

**MINUTES OF THE
DISABILITY ADVISORY GROUP MEETING HELD AT CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL,
53 HEREFORD STREET, GROUND FLOOR, ON Tuesday 19 May 2015 at 10 am**

Present: Gail Payne (Metropolitan Community Advisor, CCC), Doreen McCoard (Post-Polio), Allison Nichols-Dunsmuir (Health in All Policies, CDHB), Tracey Dorreen (Deaf/Blind Community), Simon Atkinson (People First), Anna Mitchell (Disabled Persons Association), Adele Wilkinson (Mental Health Education and Resource Centre), Rachel Mullins (Inclusive Communities Coordinator, CCC).

Minute taker: Gail Payne

1. Welcome: Gail welcomed everyone to the meeting. Gail also explained that Emma Pachnatz has a new role within the Council and will no longer be taking DAG minutes. Emma will still receive and send correspondence for the group, and Gail will take the minutes. DAG thanked Emma for all her hard work and support at the DAG meetings.

2. Apologies: Robert Watts (Older Persons)

3. Confirmation of last meeting minutes: Tuesday 21 April 2015

All in agreement.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes: N/A

5. Health in All Policies Advisor (CDHB) update – Allison Nichols-Dunsmuir

- Allison outlined the key stakeholders in the Events for All Project and reported that CPIT health promotion students are involved and would like to present their findings to a combined KiwiAble - DAG meeting. The Council's Events Team is working closely with the project. It is planned that the resource/toolkit created by the project will be Christchurch specific and relevant to a city in recovery.
- Allison sought DAG members' advice and discussion in relation to the following questions about the Events for All Project: The most accessible (and the least accessible) event you've ever been to; how did you get there and back home; what happened at the event that made it accessible (or inaccessible); what information did you have about that event beforehand?

6. Metropolitan Community Advisor update Gail Payne

- It was agreed that DAG will present to the Council's CHED Committee (Communities Housing & Economic Development). A power point presentation will be developed at the next meeting. A focus will be Events for All project. Gail will also write a report about DAG for CHED to receive. This will be discussed with the DAG members.

7. Updates from Members

Tracey

- Tracey led a discussion about the new Earthquake Memorial and the importance of it being accessible. It was agreed that DAG will send a letter to the Development Director for the Earthquake Memorial (CCDU) to offer advice and consultation with DAG members; and also to recommend that an audit be conducted, and advice provided, by the Barrier Free NZ Trust. Allison agreed to write a draft letter and this will be sent to DAG for approval.
- There is an opportunity to meet the Memorial's designer on 24 May and the CERA project manager will also be at the site. DAG members will try to visit on that day.
- Tracey also raised concerns about the Chaney's Corner off-ramp where large signage is flashing in the sun. She believes this is a distraction for some people.

Doreen

- Doreen discussed the importance of clarity about DAG's purpose and the importance of a targeted PowerPoint presentation to the CHED committee to ensure effective communication and outcomes between DAG and the Council. It was also agreed that DAG could present to each of the Community Boards in relation to disability sector issues.

Anna

- The Court Theatre on 24 May are holding an audio description presentation as part of the Blind Foundation's Accessible Arts Programme.
- Anna also shared some reading she had been doing about the importance of everyone in the community being able to access buildings and events, and architects being educated about accessibility needs.
- Anna has concerns about the temporary hospital car park having rough and uneven terrain. Allison will follow up with the CDHB as she believes that the preference is for people requiring disabled car parks to park at the hospital disabled parks or to be dropped off at the entrance. Allison will report back to the next meeting.

Robert

- Robert submitted a request for there to be discussion about the level of safety at certain intersections. He has received a letter from the Council's CEO stating that Council is progressively identifying and planning improvements... mostly by installing zebra crossing facilities. This will be discussed at the next DAG meeting.
- Robert also raised the issue of CCTV magnifier facilities in the Peterborough Street library, and he will update DAG about this. Tracey stated that these facilities need to be in all libraries.

Adele

- Adele distributed information about Peer Support training (mental health and addictions).
- The Mental Health Education and Resource Centre MHERC can provide reading lists about topics of interest for DAG and the sectors. Adele agreed to prepare a list about mental health and disability for DAG members.

8. General discussion

- There was discussion about DAG membership and the representation of sectors. Gail will discuss this in the Community Support Unit as to the Council's process for nomination onto its advisory groups.

9. Next Meeting: Tuesday 16 June 2015 at 10 am at Christchurch City Council, 53 Hereford Street

10. Meeting Closed: 12:00 pm