

# **AKAROA/WAIREWA COMMUNITY BOARD**

# AKAROA MUSEUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

# **MONDAY 29 JUNE 2009**

# 1.00 PM

# IN THE BOARD ROOM, AKAROA SERVICE CENTRE 78 RUE LAVAUD, AKAROA

Committee: Pam Richardson - Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board representative

Jane Chetwynd and Liz Haylock - Friends of the Museum representatives (FOAM)

Victoria Andrews - Community representative Meri Robinson - Onuku Runanga representative

Stewart Miller - Chairman Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board - ex-officio

### **Community Board Adviser**

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# 1. APOLOGIES

Jane Chetwynd

# STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the apology of Jane Chetwynd be accepted.

# 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - 26 MARCH 2009

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 26 March 2009 are attached for members' information. The Akaroa Wairewa Community Board received these minutes at its meeting held on 13 May 2009.

# STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Akaroa Museum Advisory Committee held on 26 March 2009 be received.

### AKAROA MUSEUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - 26 MARCH 2009

General Manager responsible:	Michael Aitken
Officer responsible:	Lynda Wallace, Museum Director
Author:	Liz Carter, Community Board Adviser

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to submit the outcomes of the Akaroa Museum Advisory Committee meeting held on Thursday 26 March 2009.

The meeting was attended by Committee members, Pam Richardson (Chairman), Elizabeth Haylock, and Victoria Andrews.

Also in attendance was Lynda Wallace (Museum Director).

#### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Jane Chetwynd and Stewart Miller

#### 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The committee **resolved** that the report of the meeting held on 27 November 2008 be confirmed.

#### 3. MUSEUM DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

The Museum Director updated the Committee on the following items:

### Visitor numbers

Members were advised that visitor numbers exceeded last year's with international visitors still making up about 50% overall. The Museum Director also advised that staff had received some very positive comments and feedback from visitors to the Museum.

#### Exhibitions

### (a) Jessie Buckland Photographs

The Museum Director informed members that this exhibition would open on 3 April and 10 panorama photographs by Jessie Buckland would be displayed.

# (b) Quirky Collection II

Members were informed that due to the Quirky Collection exhibition held last year being so popular, a similar exhibition will be repeated this winter with a range of new collections.

# (c) Takapuneke Exhibition

Members were informed that the exhibition to mark the formal gazettal of the Takapuneke Reserve will open on Friday 5 February 2010, which will coincide with Waitangi Day. Ms Andrews informed members of what was proposed for this exhibition and gave background information on the "Kataore" mere. A working title for the exhibition is "Nga Roimata o Takapuneke" (interpretation "The Tears of Takapuneke"). A question was raised as to who would own this exhibition following the end of the display. The Akaroa Museum will probably provide permanent storage for the exhibition, but it could be loaned out to other venues when required.

### Collections

# (a) Museum Graduate Intern

The Museum Director informed members that Tamsin Falconer, a Te Papa National Services intern would be returning at the end of March to complete the three-month internship. She said the Museum had benefited enormously from having the intern and was now prepared for the shift of collections into temporary storage and then into the new storage building.

It is hoped the construction of the new building will occur over the winter months and be completed by Christmas

# (b) Review of Collection Policy

Members discussed the Museum's Collection Policy and agreed to place this on the agenda for its next meeting.

# Projects

# (a) Storage Building

The Museum Director updated the Committee on the storage building project.

#### Events

# (a) Worsley Plaque Unveiled

The Museum Director updated the Committee on the unveiling of the plaque to mark Frank Worsley's birth place. She said the event was well attended with Councillor Claudia Reid performing the unveiling ceremony.

# General

The Museum Director outlined future proposals in the Draft LTCCP that, if approved, will have a very major impact on how the Museum looks and functions.

