

MINUTES

HERENGA Ā NUKU AOTEAROA, OUTDOOR ACCESS COMMISSION

BOARD MEETING

24 August 2022

Wellington/via Zoom

The meeting commenced at 8.30am.

Board members in attendance:

D Cameron (chair), C Wade-Brown, P Coburn, P Henare, and H Mexted.

Also in attendance:

R Cullinane (Chief Executive), P Culling (Deputy Chief Executive), S Day (Communications Manager), Doug Macredie (Strategic Partnerships Manager), and M Claridge (Executive Director – Te Araroa).

Opening comments

P Henare opened the meeting with a karakia.

D Cameron welcomed Board members and staff, including a special welcome to P Coburn as it was his last meeting as a board member.

1. Apologies

No apologies were received.

Confirm Agenda

The Board confirmed the agenda for the meeting.

Conflicts of Interest

C Wade-Brown is also a member of Te Araroa Trust board.

2. Confirm Minutes

The meeting minutes held in Wellington on 18 May 2022 were circulated and read.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **confirmed** the minutes of the 18 May 2022 meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Moved P Coburn

Seconded C Wade-Brown

Carried

Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3. Chief executive's report

The Board discussed the chief executive's report for August 2022.

R Cullinane gave a strategic summary of the year to August and reported on budget, strategy development, the partnership with Te Araroa, audit matters, regional projects (Te Ahu Patiki, Tapuwae Tairāwhiti, Franklin-North Waikato Trails and Pūhoi to Mangawhai Trails), health and safety, IT, and GIS.

Budget

There was a discussion about the Crown funding of Herenga ā Nuku, the annual budget and the implications if the budget situation is not satisfactorily resolved. A more in depth discussion of budget bid strategy, including a review of the four budget bid scenarios presented to the Board at its meeting on 21 July 2021, was deferred to later the meeting.

Regional project – Pūhoi to Mangawhai Trails

Programme manager Chris Charles's contract was due to expire in June. Auckland Council plans to fund and expand the programme manager role, but this funding is yet to be confirmed. There are sufficient funds remaining in the Pūhoi to Mangawhai budget to support the program manager's role until the end of the calendar year 2022.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** the chief executive's report for August 2022
- b. **directed** management to request Minister Whitiri to instruct MPI to complete any policy work required to address the recommendations arising from the

review of the Walking Access Act 2008. MPI should consult Herenga ā Nuku on the policy work it undertakes

- c. **directed** the Board chair and chief executive to meet with Minister Whaitiri as soon as practical to discuss Herenga ā Nuku's budget
- d. **directed** the Board chair and chief executive to meet with Ray Smith, the chief executive of MPI, about the issues concerning Herenga ā Nuku, including the proposed budget bid and policy work
- e. **directed** the chief executive to send a letter to Chris Roberts, the new chair of the board of Ngā Haerenga New Zealand Cycle Trail Inc., congratulating him on his appointment and inviting him to the Board's next meeting in December, and **encouraged** discussions with NZCT before the next Board meeting
- f. **approved** financial support from the remaining Pūhoi to Mangawhai budget reserves, for the programme and partnership manager, until the end of the 2022 calendar year
- g. **requested** management to prepare a rolling schedule of known photo opportunity events, such as Outdoor Access Champion awards, for the Minister's and Board's information and possible attendance
- h. **requested** the chief executive to contact Rick Edmonds, the chief executive of Link Pathway, to offer support following the recent flooding in the Nelson/Marlborough area.

Moved P Henare

Seconded H Mexted

Carried

4. Health and safety report

P Culling presented the health and safety report as of 24 August 2022. This regular report covers accidents, near misses, ongoing issues, actions taken, initiatives, and other relevant matters.

There were no accidents and no near misses since the last report.

The Board discussed the risks associated with the work the RFAs do, particularly that they may have to drive considerable distances to attend meetings.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** Herenga ā Nuku's 24 August 2022 health and safety report

- b. **directed** management to arrange a zoom meeting between the Board and the RFA team to discuss health and safety
- c. **requested** management to arrange for the Board to attend the next RFA workshop in November.

Moved P Henare

Seconded P Coburn

Carried

Part A

5. Revocation of the Beehive Creek Walkway

The chief executive presented a paper by Mary-Anne Baxter, Principal Advisor – Operations, seeking technical approval to revoke the Beehive Creek Walkway.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **approved** the revocation of the Beehive Creek Walkway due to it no longer being available for use as a walkway.

Moved C Wade-Brown

Seconded P Coburn

Carried

6. New Zealand Wars History

S Day presented a paper on the history of the New Zealand Wars seeking board direction on whether to incorporate a focus on education about the New Zealand Wars in the Herenga ā Nuku strategic direction and workplan.

A wide-ranging discussion took place on the paper, including the involvement of the local community and the appropriateness of and process for including aspects of New Zealand history into trail signage. Board members had good examples of trail signage and stories from their respective communities.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **agreed** to encourage and support trail providers to incorporate NZ history into their physical and online signage
- b. **directed** management to maintain a register of exemplar signage stories.

Moved H Mexted

Seconded P Henare

Carried

7. Māori strategy and strategic relationship report.

D Macredie presented a paper on Herenga ā Nuku's Māori strategy and its strategic relationships.

