

Minutes

A4A Forum Accessibility for All

Friday 08 August 2014 – 10.00am
Wangapeka-Heaphy Room, Tasman District Council

Present

Cr Judene Edgar (Chair), Sarah Downs, Bettina Koessler, (Tasman District Council), John Harwood (Hearing Association) Mike Stevens, Kaye Halkett, Gill Clayton (Association of Blind Citizens), (Independent), Donna Smith (Independent), Simon Horrocks (Independent) Marg Parfitt, Cr Eric Davy, Debra Bradley (Nelson City Council), Gail Collingwood (Nelson/Tasman Positive Aging), Craig Simpson (Nelson/Tasman Kaituitui)

Apologies

Ruby Aberhart, Krista Hobday, Marion Edwin, Brian Say

1. Confirmation of minutes from the meeting of 23 May 2014

MOVED Kaye Halkett
SECONDED John Harwood
CARRIED

2. Matters Arising – Action List

- a. Three Brothers Corner – Cr Davy advised that work is now progressing on this. All approvals for the project are now complete and the next step will be getting it out to tender so work can begin on building the site.
- b. CCS Workshop – Marg advised that planning for this has now been put on hold. Kaye suggested the use of a Mechanical Guide Dog which is available for use from the Blind Foundation if the workshop does go ahead.
- c. Richmond Mall Tour Update – Sarah is still awaiting a response from the Mall Manager. Once she has received this she will pass the information onto A4A.
- d. Total Mobility Contact – Judene has been in touch with Robyn Scherer at Tasman District Council regarding the contact for Total Mobility. Robyn suggested contacting Nelson City Council. Gail confirmed that the main contact for Total Mobility is Marg Parfitt.

3. Correspondence

Nil

4. Rocks Road Walkway/Cycleway Project

Donna attended a recent public consultation meeting held in Nelson to discuss the Rocks Road Development Project. A lot of discussion took place regarding the project. Sarah also attended a meeting and raised the issue of there being no accessible carparks.

The deadline for public feedback is 25 August. It is possible to submit a submission by emailing rocksroad@govt.nz, visiting the Nelson City Website and following the link on the homepage or completing the survey, the link to which is also available through the website.

Judene encouraged attendees to submit individual submissions representing a viewpoint from their individual organizations. Judene will put together a group submission on behalf of A4A.

5. Sandwich Boards

Debra Bradley from Nelson City Council is currently reviewing the Urban Environments Bylaw, which includes Trading in Public Places and covers the use of Sandwich Boards. Informal feedback will be collected during the month of August. Debra welcomed both individual and collective feedback on the issue.

Judene suggested that Debra organise a walk around the streets with some members of the A4A group to gain a better perspective from those living with a disability. This group will include Kaye, Donna, Mike, Gill and Ruby. Sarah to send a group email so that everyone can get in touch with one another.

Gail suggests Debra attend the next Positive Aging Forum. Sarah will get in touch with Mike Tasman Jones and pass on Debra's details, so that she can be sent an invitation.

Bettina to pass Debra's email contact address onto the A4A group.

6. Bridge Street Seating

Gail has raised her concerns regarding the recently installed seating on Bridge Street via a letter to Nelson City Council. She received a reply from a staff member at Nelson City Council, however was a little disappointed with the response.

Judene to draft a letter from A4A addressed to the CEO of Nelson City Council regarding the new seating.

7. Security Panels at Fresh Choice

Kaye raised some concerns regarding the recently installed security panels in the Richmond Mall. They are very narrow and hard to see.

Judene suggests contacting the Richmond Mall Manager and also Gary Watson (Fresh Choice Manager) with concerns.

Kaye to test the accesses of other shops within the mall such as Farmers, to find other good or bad examples of security panels and provide feedback to A4A so that this can be passed onto the Mall Manager for consideration.

8. Accessible Voting

Judene referred to an email which has been sent out to A4A regarding voting in this year's election. Processes have now been put in place to make it easier for disabled New Zealanders to vote. This includes video based voting, sign language, captioned advertising and the use of braille, audio and accessible formats through the Blind Foundation. In particular she referred to Telephone Dictation for voting which has been the major leap forward in accessibility, confidentiality and independence for blind and vision impaired New Zealanders. Kaye further noted that it was the telephone dictation voting that Blind Citizens NZ have been working together with the Electoral Commission to accomplish, and it is great to see their hard work is paying off.

9. Tactile Pavers

Judene has done some research into Tactile Pavers following the previous meeting. There is a lot of information available to the public on these. As was advised in the previous meeting, these pavers only indicate the presence of a hazard; they do not necessarily indicate an area as a safe place to cross the street.

Marg has received information on these from Carina Duke of the Blind Foundation. She will forward this email onto the A4A members.

10. General Business

a. Congratulations

John was congratulated for the Queens Service Medal which he recently received as recognition of his services to the community which included 40 years in the Richmond Lions Club, 43 years as a Shearing Judge with NZ Shearing Sports, 25 years plus with the Nelson A & P Association, including President 3 times, Treasurer 6 years, Property Manager 3 years, and Life Member. Also, 16 years involvement with Nelson Hearing Association and Life Member, National Board member for 5 years including 3 as National President, Deputy Chair of the NFD Council 3 years.

John is also a life member of the Richmond Senior Citizens after serving as custodian/ Secretary- Treasurer for 12 years. There are other committees he has attended, and things in the past, like an Elder in the Presbyterian Church, Positive Ageing Forum and not to forget A4A!

b. Bouquet

Kaye expressed her thanks to the editors of Newline who seem to have made a real conscious effort to make the newsletter more user-friendly. Judene will pass this feedback onto the appropriate staff.

Kaye thanked Bettina for sending the previous minutes out in a format which her and Gill were both able to access and read with no issues.

Marg suggested adding a link of the Rocks Road Consultation to the next edition of the Newline. Judene advised that it is too late for this to be included in the next edition as it has already gone to print; however, there is a possibility that a link could be added to the Newline updates which are included in the local newspaper.

c. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting date was confirmed for Friday 14 November 2014.

Meeting closed: 11.35am

Next meeting: 14 November 2014

Action List

Action	Who	Timing
Richmond Mall Tour Update – Sarah is still awaiting a response from the Mall Manager. Once she has received this she will pass the information onto A4A.	Sarah Downs	ASAP
Rocks Road Cycleway/Walkway Project – to draft a submission on behalf of A4A addressed to Nelson City Council regarding this project.	Judene Edgar	ASAP
Sandwich Boards – to organize a walk around local streets with Ruby, Kaye, Mike, Donna and Gill to gain their feedback on Sandwich Boards.	Debra Bradley	ASAP
Bridge Street Seating – to write letter to the CEO of Nelson City Council regarding the Bridge Street Seating and providing insight from an A4A perspective.	Judene Edgar	ASAP
Security Panels Richmond Mall – to visit different shops in the mall and provide feedback on the security panels back to A4A.	Kaye Halkett	ASAP
Newslines Feedback – to pass on the good feedback received onto the Newslines editors.	Judene Edgar	ASAP
Positive Aging Forum – to email Mike Tasman Jones the email address of Debra Bradley so that she can be invited to the next Positive Aging Forum.	Sarah Downs	ASAP
Contact Emails – to provide email contact address' for all those who will attend the walk around the streets looking at the Sandwich Board Issue.	Sarah Downs	Complete
Debra Bradley – to provide the A4A forum with Debra's contact email address	Bettina Koessler	Complete
Tactile Pavers – to pass on email received from Carina Duke of the Blind Foundation regarding Tactile Pavers to the A4A group.	Marg Parfitt	Complete