# 4. FRIENDS OF AKAROA MUSEUM - PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs Haylock updated the Committee on the following items:

- Antique Fair
- Oral History

Mrs Haylock informed members that the application to Pub Charity for a grant of \$5,000 had been successful. She said this funding would cover the costs of equipment to record the information directly on to digital format.

- · Gardening and Maintenance
- Garden of Tane

Members were informed that the Draft Garden of Tane Management Plan would be presented to the Akaroa Wairewa Community Board meeting on 8 April 2009

- Worsley Collection Unveiling of Plaque
- Community Service Award

Ms Chetwynd informed members that the Friends were intending to make a nomination to the Community Service Awards this year.

# Interpretation Panels

It was pointed out that the Interpretation Panels project, which had been ongoing for over three years, had not progressed due to the delay in obtaining resource consent approval. The Community Board Adviser informed the committee that Mr Rod Lawrence, the coordinator for the Banks Peninsula Signage Project would be in attendance at a Board seminar to be held on 21 April and these panels could be discussed with him at that time.

The Committee requested that staff be asked to assist with the Historic Interpretative Panels project in regards to St. Peters Church, The Courthouse, Fisherman's Rest and the whale pot at the main Akaroa beach.

The committee also felt this highlighted the need for further interpretative signage on other important sites in the Akaroa/Banks Peninsula area.

# Proposed Extension of Museum Collections Policy

It was agreed to ask the President of the Friends to submit a more detailed report on the subject of expanding the collection to include contemporary Peninsula art for the next meeting. Staff were also asked to circulate the current Collections Policy with the next agenda.

Members agreed that Jenny Harper be invited to attend a meeting at a later date.

# Unit Manager

Members agreed that Jenny Harper, the Christchurch Art Gallery Director and Council's Unit Manager for the Museum should be invited to attend a meeting at a later date to discuss various issues.

# 5. COMMUNITY BOARD ADVISER'S UPDATE

# 5.1 Meeting Dates - 2009

Members discussed the meeting dates for 2009 and suggested that an afternoon meeting may be more suitable for the Onuku Runanga representative. It was agreed that the Akaroa Museum Advisory Committee meetings be held quarterly on the last Monday of the month instead of the fourth Thursday as previously decided.

The Committee **resolved** that the Akaroa Museum Advisory Committee meetings be held quarterly on the last Monday of the month as follows, commencing at 1pm.

Monday 29th June Monday 28th September Monday 30th November

#### 6. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 29 June at the Akaroa Service Centre commencing at 1pm.

The meeting closed at 11:30am.

### 3. AKAROA MUSEUM DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

### 3.1 VISITORS

#### **Visitor Numbers**

As we approach the end of the year, it seems that our annual visitor numbers will come in at about the same level as last year, around 16,500. The pattern of visitor numbers over the last six months of the year has departed from that of previous years (some months over, some under), but the total figure is pleasingly similar.

### **School visits**

Two secondary schools from South Canterbury (Craighead and Timaru Girls High School) use us every year for intensive programmes for their Year 13 history classes. They visited in May and made extensive use of our resources, each spending a full day at the Museum. The Akaroa Junior School has visited twice this month studying archaeology during their first visit, and mystery objects from the past during the second.

### 3.2 EXHIBITIONS

### **Quirky Collections II**

July - November

Our further selection of unusual collections held by local residents will open during the first week of July. This year the exhibition will feature chainsaws, cameras, china cats, comics, miniature sewing machines, compacts, model cars and pigs.

# 40 years of preserving Akaroa's charm

November - January

The Akaroa Civic Trust was formed in 1969 with the objective of preserving the charm of the town. At that time a young architect, recently returned to Christchurch from London, was enlisted to help the Civic Trust identify what it was about Akaroa that was worth preserving. Peter Beaven recorded more than 50 views of Akaroa's buildings, streets, vistas, and features. These black and white photos will form the basis of the exhibition.

# Nga Roimata o Takapuneke (The Tears of Takapuneke)

February - May

This exhibition will be more ambitious than our usual offerings and to this end it is very pleasing to note that the Mayor's Office is providing us with some financial support.

