

Anne-Marie Coury's monthly report 1-31 August 2018

Auckland Council workshops, meetings and briefings

1 st August	attended a shortened community cluster meeting
1 st August	dropped into the Board's Community Forum on Youth Employment
2 nd August	attended local board workshop
9 th August	attended local board workshop
15 th August	attended, spoke and presented certificates at the citizenship ceremony
16 th August	attended local board business meeting
23 rd August	attended local board workshop
30 th August	attended local board workshop
31 st August	attended council's diversity and inclusion workshop

Other meetings

12 th August	attended Indian Independence Day at Mahatma Gandhi Centre, as guest of representatives from the Indian senior community. The Indian diaspora with the major Indian groups coming together for the celebration, raised the Indian flag and sang our National Anthem in Te Reo Maori and English.
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Other issues/challenges

Maintaining a watching brief on how communities and individuals have been affected by the introduction of the new bus routes, has involved attending many informal meetings of organisations, like Probus, Grey Power and Senior Net. Supplying folk with the new bus maps, and assisting them to take practical steps to trial new routes and connections to enable them to stay connected to their activities has been rewarding at times, but also in some instances really challenging.

The widespread willingness of local folk to give feedback to AT via a petition has given much insight into how disempowered many locals feel, when a services is promised at the time of consultation and then is later disconnected from the network, not up-graded or permitted to be running.

Ideas and support for groups planning a seniors' celebration on the theme "Be Your Own Champion", were offered in a non-partisan fashion, in the spirit of a mental health campaign. This event will now go ahead on 29th September in the Albert Eden Board area, after more than thirteen venues were found to be unavailable in our area.

In the recent Diversity Workshop Session, there was a focus on unconscious bias which can creep into decision making when being unaware that we are subjective to such influences. I have attempted to suspend judgement and look at what outcomes are likely to occur and how they will influence the range of communities and individuals that we represent.

Disclosures

My on-going focus when I am advocating on behalf of seniors in community forums representing Auckland Grey Power members, is reflecting the evidence that has been used to develop current Grey Power policies. I make sure to clarify I am not representing the Board.

On radio programmes broadcast on Planet FM, public meetings and in interviews with media, I continue to stress the importance of reducing social isolation to support and increase seniors' wellbeing.

Recommendation/s

- a) That the report be received.

Signatories

Author	Anne-Marie Coury
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