

West of Scotland Regional Equality Council Ltd
44th Meeting of the Board of Directors
Monday 2nd of September 2013 at 6.00pm
WSREC, 39 Napiershall Street, Glasgow, G20 6EZ

Minutes

Present

Board of Directors

1. Hanzala Malik (HM) **Chair**
2. Vince Chudy (VC)
3. Harriette Campbell (HC)
4. Sharon Schlesinger (SS)
5. Anne McTaggart MSP (AM)
6. O S Jandu (OJ)
7. Tunweer Malik (TM)

Observers

- Cllr B. S. Chadha
Jim Dowd

In attendance

- Mohammed Razaq (MR)
Eva Kourova (EV)

1. Apologies

Board of Directors

1. Dr. Malcolm Green
2. Syed Jafri

Observers

- John Service (COPFS)
Cllr Ashay Ghai (EDC)

2. Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting including Jim Dowd who was new and replacing Jim Watt.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the 43rd meeting on 23rd of July 2013 were approved as a true and accurate record.

4. Presentation -on WSREC's Embrace project by Eva Kourova, Development Officer This was well received with a number of questions being asked and ably answered by Eva

The Board thanked Eva for an admirable presentation.

5. Matters Arising

Actions:

- MR to write and request Police Scotland's attendance at future meetings
(MR reported that a letter had been written and a response is awaited)
- HM to obtain the report and make arrangements to invite/co-opt NHS and Authors of the report to a future board meeting of WSREC.
(HM apologised and advised that he had been unable to obtain the report and endeavours to have this for the next meeting)
- MR to write to JCS accordingly to see if there was any assistance that WSREC could provide.
(MR reported that a letter had been written and no response has been received to date)
- MR to have the message distributed to all WSREC contacts on receiving information from HC, of ACWA Seminars
(MR reported that information had been received and would form part of the correspondence for the meeting today)

For discussion

6. Reports

a. Finance (Projected)- Cash Flow 1st April to 31st March 2014

Showed income of £352,225 with expenditure of £352,922 with March 2014 showing a deficit of £9,727 during the year.

MR explained that this deficit will be kept in check, however a number of applications for funding have been made and it is envisaged that this issue will be resolved.

Variance Statement

This showed the following for the month of July 2013

Expenditure actual £36,521 and budgeted £27,408 with a variance of -£9,113 till end of July 2013: this was mostly due to increase in staff salaries due to new project start and more work hours for sessional staff.

Income actual £41,237 and budgeted £39,165 with a variance of +£2,072

This was agreed

b. Executive Director's Report

It has been busy recent months for WSREC with producing Audited Account 2012/13 annual report and its AGM on the 3rd of July 2013. It has also been very busy with high profile events by our funders and partners. WSREC and its projects have also been busy organising and putting on events.

➤ **Projects**

Ongoing

1. Good Community Relations Project
2. Roma Youth Project
3. Roots
4. Qurbani (sacrifice) Food Initiative
5. Embrace project
6. Living Equality
7. Helping Hands
8. Stepping into Diversity Project

Project ended since 1st April 2103

1. Not in Our name
2. Warm N' Dry

New project/s since April 2013

- Challenging Sectarianism Across Generations
Project long term goal is to "Create a wider understanding of how the extended family has influence on how sectarian attitudes and behaviour are constructed and increase knowledge amongst young people of how sectarianism in Scotland exists and how it can be challenged".

The project will address: *Sectarianism in Scottish Family Life; Young People have the facts to challenge Sectarianism and Share learning from project with agencies and individuals across Scotland*

➤ **Scottish Alliance of Regional Equality Council (SAREC)**

I continue to support WSREC's chair and vice chair at the Board meetings of SAREC. WSREC hosted the last meeting of the Alliance on 17th June 2013. WSREC has again been requested by

SAREC for fee to assist in preparing a large funding application. We are in discussion on this with SAREC.

➤ **Funding**

We secured funding for a new project 'Challenging Sectarianism Across Generations' and have the following 'live' bids

- Applications (13) to continue our Roma Youth project
- 'Branching Out' match funding to Heritage Lottery Fund
- Application for 'Helping Hands' project to Scottish Legal Aid Board
- Application for new employment project to Big Lottery Fund
- Application to Climate Change Fund to work with Central Eastern European Communities
- Application to Transformation Fund to work with ME elderly to tackling isolation and IT knowledge deficit

➤ **PHF- Fitter for purpose support**

WSREC was successful in apply for support to assist with 'Communication Evidence of effectiveness'.

➤ **Staff**

I would like to report that WSREC has the following complement of staff as 1st August 2013: Total of **26** (**23** paid + **1** Placement and **2** Interns) and **25** Volunteers

Breakdown

4 full time staff

11 part-time staff

8 Sessional workers

1 Placement (Paid

2 Interns (Paid)

25 volunteers (4 within WSREC office)

New work placement

We have Jordan Mains from GCIL (18 months) to assist with administration work

Interns

We have 2 new (short term) paid Interns since the last report in Katy Mitchell who is assisting to update WSREC's website and Mohith Lakhnpal to assist with Enterprise.

➤ **Training delivered**

- Equality Act and Cultural Diversity training delivered to AMECCA in Irvine- 26/06/13

➤ **Training received**

- Code of Conduct training with City of Glasgow-22/04/13
- Energy Efficiency Training- Warm N' Dry project- 23/04/13

➤ **Events**

Since the last report WSREC had or presence at the following events.

1. GHA New Allocation System- 09/04/13

Attended with a presentation made on their new allocation policy

2. City of Glasgow College ' Embrace Equality' competition/Awards 30th and 31st May 13

Attended as part of a judging panel and the awards ceremony

3. CEMVO/ -Ethnic Minority Impact Awards 04/06/13 Edinburgh

Attended this event with colleague and Board members. WSREC was winner of the 'Equality Improvement Award'.

➤ Events/Meetings attended

- Monday 22nd April 13 Greater Maryhill Food Bank Mtg- Burgh Halls, Maryhill
- Wednesday 24th April 13 attended CAB meeting- Glasgow City Centre
- Sunday 28th April 13 attended the opening ceremony of the South Side Gurdawara
- Tuesday 7th May 13 Attended the CEO meeting for SAREC- Dundee
- Tuesday 14th May 13 attended meeting with Renfrewshire Council and Renfrew IPC- Paisley
- Wednesday 29th May 13 attended CRER Mainstreaming Equality Work Mtg - Glasgow
- Thursday 30th May 13 assisted with judging 'Embracing Diversity' competition CGC
- Friday 31st May 13 attended CGC 'Embracing Diversity' competition awards event
- Tuesday 4th June 13 attended CEMVO Equality awards Ceremony- Glasgow
- Wednesday 5th June 13 attended Scottish Parliament CPG on Racial Equality- Edinburgh
- Thursday 6th June 13 attended Glasgow Action Group mtg- Glasgow
- Monday 10th June 13 attended Deaf Connections for announcement of grant awards-Glasgow
- Saturday 15th June 13 assisted with WSREC stall at Glasgow Mela
- Sunday 16th June 13 assisted with WSREC stall at Glasgow Mela
- Monday 17th June 13 Hosted and supported WSREC reps at SAREC meeting
- Wednesday 19th June 13 attended CAB meeting- Glasgow city centre
- Monday 24th June 13 attended Police Scotland National Stakeholder Conference- Fife#
- Friday 28th June 13 attended QCHA Tackling Inequalities event- Glasgow
- Friday 28th June 13 meeting with Steve Plummer of Common Purpose- WSRC offices
- Wednesday 3rd July 13 WSREC AGM
- Thursday 4th July 2013 attended CEMVO event on Community Safety- Glasgow
- Thursday 4th July 2013 Hosted and attended VAF event on Transformation Fund- WSREC offices
- Tuesday 23rd July 13 supported Board at WSREC Board meeting
- Saturday 27th July 13 assisted with WSREC Information stall at Paisley Carnival- Paisley
- Friday 2nd Aug 13 attended retirement doo of Joe O'Donnell, Inspectorate COPFS- Glasgow
- Wednesday 14th Aug 13 attended flag hoisting event at Pakistani consulate in GLW
- Thursday 15th Aug 13 attended 3rd Party Reporting meeting in the City Chambers, GLW

The Board noted the report

c. Partner reports

JD provided a report from SPS and spoke about the following: -

- Incidents – nil to report
- Refugee week: a number of events held by the prisons education department.
- Eid – We had over 70 attendees at our celebration meal for the end of Ramadan.
- Refugee Week (June 17-21st)-The learning centre's Creative Projects Coordinator, Wendy Refugee Poetry
- Miller, put together a programme of cross-curricular education as part of this year's
- Film-Masterclass For Vietnamese Esol Students.
- 'You've Got Your Dad's Nose'
- Q&A With Cameroonian Writer/ Trade Unionist
- Jammin' With Pan African Arts

The meeting thank Jim for his report and asked if the following could be reported on in the next meeting

Action: JD to provide: 'What other prisons in the West of Scotland are doing and also monitoring figures for equality characteristics

For decision

6. Correspondence

There was an invite from African Caribbean Women's Association to a seminar on Sickle Cell Disorder Awareness Seminar on the 24th September 2013 at the Albany Centre

Action: MR to distribute the invite to all WSREC Board members and Observer via e-mail.

For information

7. SAREC- there was no report as Malcolm Green as chair of SAREC was not in attendance

8. **AWAY DAY- Board and Staff Monday 9th September 2013**

MR provided information on the Away Day and advised that any Board members that required a lift can arrive at WSREC office for 8.30am for a 8.45am departure.(Harriette Campbell advised that she would require a lift to the venue.

9. **A.O.C.B.**

MR advised that HC had provided a DVD in Urdu /Hindi for suffers of diabetes – HM took the DVD.

10. **Date and Times of future meetings**

Monday 9 th December 2013	6.00pm WSREC offices
Monday 3 rd February 2014	6.00pm WSREC offices
Monday 21 st April 2014	6.00pm WSREC offices