

MINUTES

TITLE: Nelson Tasman Housing Forum
DATE: Monday 3 December 2012
TIME: 9.00 am
VENUE: Heaphy Room, Tasman District Council,
189 Queen Street, Richmond.

PRESENT: Cr Judene Edgar, Tasman District Council, Chair
Brittany Smith, Refugees Services
Claire McKenzie, Nelson Marlborough District Health Board
Cr Gail Collingwood, Nelson City Council
Jill Knight, Salvation Army
Nicola Mercer, Nelson City Council
Patrick Steer, Nelson Tasman Housing Trust
Francie Wafer, Tasman District Council (Community Services
Administrator)
Edward Andrews, Night Shelter
Garry Woodgate, Tasman District Council (Administration
Officer)

APOLOGIES: Glenn Morris, Nelson Property Investors Association
Jill Harris, Ministry of Social Development
Kindra Douglas, Nelson Tasman Housing Trust
Les Milligan, Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

Moved Cr Gail Collingwood/Francie Wafer

That the apologies for absence from Glenn Morris, Jill Harris, Kindra Douglas and Les Milligan be accepted.

CARRIED

1 Welcome and Apologies

Cr Edgar welcomed the group and noted the apologies.

2 Confirmation of Minutes – Nelson Tasman Housing Forum 13 August 2012.

The following amendment was made to the minutes of 13 August 2012:-

Page 1A, Item 4 – Homelessness of Youth – Statistics, Alex Britton

The first sentence had the words 'from Nelson' added after INCEDO.

Moved Gail Collingwood/Francie Wafer

That the Minutes of the Nelson Tasman Housing Forum, held on Monday 13 August 2012, with amendment, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

3 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Nil.

4 Future of Nelson Tasman Housing Forum

Cr Edgar outlined the Nelson Tasman Housing Forum survey results as well as information received on the Tenants Protection Association (Christchurch) Inc. who hold Housing Forums.

The main differences are that they have their own Terms of Reference, an independent Chair and are more community led and driven.

Francie Wafer read an email sent to the Forum from Kindra Douglas, Nelson Tasman Housing Trust regarding her thoughts on the future shape of the Housing Forum.

Kindra outlined twice yearly workshop-style gatherings in which (at least some) developers, building industry representatives, architects, Council policy and RMA staff and other key stakeholders can attend and generate more interest and incentives to create affordable homes in Nelson.

Cr Judene Edgar, Chair

Cr Edgar advised that providing affordable housing was not a key role of the Tasman District Council. Cr Edgar suggested holding educational summits with a range of topics, presentations, guest speakers and discussion groups.

Cr Edgar asked if EDA should perhaps be the organisation to hold the summits and if providing social housing was one of its deliverables.

Patrick Steer

Patrick supported the holding of educational summits.

Claire McKenzie

Claire felt that the summit proposal needed a home (to receive administration support) and that in the Tenants Protection Association (Christchurch) Inc. example a Planning Group had been elected.

Jill Knight

Jill also felt that the summit proposal had merits and that a lobby group could come from this. Her concern was the possible lack of attendees as it is for this Forum.

Cr Gail Collingwood

Cr Collingwood felt that it was time to move on from the Forum as the different agencies were now all talking. She added that affordable housing was a current hot topic of central Government and supported the summit proposal. Cr Collingwood added that continuing communication and networking is required to keep the momentum going.

Cr Collingwood also felt that real Estate Agents, Architects, builders etc. need to be captured by the summit proposal.

Nicola Mercer

Nicola felt that it was time to move on from the Forum. She also supported the holding of summits but felt that there would be a problem engaging the private and public sector groups as their outcomes are quite different.

Nicola recommended contacting the Tenants Protection Association (Christchurch) Inc. to see what works for them and what did not.

Nicola added that Nelson City Council is in the process of compiling a Housing Strategy and wanted this Forum's input into it.

Edward Andrews

Edward felt that the existing Forum was good for communication sharing.

Brittany Smith

Brittany felt that something new is required and felt that it would be difficult to attract attendees from both the social and private housing sectors.

Brittany added that Councils need to change their policies to allow for the Nelson Tasman Housing Trust to undertake its work more effectively.

Francie Wafer

Francie felt there was a need for change as the numbers and interest in the Forum had dwindled. She believed that the summit proposal would not attract the right mix of social and private housing people.

Francie asked if the Nelson Tasman Housing Trust could pick up the role as the Tenants Protection Association (Christchurch) Inc. had done and was advised by Patrick that they have little resources to do this and what resources they do have goes into building affordable houses.

CONCLUSION & ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN

It was agreed that the Chair would undertake the following:-

- a) Follow up with the Tenants Protection Association (Christchurch) Inc. to gather information about them and what they found worked, what didn't work and how they engage with their stakeholders.
- b) Talk with Mr Bill Findlater regarding the summit proposal with topics such as planning, development contributions and social housing in general.

Patrick Steer to talk with the Trustees of the Nelson Tasman Housing Trust regarding their possibly taking a lead on the summit proposal and/or providing ideas for it.

It was requested that the Minutes note for those who are no longer attending the Forum that it was considered very important that they remain connected to the Forum because the Forum:-

- Values their input and presence
- Needs their ideas and thoughts
- Will accept their input in writing.

Cr Collingwood requested a schedule of Forum meeting dates go out to all attendees.

10.03 am: Jill Knight departed.

5 Agency Updates

Nelson Tasman Housing Trust

Mr Patrick Steer advised that:-

- The Emergency Cabin is now available for use
- The Nelson Tasman Housing Trust is now on site at the Brook and building has started
- Building Consent on the Victory Project is about to be granted, the Trust will build eight units in St. Lawrence Street with a further four units to be built later.

Brittany Smith, Refugee Services

Brittany advised that Refugee Services had organised 27 houses for refugees last year. She then tabled some Refugee Services Housing Data.

Tasman District Council

Francie Wafer advised that her annual visits to pensioners living in Council housing was almost complete.

6 Monitoring Reports

Monitoring Reports were contained within the agenda and taken as read.

It was noted that no-one from the Department of Building and Housing had attended the Forum since their major restructure.

Building Consent statistics for Nelson City Council (144 consents issued and 72 of them in one month) were queried and Nicola advised that she would follow this up for confirmation.

Patrick advised that the statistics section of the Forum seemed pointless as they are available on line.

Moved Cr Judene Edgar/ Francie Wafer

That the Monitoring Reports be received.

CARRIED

7 General Business

Nil.

Next meeting to be in February 2012.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 10.23 am.

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES