*

The photos are mostly mounted in frames and hung on the corridor walls of the school. They are affected by light and are deteriorating. They are mostly the only copies of that photo that we know about.

In 2003 we started taking our annual photos digitally as well as photographically to provide an archival record on a medium expected to last many years. It is also on a different format and stored in a different place so that should there be a fire or some other natural disaster, we have not lost the only record of the school's progress from its beginning.

The images are of use to the whole community to show the transition of time and its effects on the locality, people, uniforms, personnel, sporting and cultural activities and successes as well as the growth and significant moments in the school's history.

The youth will be able to see their history (parents and grandparents even of whom an image may not exist in their household).

The ex-pupils will be able to see their contemporaries and the community will be able to see the development of a successful modern coeducational state secondary school through the years.

Historians both in the community and in the wider academic world will have access to images that will enhance their research into our community.

The group has no finances since it has been set up for this project only.

The project is expected to take an intensive fortnight to demount all the photos, digitally film them, and remount them. The commercial firm would then take those and complete the project. It is expected that it will take about 160 hours of volunteer labour to do this that the school will supply.

The quote is from Ace Video, a professional video company who has a long established relationship in producing quality work and materials for the school. No other company approached wanted to do the job as it was considered too big and cumbersome and uneconomic.

The community areas covered by this project are from the Square to the sea i.e. Hagley/Ferrymead.

The group has not approached any other unit in the Christchurch City Council other than a referral by the Arts/Cultural Advocate Marlene Le Cren and has not applied to any other funding agency, not knowing what category to apply under or who to approach.

The volunteer labour content (as well as the creative and historical cataloguing) is estimated at 160 hours and costed out at the community rate of \$10 per hour equates to \$1600 that we would be contributing to the project.

In addition Ace Video will sponsor the project with a \$2000 donation as per their quote (attached).

Although the school has some limited digital facilities the job is so huge with in excess of 2000 photos to be digitised, it was felt it was outside the scope of our ability to complete such a project at school.

The Community Advocate comments: As indicated in the attached quote from Ace Video, the total cost of the project is \$8900. Given the \$2000 sponsorship from Ace Video, the Jubilee Sub-Committee is seeking funding of \$6900 to complete the project.

In June 2002 the Board set funding guidelines excluding funding to schools for education. In the past the Board has not funded projects that it considers to be a Ministry of Education responsibility. However, in May 2002 the Board funded Phillipstown School \$2,090 for the purpose of preserving historical material including photo albums and a photo gallery.

\$9,629.58 remains in the Board's 2003/2004 discretionary fund to be allocated by 30 June 2004.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: For discussion.