There has been a limited rate of engagement and relationship-building successes with Māori, and Herenga ā Nuku does not currently understand urban Māori outdoor recreation patterns.

Board member P Henare is working with D Macredie to incorporate proposed changes into the Māori strategy update.

Internal capability

All staff and RFAs have been enrolled in the Reo Ora language programme, run by Professor Rapata Wiri of Ngai Tūhoe. Plans to strengthen pono and tikanga, as defined in Herenga ā Nuku's te ao Māori capability matrix, are also underway.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** that board member P Henare would work with D Macredie to update the current Māori strategy to incorporate the paper's recommendations and bring the revised Māori strategy to the next Board meeting for approval
- b. **noted and supported** the enrolment of all staff in the Reo Ora program
- c. **noted** plans to strengthen pono and tikanga, as defined in Herenga ā Nuku's te ao Māori capability matrix
- d. **discussed** recruitment relative to te ao Māori capability and encouraged utilising the Māori chairs, individual iwi, and their networks
- e. **supported** in principle, the progression of customer segmentation work within Herenga ā Nuku to connect with a broader range of people.

Moved

P Henare

Seconded

D Cameron

Carried

Part B

8. Operations report

In the absence of the national operations manager, the chief executive presented the Operations report.

The Board reiterated the value of the RFA network to Herenga ā Nuku.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** the operations and quarterly case statistics reports from 1 April to 30 June 2022.

Moved P Henare **Seconded** C Wade-Brown **Carried**

9. Geospatial report

In the absence of the GIS manager, who was on annual leave, the chief executive presented the geospatial report.

The report outlined Herenga ā Nuku's GIS strategy, attendance at the Esri user conference and the advocacy role of attendees, partnerships with tracks and trails using GIS, working with the RFA network on day-to-day business, and governance issues.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** the work of the GIS team and the alignment of the GIS strategy to Herenga ā Nuku's strategic goals.

Moved C Wade-Brown **Seconded** D Cameron **Carried**

10. Te Araroa report

M Claridge presented an update on Te Araroa.

The board noted that iwi relations were central to the current Te Araroa operational approach, with the need to develop ties with iwi in Northland and to do so in a manner that demonstrates a partnership approach to Te Araroa, with mutual reciprocity.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** the Te Araroa Report.

Moved P Coburn

Seconded P Henare

Carried

11. **Communications and engagement report**

S Day presented a paper on communications and engagement. The report outlined the recent project completion of the rename and rebrand of the NZ Walking Access Commission to Herenga ā Nuku, which was completed on 28 July with a tohi taangaengae led by Wairangi Jones from Tutira Mai.

The fourth Tracks and Trails Hui took place on 30 June 2022. 48 people participated in a seminar on GIS capability. The hui participants are continuing to grow in number and give good feedback.

A memorandum of understanding was signed with the Mountain Safety Council to support its Plan My Walk app.

An Outdoor Access Champion Award was presented to Suky Thompson in Akaroa on 15 July 2022. Suky, now retired, has managed the Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust since it began operations in 2011.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** the communications and engagement report
- b. **agreed** to discuss the outdoors access awards process at the next Board meeting and asked for ministerial engagement to be part of that process.

Moved P Henare

Seconded P Coburn

Carried

12. **Statement of Performance Expectations 2022-2023**

The Board approved the SPE 2022-2023 at its May 2022 meeting. Board chair D Cameron and Board member Pierre Henare signed the SPE. Herenga ā Nuku provided a final copy to the Minister's office and our monitoring agency, the Ministry for Primary Industries, on 30 June 2022.

The SPE was published on the Herenga ā Nuku website on 1 July 2022 and in print on 26 July 2022. The Minister will table the SPE to Parliament later this year.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** that the Statement of Performance Expectations 2022-2023 had been published, and the Minister would table it to Parliament later this year.

Moved P Henare **Seconded** P Coburn **Carried**

13. Q4 2021-2022 quarterly report

P Culling presented Herenga ā Nuku's quarterly report for 1 April 2022 to 30 June 2022 (Q4), as submitted to MPI.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **noted** the Herenga ā Nuku quarterly report for Q4 2021-2022, as submitted to MPI.

Moved P Coburn **Seconded** D Cameron **Carried**

14. Other business – Budget discussion

Following a discussion with the chief executive in Board-only time, the Board requested the deputy chief executive to circulate budget information from the Board's meeting on 21 July 2021.

The budget information, which included the original options presented to the Board in 2021 and the two subsequent budget bids, formed the basis of the discussion in the chief executive's report.

The Board agreed that the immediate focus should be on securing adequate baseline funding for Herenga ā Nuku.

Resolved: The Board:

- a. **directed** management to make Herenga ā Nuku baseline funding its priority in the next Budget bid
- b. **directed** management to ensure that the budget bid aligns with the Minister's letter of expectations.

Moved H Mexted

Seconded D Cameron

Carried

15. Closing comments

The chair thanked everyone for their attendance.

P Henare closed the meeting with a karakia.

16. Next meeting

The next Board meeting is on 6-7 December.

Management was requested to look at other potential locations for the meeting.

The meeting closed at 2pm.

D Cameron

Board chair