

MANAWATŪ DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Present:

Zoe Lister	Chairperson	Eric Schuster	Alumni
Amalie Allan	Member, H&S Officer	Steph Skinner	Minutes Secretary
Shania McLaughlin	Member	Sian Hardie	Member
Finn Macdonald	Deputy Chair	Jesse Devonshire	Member
Sadie Bruce	Member, Marketing/Media	Barbara Bowling	Alumni
Grace Boustridge	Member	Cr Lara Blackmore	YC Liaison Councillor
Grace Carmen	Member	Joey Mckechnie	Youth Engagement Officer
Sophie McLaughlin	Member		

ABSENT: Alex Short & Sarah Lockhart – Alumni

1. MEETING OPENING / WELCOME:

Chair, Zoe Lister opened the meeting, welcoming our guests Lorraine and Nigel from Neighbourhood Support.

2. APOLOGIES:

That the apologies for Kate Wasley, Alyssa Viner, Sienna Jones and Corbyn Dekker be accepted.

3. NOTICE OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items

4. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

That the minutes of the 21 November 2022 Manawatū Youth Council be approved as a true and correct record.

MOVED: Finn Macdonald SECONDED: Grace Boustridge CARRIED

5. GUEST SPEAKERS FOR RANGATAHI ORA EVENT

Lorraine and Nigel from Neighbourhood Support talked about the youth expo and their expectations of youth council involvement on Saturday 18 February 2023.

Nigel, event coordinator spoke to the meeting, outlining the event at the Civic Centre – 10am until 2pm. Giving youth in our district alternative options to get out and about, an interactive event. Many exhibits targeted to assist youth achieve goal setting, with a wellbeing focus.

- Sadie Bruce and Jesse Devonshire will help Nigel getting the message right - to target Youth.

Youth Council to be ambassadors on the day mingling with people and assisting around the venue.

- Hold a youth council exhibit, to promote who we are and what we do
- Sub-committee, work with Steph and Joey on the exhibit stand - Sadie, Amalie, Finn Jesse

6. LARA BLACKMORE – INTRODUCTORY POWERPOINT

- Showcasing how Lara operates and her values

- Lara talked about her career to date
- Lara's strengths were Human Behavior and Focused Change. Developing people to be the best version of themselves.

7. LEADERSHIP CAMP – SIXTUS LODGE

Sixtus Lodge has not replied so Steph and Joey will look at alternatives.

8. CHAIRS ANNUAL REPORT

Zoe Lister shared the Chairperson's Annual Report with members.

That this report be forwarded to the District Development Committee as per our terms of reference.

MOVED: Sadie Bruce SECONDED: Finn Macdonald CARRIED

9. MEMBERS LEAVING

Zoe Lister, Kate Wasley, Grace Boustridge and Sian Hardie were all members leaving who for tonight would be their last meeting. Each had the opportunity to farewell Youth Council.

10. CONFIRMATION OF YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2023

Alyssa Viner	Member	Barbara Bowling	Alumni
Amalie Allan	Member	Eric Schuster	Alumni
Corbyn Dekker	Member	Steph Skinner	YC Support
Finn Macdonald	Member	Cr Bridget Bell	Standin Liaison Councillor
Grace Carmen	Member	Cr Lara Blackmore	Liaison Councillor
Jesse Devonshire	Member	Joey Mckechnie	Youth Engagement Officer
Sadie Bruce	Member		
Shania McLaughlin	Member		
Sienna Jones	Member		
Sophie McLaughlin	Member		

Youth Council Members are confirmed for 2023.

MOVED: Finn Macdonald SECONDED: Grace Boustridge CARRIED

11. APPOINTMENT OF POSITIONS

- Chair Grace Carmen

MOVED: Zoe Lister SECONDED: Sadie Bruce CARRIED

- Deputy Chair - Alyssa Viner, Jesse Devonshire, Finn MacDonald

After voting, Jesse Devonshire was appointed Deputy Chair

MOVED: Zoe Lister SECONDED: Sian Hardie CARRIED

- Marketing/social media Sadie Bruce stands

MOVED: Zoe Lister SECONDED: Shania McLaughlin CARRIED

- Health and Safety Shania McLaughlin

MOVED: Zoe Lister SECONDED: Amalie Allan CARRIED

- Submissions Officer Amalie Allan

Meeting Minutes	
Manawatū District Youth Council	6.06pm
05 December 2022	Council Chambers

MOVED: Zoe Lister **SECONDED:** Finn Macdonald **CARRIED**

Chair, Zoe Lister read her leaving speech to the members, and welcomed Grace Carmen to the chair.

