Waikato Regional Rural Transport Forum MINUTES

Date: 12 May 2014

1:00pm - 3:00pm

Venue: Community Waikato, 33 Victoria Street, Hamilton

Present:

Apologies:

Chair: Sarah Gibb Minutes: Paul Keesing

The Chair opened the meeting and noted the agenda may differ in order form the once sent out. A round of introductions occurred and then the Chair shared a number of "transport funnies".

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Risk Management for working with Volunteers around Community Transport

The Chair and Lorraine Hooper from Volunteering Waikato led agenda item focusing on risk management for organisations that use volunteers, in particular volunteer drivers.

A robust discussion was held covering areas like:

- Legal compliance / Health and Safety
- Vetting process
- Complaints process
- How to determine ability of driver
- Drivers have the right to hospital staff that they will not take a person home
- Police checks and frequency of checks
- Is there a cost to Police checks?
- Issue of balancing compliance costs for small volunteer organisations
- There is a lot of areas outside of a drivers control (i.e. other road users, pedestrians, weather etc).
- Whose vehicle is the driver using? Their own or the organisations? What difference does that make?
- What happens in an emergency?

Volunteering Waikato training opportunities can be found at: http://volwai.org.nz/train

There is a van for sale in Te Kuiti. It is the 4H Community Trust mobility van which is a 1990 Toyota Hiace Van. It comes with wheelchair hoist and restraining devices. Total Mileage 40,000kms approx. Excellent condition. No rust. Price \$10,000.

Waikato Region Rural Transport Forum – Work Programme

The meeting was updated about the forum work programme. This will be e-mailed out and people will have a chance to provide feedback. Initial feedback at the meeting suggested there needs to be more focus on areas outside of the health sector.

Linda Terry discussed her role in working with people with disabilities who are transitioning from school and highlighted their extreme transport difficulties.

How do we share information?

A brief but significant discussion was held on this topic. The website idea was revisited. The working group will follow this up and share ideas with forum members. There will be aqn agenda item on this at the next forum.

Waikato Regional Council Update

Greg Morton shares had copies of documents relating to work currently being done by Waikato Regional Council. The topic of what does improved rural transport mean was discussed. Some ideas that were shared included:

- Expand rural public transport
- Funding mechanisms are a barrier
- Percentage using public transport for comparable regions
- Lack of taxis
- Total mobility scheme
- W&C critical success factors
- Public transport on high volume roads
- Alternative transport options
- Extend definition of public transport
- Yorkshire Dales example

Discussion was held around the term 'transport disadvantaged'.

East Waikato Transport Project

Forum attendees who had participated in this project noted there had been no formal update to them.

Forum dates for the remainder of the year are:

- 11 August
- 10 November

The Chair closed the meeting at 3 pm.