# 3.3 COLLECTIONS

#### Consultants using resources

Our photograph and map collections have been receiving some heavy use recently as teams of consultants preparing various reports on Akaroa for the City Council, come to the Museum for resources.

# **Collection workshop**

Since our last meeting, discussions have continued about the possibility of expanding our collecting activity into the area of contemporary Banks Peninsula art. A workshop has preceded this meeting, at which all aspects of the proposal were considered. As is the case with all objects considered for addition to the collection, we will only accept those for which we can provide good care, and which meet the other criteria of our collection policy.

### 3.4 PROJECTS

# **Storage Building**

The 1970s cottage on our building site was dismantled and removed in April and services (water and sewer) were relocated to the east side of the site. During this work, a quantity of archaeological material was recovered, triggering the 'Accidental Discovery Protocol' (ADP) we had with the Historic Places Trust. The subsequent discovery of significant features escalated the ADP to an archaeological authority. A consultant archaeologist has been working on site for a few weeks, recovering and recording material.

This work is delaying the commencement of the contractors on the site, but is a necessary preliminary to work beginning, and a reminder that wherever a spade goes into the ground in Akaroa, something of an archaeological nature is likely to be found.

Corbel Construction won the contract for the project and will start work as soon as we deal with the archaeological requirements.

### 4. FRIENDS OF AKAROA MUSEUM - PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

### 4.4 CUSTOM HOUSE GARDEN

The final touches have now been put on the Custom House garden following the erection of the new picket fence last year. The Museum Director decided the planting plan and a member of the Friends Committee, Warwick Harris, has grown the shrubs, planted them out and is now taking special care of them until they are well established.

### 4.2 PURCHASE OF LOCAL COLLECTION OF EARLY MAORI ARTEFACTS

At the beginning of the year the opportunity arose for the Museum to acquire a collection of locally provenanced Maori artefacts dating from the 1800s. They were the life-time collection of FOAM member Dion Harrison who with his brother, Nigel, has been a keen historian and collector since childhood days in Akaroa. Their mother, Daphne Harrison, was one of those involved in establishing the first public collection of historic items in Akaroa - the forerunner of the present day Museum.

Dion offered his collection to the Museum on generous terms and, after seeking independent advice, the Director recommended its purchase to the Friends. We are pleased to have been able to help the Museum with this special acquisition.

#### 4.3 GARDEN OF TANE

The Friends are very encouraged by the draft Management Plan for the Garden of Tane which has recently been completed by Council staff. We are happy to have been able to help in a small way with this work. This draft is now out for public consultation before the final plan is agreed. There will be a drop-in information session at the Gaiety Supper Room, on Wednesday 15 July from 4pm -7pm to discuss the plan and Hearings will be held in September with a view to Council adopting the final Management Plan in October.

# 4.4 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

In response to the Council's call for nominations for Community Service Awards the Friends decided to nominate one of our hardest working and most dedicated volunteers, Mary McNutt. We are delighted that she was awarded the honour even though she herself is a very reluctant recipient, insisting that she does everything for the love of the job.

### 4.5 PROPOSED EXPANSION OF MUSEUM'S ART COLLECTION

A sub-group of Friends have prepared a paper proposing that a public collection of art representative of Banks Peninsula be established through systematically building on the existing collection held at the Museum. This paper was presented at a workshop of the Museum Advisory Committee held prior to this meeting.

# 4.6 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of the Friends will be held on Friday 25 September. The subject of the guest speaker/speakers will be The Historical Significance of Takapuneke. We have agreed to this topic in order to prepare our members for the forthcoming exhibition at the Museum on Takapuneke, which is planned for February 2010 to coincide with its gazetting as a national reserve.

Jane Chetwynd, President.

- 5. COMMUNITY BOARD ADVISER'S UPDATE
- 6. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION