

MINUTES

Parnell Inc. August 11, 2010



Venue 8am at 92 Parnell Road, MacDonald Pilcher offices

**Actions
Required**

Present: Rory MacDonald (Chair), Carrick Graham (Deputy Chair), Chris Swasbrook (Treasurer), Miles Nathan, Sherryn Mehta, Hinu te Hau, Fleur Denning (guest), Debbie Harkness,

2. **Apologies:** Caine Penny, Mainzeal (Item 5 on the agenda cancelled)

3. **Confirmation of Minutes from previous meeting**

Motion: That the Minutes from the May meeting be taken as a true account of the meeting.

Moved/Seconded: Carrick/Chris **Carried:** All

4. **Matters arising from previous meeting**

- Athol is following up on progress towards more prominent Parnell signage through Council
- Debbie to provide Carrick with Cynthia's publication mock-up

Athol
Debbie

6. **Creative Quarter Manager's Report**

Business after Five

Rory expressed disappointment at low numbers of members attending August Business after Five at Kaplan. Rain and distance from Parnell centre a likely cause. Member apathy an ongoing issue. A flyer advertising Thinkers & Shakers was distributed to most businesses across Parnell, and included information on Business after Five as a networking opportunity. Email newsletters also include notices and reminders.

Thinkers & Shakers - Business speaker series

Andrew Hamilton to speak on August 31st

A reminder of this event will go out with the Parnell Inc.'s 2010 AGM notice.

Debbie

Business "Heritage" Certificates

Designs for certificates and database has almost been completed, Owner /Founder details being confirmed. Carrick had recommended (July meeting) holding a party/ceremony for the longest-standing Parnell Inc. member businesses at the second Thinkers & Shakers talk (Andrew Hamilton's on August 31). An "Over 50 years party" was recommended.

Chris recommended a (weekend?) function at Heard Park. DH uncertain of success given retailers would not be able to attend and business owners may not return to Parnell in weekend. To be further discussed.

Chris
Debbie

Mountain Fountain Celebration: 5pm Sunday 12 September

Ceremony coming together well.

Rotary participation and \$500 contribution organised after July meeting notes issued, but the group is acknowledged in printed material (flyer for distribution etc)

Hinu to contact lead performer Whirimako Black for details needed by DH.

Hinu

Art Wreath decoration / Christmas promotion

12 retailers responded to an email seeking expressions of interest in this project. The project seeks involvement from 20 to 30 retailers, and this is a good starting number.

Stephanie McKenzie has been engaged as curator for the project, as there is much detail in finding suitable artists, engaging them, contracts, liaising with retailers, the auction set-up etc.

Hinu recommended making an application for funds from Hobson Community Board's September meeting. **Application deadline is August 20.** Hinu suggested stressing that funds are for the *inaugural* wreath project (event title yet to be determined) which Parnell, the creative quarter, will build on year by year. Funds to cover curator costs plus decorations.

Debbie

Athol enquired about **Xmas banners**. There will be no special Xmas banners, however existing Parnell branded banners *may* remain in place if they are not replaced by ASB Tennis banners.

Rory raised the possibility of having **buskers in Parnell**. To be investigated.

Cynthia

Parnell Security Audit

DH will put the recent Security Audit online for members to read and take action on. Most recommended actions will require funding and action from Council, requiring an approach/lobbying from Parnell Inc.

Debbie

Carrick suggests that the report is reviewed by the committee quarterly.

Security Patrol funding

Parnell Inc gained another night's security patrol, fully funded for one year through Council's Security Grant. Friday night likely to be the next busiest night to patrol. DH to confirm with bar owners. The patrol may also need to be from 10pm – 2am to make streets safer for departing diners (Wednesday night is 11pm – 3am).

Debbie

Parnell Train Station / opposition to planned bus park

Concern expressed that, with the issue gaining greater prominence, DH needs help and counsel from a sub-committee. Miles and Carrick nominated to work on this.

Sub-committee meeting notes

Carrick, Miles and Debbie met briefly after the meeting. Hinu gave an update on status quo: KiwiRail (KR) seeks a commercial return on the site. Infratil has offered means to allow KR to make a return as bus park. There are currently no alternative offers available from investors or the community. Council is waiting for ARTA's report with costs for a Parnell station.

Tasks

1. Engage residents and seek resident group to play greater role (and reduce time DH spending on this issue)
2. Contact petitioner database with a situation update and link to contact list of politicians, Auckland City candidates (Mayor and Waitemata Ward) for sending lobbying letters.
3. Contact Waitemata Ward candidates to ensure all are aware of the situation. Elicit supporting statements from them.
4. Prepare presentation to Auckland Museum.
5. Set up "fighting fund" with donations from residents to cover costs of items which could include: an independent valuation of the KR site; advertising; communications etc.
6. Set up Facebook, Twitter pages

Debbie

Parnell Inc AGM - Wednesday September 8

Committee to meet prior to AGM, Tuesday 7 September at 8am.

Chris wants to hold all future Parnell Inc. functions at Holy Trinity Cathedral, whenever possible – great venue, good proximity to member businesses.

(Visitors Centre room unavailable Wednesday 8. Possibilities – go under Cathedral (hard to find – people get lost), go elsewhere or change AGM date?)

Committee nominations

At the time of the meeting, no nominations had been received.

Chris reiterated view that committee members should commit to a three-year term, and after that make way for other members to step in/up. Also that a smaller committee can be more effective. He recommends that, following the AGM, the members of the new committee disclose their interests in anything that might conflict with their roles within Parnell Inc, for good governance.

Rory expressed concern that the committee did not include a retail representative. Chris and Carrick to seek retailer candidates. Associate members can not join the committee as voting members.

Chris/
Carrick

Of the current committee Rory re-standing for one more year; also Carrick, Chris, Miles, Athol and Sherryn putting their names forward. Hinu will step down as Hobson Community Board representative following September, pending Supercity elections on October 9. The committee wished her well in the elections.

7. Committee Member Reports

Chris: Financials

Parnell’s financials are sound shape. Chris to meet with DH to go over budget on Friday.

Chris/
Debbie

Given the age of Parnell Inc.’s PCs, Chris recommends an upgrade to a Mac laptop for DH, including Windows OS. To be discussed with DH.

Software upgrades also needed, including migrating database from Excel to more stable solution. Hinu offered help in setting up Access database.

8. General Business

Len Brown offer to address members

Both Parnell Inc and the Parnell Community Committee have received offers to meet Len Brown, hear him talk and answer questions. Parnell Inc. takes an impartial stand on the position of various political candidates. DH suggested that Len Brown liaise with Mink Café and organise an evening discussion, and members would be advised of this opportunity to meet the mayoral candidate in the email newsletter. Offers to meet other mayoral candidates would be similarly promoted.

Sherryn/
Debbie

The meeting finished at 9.10am
Taken as a true account of the meeting.

Signed Date:

Next Meeting: Tuesday September 7, 2010 8am MacDonald Pilcher offices, 92 Parnell Rd