12. DATES TO BE CONFIRMED FOR 2023

Colour Run 2 April 2023 – Sub Committee - Sadie Jesse, Amalie, Grace Carmen, Steph

- Eric- stock take on powder left from October and get costs for replenishing stocks
- Sub committee to teams meet to talk through what needs doing before Christmas

Youth Market - Steph to contact YES coordinator to look at dates that would be appropriate.

YAA confirmed for 18 September 2023 at Civic Centre

13. RDC DINNER

Confirmed organised 18 December 2023 – Zoe organising transport – will keep everyone posted.

14. SUBMISSIONS

- Proposed Plan Change H(b): Notable Trees – Amalie Allan
- Traffic Safety and Road Use Bylaw
- Proposed Plan Change H(a): Historic Heritage – Finn Macdonald

Youth Council to submit on above bylaws, currently out for public consultation - Lyn Daly offered Lisa Thomas to help those making submissions on behalf of youth council.

Members to send through to Steph for the leadership team to review before they are submitted online.

Links to submissions in team's chat.

Submissions close 15 December 2022.

15. DDTBOOY

This item has been deferred until next meeting

16. CONFIRM NEW MEMBER TRAINING

Confirm with Alyssa, Sienna, Shania, and Sophie that they will be at the new member training on Tuesday 6 December 3.30pm at Manawatu District Council with Steph, Joey, Lara, and Zoe. Grace Carmen to be invited.

17. LATE ITEMS TO DISCUSS

There were no late items to discuss

18. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday** 7 February 2023 in Council Chambers.

19. The meeting closed at 7.33pm

MANAWATŪ YOUTH COUNCIL – ANNUAL REPORT

Over the past year, the Manawatū Youth Council have worked hard to come together as one, continuously advocating for, and supporting youth in our community, particularly through a variety of extremely successful events.

With COVID restrictions at the beginning of the year, we were unable to meet in person. Therefore, solidifying our relationships took some time. With seven new members, there were many introductions and team building exercises to be done. Fortunately, our members have been offered a range of awesome opportunities this year that we are incredibly grateful for, allowing us to expand our knowledge, develop our confidence, and most importantly, get to know each other and become a team. Chairperson, Zoe Lister, and Deputy Chairperson, Finn MacDonald undertook three sessions of Chairs Training with Vern Walsh, Meetings and Governance Solutions training provider. This played a huge role in developing our Chairing confidence and ability. For our new members, Steph Skinner and Zoe Lister put together a successful Youth Council New Member Training Session. New councillors learnt about protocols, terms of reference and general happenings that could be expected during their term. The easing of COVID restrictions a few months later meant that we could head to Makoura Lodge in Apiti for our Annual Leadership Camp. This was once again a successful event, allowing us to get to know each other better, enjoy some team challenges and have some brainstorming sessions around what we wanted to see happen in the Youth Council this year.

Upholding and developing our relationship with the Manawatū District Council has been very important this year. One of our goals from last year was to work closer with 'big' council in order to improve our personal knowledge and strengthen the abilities of the Youth Council as a whole. Submitting on bylaws/policies has been one of the many ways we have done this. With the introduction of Submission Officer, Amalie Allan, the Youth Council have been able to discuss bylaws for open for public consultation in depth. We have submitted on the Speed Management Program, Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, the Horizons Draft Regional Public Transport Plan was also submitted on, and our youngest Youth Councillor, Corbyn Dekker, presented and spoke to our submission at the Horizons hearings. We also plan to make submissions at the end of this year on the Notable Trees. Getting educated about what is happening in the district has allowed us to feel a deeper connection to our community, further strengthening our passion for the people who call Manawatū home. Working with internal and external speakers has also allowed us to learn more about MDC and strengthen our relationship with its people. We've talked about the 2022 Local Body Elections, Conflicts of Interest, Election Engagement, Diversity and Inclusion, a view into the Feilding District Youth Board activities, and we have been offered social media mentoring. A positive relationship between the Youth Council and Manawatū District Council ensures a successful year, and we are very grateful for the ongoing support from all areas of MDC.

Behind the scenes, Steph Skinner has been working hard to ensure the technical, administration part of the Youth Council remains sustainable and logical. We refreshed our Terms of Reference to better reflect our group and used past experiences to make educated decisions regarding the changes made. The introduction of the Teams platform has been extremely beneficial. Having one place to store information and communicate has proved successful and has streamlined the administration processes. An in-depth Half Yearly Report was presented to the MDC Community Development Committee, a great achievement that was in line with our goals to attend more 'big' council meetings and interact within them. One of the most notable changes to the Youth Council's structure has been the introduction of Novice Members. This has allowed for not only more hands on deck during our busy season, but has also allowed relationships to form and knowledge to develop earlier, meaning new members can jump right in at the beginning of 2023.

Before our busy season started, the Youth Council were still committed to being a part of community events and supporting youth any way we could. We organised the InZone Career Coach to go to Feilding High School (Hato Paora were also contacted and offered this opportunity but unfortunately they had another commitment). This Careers Coach was extremely successful, and we plan to have one of the InZone Career kiosks included in the library rebuild which will be a great asset to students and all jobseekers in our community. We have also involved ourselves in other activities in order to help out other community groups and start building valuable connections. A small group of us headed to the Manawatū Young Chamber Opening, which was an excellent opportunity for relationship building and getting to know other people who are working in a similar area to the Youth Council. We also had a small group head to the Sort It Expo as a part of the Manawatū District Council stand. This was an excellent opportunity for us to connect to people who have an interest in their district, and we also met a few visitors who were interested in applying to be on the Youth Council.

On the 30th of September, we hosted our Annual Youth Night Market. Because it was only the second year running, we had humble expectations and used the event as a learning experience. A last-minute change in weather saw the event venue change to the Civic Centre. Although this caused a little bit of confusion, the turnout was better than expected and everyone enjoyed the evening. We spent approx. \$100 on this event and hope for it to grow further during the coming years.

After date changes and immense work behind the scenes, we held our Colour Run on the 17th of October. We hosted around 700 people who were all so excited to attend the event after last year's cancellation. We saved money by using the colour powder from last year, but did spend more on improving the event, like introducing a second slide to reduce bottlenecks and using wristbands to send people off in waves, making the event safe for all ages. This year, food trucks from the district were able to come along too, which was a hit! The purchase of paint was \$3951.00 and we spent a total of \$450.00 this financial year. Income for 2022 from ticket sales was \$3624.00. This event could not have been so successful without all of our incredible volunteers and supporters.

Perhaps our biggest event of the whole year, the Young Achievers Awards, took place on November 7th. With more nominations than ever, 168 to be exact, we had to split the event into two sessions, both being held in the stadium of the Civic Centre rather than the Concert Chambers. We had the Feilding High School Kapa Haka group perform, along with Patrick Coogan who provided bagpipe entertainment at the beginning. It was great to have a guest speaker again, Jacinta Gulasekharam was an excellent speaker and captivated the audiences. Celebrating our talented youth is always so heart-warming and special for all involved. We introduced a yearbook which was received very positively. This meant we did not have to read out citations during the presentations as they were in the yearbook. This will allow for sustainable procedures, enabling the event to grow further in the future. We spent a total of \$3292.00 on this event, receiving \$2000.00 in sponsorship from local businesses. Sponsorships were well received this year, and we thank our sponsors for their generous contribution. Steph Skinner worked so hard behind the scenes to put the administrative side of this event together, for which we are extremely grateful, and each member stood up and presented a category. We were all very proud of this event.

Relationships and working as a team are truly what makes the Youth Council so successful. We have such an awesome team of supporters and hard workers. The departure of Cr Shane Casey and Cr Heather Gee-Taylor saw the arrival of Cr Lara Blackmore, along with support from Lyn Daly between election times. Both Shane and Heather's commitment to and involvement in the Youth Council is greatly appreciated. We look forward to working with Councillor Lara Blackmore as she begins her term as a Manawatū District Councillor. We have also welcomed Joey McKechnie who is our Youth Engagement Officer. We have really been looking forward to having someone to fill this role and work closely with the Youth Council, connecting us to other organisations and their causes.

Our relationship with the Rangitikei District Youth Council has also strengthened this year. We hope to work with them next year in order to offer a careers event for youth in both districts. We look forward to

attending a formal dinner with them at the end of December to celebrate our successes and newfound partnership.

The Manawātū Youth Council have had a great year developing our knowledge in many areas, building new relationships, and most importantly, advocating and providing opportunities for the young people of the Manawātū community.

Some exciting developments for 2023 already in the pipeline are to work on a drop in youth space at Feilding Health Care to be called Door 6, and a partnership event with Sport Manawatu for National Youth Week in May 2023 called Don't Drop the Ball on our Youth.

It has been my privilege and honor to Chair the Manawātū District Youth Council for 2022 and I wish them well in the future.

ZOE LISTER, CHAIR

The 2022 Manawātū Youth Council Leadership Team

Chair – *Zoe Lister*

Deputy Chair – *Finn Macdonald*

Elected Members – *Cr Shane Casey, Cr Heather Gee-Taylor, Cr Lara Blackmore*

Youth Coordinator – *Steph Skinner*

Youth Engagement Officer – *Joey Mckechnie*