



TĀMAKI PAENGA HIRA
AUCKLAND WAR MEMORIAL MUSEUM

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
AUCKLAND MUSEUM TRUST BOARD
OPEN SESSION
Horotiu room, Level 2, Auckland Museum
9am, Thursday 27 February 2025**

Present: Lupematasila Misatauveve Dr Melani Anae, Ms Melissa Firth, Ms Penny Hulse, Mr Martin Mariassouce, Mr Ben Palmer, Distinguished Professor Emeritus Paul Spoonley (until 12:45), Ms Rachael Tuwhangai (chair), Professor Emeritus David V Williams (until 2:39pm).

Apologies: Mr John Judge, Mr Alastair Carruthers, Distinguished Professor Emeritus Paul Spoonley (early departure).

Also present: David Reeves, CE; James Liddell, Executive Officer / Board Secretary; Catherine Hammond, Director Collections; Jignasha Patel, Director Finance and Enterprise.

1. BOARD ONLY TIME

No decisions or resolutions were made.

2. WELCOME

The chair welcomed everyone present.

3. PROCEDURES

3.1 Apologies

The Board accepted the following apologies:

- 1) John Judge for absence
- 2) Alastair Carruthers for absence
- 3) Paul Spoonley for early departure.

3.2 Register of interests

No interests were declared. No amendments were made to the register.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board confirmed the minutes of the Open session of its meeting held on 5 December 2024 as a true and accurate record.

5. ACTIONS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 5 DECEMBER TRUST BOARD MEETING

The Board noted the actions brought forward.

6. NGĀTI KURI/AUCKLAND MUSEUM PRESENTATION: TE MANA O RANGITĀHUA

Sheridan Waitai and Tammy Tauroa (Ngāti Kuri) and Dr Tom Trnski presented to the Trust Board on the Te Mana o Rangitāhua project and the relationship between Ngāti Kuri and the Museum. A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes and forms part of the record of the meeting.

The discussion traversed the history of the relationship between Ngāti Kuri and the Museum, from 2015 onwards, and the change in undertaking indigenous-led research and collaboration. The research and academic outputs from Te Mana o Rangitāhua were discussed, as well as the forthcoming establishment of a public knowledge portal / website for dissemination of this information, and the plans to host an international symposium next year.

The Trust Board thanked Sheridan Waitai, Tammy Tauroa and Dr Tom Trnski.

Actions:

- schedule a future session with Ngāti Kuri for another korero following completion of Te Mana o Rangitāhua.
- send links to research and mahi of Te Mana o Rangitāhua to Board members for their information.

*The meeting was suspended at 10:15am for refreshments, shared with Ngāti Kuri guests.
The meeting resumed at 10:38am.*

7. DRAW DOWN OF E.E. VAILE TRUST FUNDS

Catherine Hammond introduced the paper, noting that Vaile Trust funding needs to be drawn down to satisfy the terms of the Will, and the intention is to fund the establishment of a permanent archaeological position called the Vaile Conservator. Board members discussed the need to ensure that sufficient funds remain in the trust to pay for this position as well as the already committed \$85,000 p.a., plus their desire to see the growth of protected income out of the capital. It was therefore decided to reduce the term of approved funding for the Vaile Conservator position to three years and review at the conclusion of that term.

Resolution TB2025/01

MOVED by Ben Palmer, seconded by Paul Spoonley

That the Trust Board:

- 1. approves the drawdown of up to \$105,000 per annum from the E.E. Vaile Trust funds to fund the salary and on-costs of an Archaeology Conservator for three years. (This is in addition to \$85,000 per annum already approved by the Trust Board.)**
- 2. reviews the support given to the role from the Vaile Trust funds near the end of the 3-year funding period in FY 2027/28. The Museum will also outline and present to the Board other sources of funding for the role at this point.**

CARRIED

8. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT (OPEN SESSION)

The Chief Executive noted the busy start to the year but the underperformance of the Bloodsuckers exhibition which is tracking at only 50% of forecast visitation. Additional promotion activities are in train to lift visitation for the remainder of the run of the exhibition. Members discussed the repatriation report and the nature and sources of the human remains listed. There was discussion on opportunities for sector collaboration across Auckland, with the Chief Executive noting work is progressing on matters such as shared metrics / KPIs. Members also discussed with the Chief Executive the Science Gallery initiative; the Chief Executive has been involved in early discussions with AUT.

The Trust Board received the report.

Chairperson Rachael Tuwhangai vacated the chair so that Penny Hulse, Chair of the Planning Committee, could chair the meeting for Item 9.

9. PUBLIC HEARING AND DECISION-MAKING ON THE DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2025/26

Resolution TB 2025/02

**MOVED by Penny Hulse, seconded by Paul Spoonley
That the Trust Board accepts the late submission by Mr Bill Rayner**

CARRIED

The Trust Board heard oral submissions from Mr Bill Rayner (Grey Power North Shore) and Ms Marietta Coney.

Mr Rayner stressed the need for the Museum to get back to its roots as the fundamental cultural institution of Auckland, and for the Board to look at broadening the approach and activities of the Museum and the Institute. He discussed the concept of a Museum for Auckland and asked the Board to consider:

- linking with smaller museums that need support, with Auckland Museum being the lead institution across Auckland;
- working with ageing communities;
- in collaboration with other cultural organisations, rotating exhibitions through satellite facilities in Auckland's metropolitan centres;
- working with Pacific Island countries to support their museums;
- developing an Auckland Heritage Advisory Group to record local and oral histories;
- looking at how Auckland can record the history of science and industry.

Ms Coney asked the Museum to develop a permanent exhibition on the art, culture, beliefs, and lives of Moriori people. She stated that every other Pacific Island culture is displayed in the Museum, but nothing about the Moriori people is displayed. She has been told that the Museum has Moriori artefacts in the collection but not on display.

Resolution TB 2025/03

**MOVED by Penny Hulse, seconded by Paul Spoonley
That the Trust Board:**

- 1. thanks submitters for their submissions and delegates to the Chief Executive the responsibility for formally responding to each submitter;**
- 2. approves narrative amendments to the Draft Annual Plan as agreed at the meeting;**
- 3. approves the unchanged financial statements to the Draft Annual Plan;**
- 4. as the per the Museum's three-year funding agreement with Auckland Council:**
 - i) notes that the funding agreed with Auckland Council for the year 2025/26 is \$34.81m; and**
 - ii) agrees not to strike a levy against Auckland Council for the 2025/26 year.**
- 5. delegates to the Chair of the Trust Board and the Chair of the Planning Committee together the authority to approve minor changes to the Draft Annual Plan FY25/26 in**

line with the decisions made at this meeting and, subject to their approval, agrees to refer the draft annual plan to Auckland Council;

6. notes that the Museum will present to a meeting of the Governing Body of Auckland Council in March or April a half-year performance update for the current financial year and an overview of the 2025/26 DAP and the year ahead.

CARRIED

Penny Hulse vacated the chair and Rachael Tuwhangai resumed as chairperson of the meeting.

10. MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987

Resolution TB 2025/04

MOVED by Rachael Tuwhangai, seconded by Martin Mariassouce

That the Trust Board agrees to exclude the public from the following proceedings of this meeting:

Item 11 Confidential: Confirmation of minutes

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.

Item 12 Confidential: Revised Budget for Natural Environment Galleries

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.	s7(2)(b)(ii) – The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information which would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it. s7(2)(i) – To enable the Museum to carry on, without prejudice or advantage, negotiations.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.

Item 13 Confidential: Audit and Risk Committee Report

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution

The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.	s7(2)(b)(ii) – The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information which would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
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Item 14 Confidential: Executive and Governance Committee Report

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.

Item 15 Confidential: Centenary Project – Progress Report, Governance Options, and Approval of Additional Storage Expenditure

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.	s7(2)(i) – To enable the Museum to carry on, without prejudice or advantage, negotiations.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.

Item 16 Confidential: Chief Executive’s Report (Closed session)

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.

CARRIED

Items 11 – 16 were held in closed session by resolution of the Trust Board in accordance with the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987*.

RESUMPTION OF OPEN SESSION AND RESTATEMENTS

Resolution TB 2025/10

MOVED by Penny Hulse, seconded by Martin Mariassouce

That the Trust Board:

- 1. agrees that decisions, minutes, agenda items and all attachments of items considered in closed session remain confidential until the need for confidentiality no longer exists.**
- 2. resumes the Open session of the meeting and readmits the public.**

CARRIED

David Williams left the meeting at 2:39pm.

17. HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORTS TO 31 JANUARY 2025

The Chief executive presented the reports.

Resolution TB 2025/11

MOVED by Martin Mariassouce, seconded by Melissa Firth

That the Trust Board receive the reports.

CARRIED

18. ADOPTION OF MEETING SCHEDULE, IMPROVEMENTS AND WORKPLAN FOR 2025

Members noted the intention to introduce improvements to meeting agendas and processes as set out in the report and gave their general agreement. Feedback was given on the forward work programme, which will be incorporated into a revised version. (This included scheduling regular workshop sessions, including a Trust Board workshop session on AI, and looking to schedule an annual strategic session after a Board meeting this year.)

Resolution TB 2025/12

MOVED by Rachael Tuwhangai, seconded by Penny Hulse

That the Trust Board:

- 1. adopts the schedule of Board and Committee meeting days as set out in the report.**
- 2. authorises the Trust Board Chair to amend the schedule of meetings for 2025 if required, following consultation with Trust Board members.**
- 3. notes the forward work programme.**

CARRIED

19. MEETING CLOSE

The Chairperson thanked members for their attention to business and declared the meeting closed at 3:18pm.