(Translation)

Islands District Council Minutes of Meeting of the Community Affairs, Culture and Recreation Committee

Date: 5 July 2021 (Monday)

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Venue: Islands District Council Conference Room

Present

Mr WONG Man-hon, MH (Chairman)

Ms LAU Shun-ting (Vice-Chairman)

Mr YU Hon-kwan, Randy, MH, JP

Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS, MH

Mr YUNG Chi-ming, BBS, MH

Mr CHAN Lin-wai, MH

Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken

Mr HO Chun-fai

Mr HO Siu-kei

Ms WONG Chau-ping

Ms TSANG Sau-ho, Josephine

Ms YUNG Wing-sheung, Amy

Mr KWOK Ping, Eric

Mr TSUI Sang-hung, Sammy

Mr FONG Lung-fei

Mr LEE Ka-ho

Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho

Attendance by Invitation

Mr TSUI Ip, Edmond Liaison Officer (Peng Chau/Discovery Bay)2,

Islands District Office

In Attendance

Mr LI Ho, Thomas Assistant District Officer (Islands)1,

Islands District Office

Ms CHOW Yuen-on, Alice Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support)

Islands, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms CHU Po-yee, Polly Senior Librarian (Islands),

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms WONG Fan-ni, Jasmine Senior Manager (New Territories South) Promotion,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr WONG Kin-sun Senior Community Relations Officer (Hong Kong

West/Islands),

Independent Commission Against Corruption

Ms KWAN Wai-yin, Katy Senior School Development Officer (Islands)2,

Education Bureau

Mr WONG Chi-leung Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western/

Southern/Islands)2, Social Welfare Department

Secretary

Mr YEUNG Chiu-cheong, Mark Executive Officer (District Council)1,

Islands District Office

Absent

Mr WONG Chun-yeung

Welcoming Remarks

<u>The Chairman</u> welcomed representatives of government departments, organisations and Members to the meeting and introduced Ms KWAN Wai-yin, Katy, Senior School Development Officer (Islands)2, Education Bureau who stood in for Ms LAM Fong-shing, Florence.

- 2. Members noted Ms YUEN Wai-kwan, Mr LAM Kit-sing and Ms CHOI Kwok-por were absent with apologies.
- I. <u>Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 3.5.2021</u>
 - 3. <u>The Chairman</u> said that amendments from government departments and organisations had been incorporated into the above minutes of meeting and were sent to Members for perusal before the meeting.
 - 4. Members made no further amendments and the minutes of the above meeting was confirmed unanimously.
- II. <u>2021 Islands District Council National Day Reception</u> (Paper CACRC 22/2021)
 - 5. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Mr Edmond TSUI, Liaison Officer (Peng Chau/Discovery Bay)2, Islands District Office to present the paper at the meeting.

- 6. <u>Mr Edmond TSUI</u> briefly presented the paper.
- 7. Mr Eric KWOK said that in the past there were people from ethnic minority groups who wanted to take part in the reception, and hoped that they could be invited to attend this year.
- 8. <u>Mr Edmond TSUI</u> said that last year's invitation list included the representatives of ethnic minority groups. If Mr Eric KWOK and other Members had proposals on the invitation of new ethnic minority groups, they could provide relevant information after the meeting so that the new groups could be added to the invitation list.
- 9. Members voted by a show of hands to support the 2021 Islands District Council National Day Reception and the funding of \$70,000 to Islands District Council for organising the activities listed in the paper. The result of the vote was 14 votes in support, 2 against and 1 abstention. The proposal was adopted.

(Members in support included: Mr WONG Man-hon, the Chairman; Ms LAU Shunting, the Vice-chairman; Mr Randy YU, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr Ken WONG, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Ms Josephine TSANG, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr Sammy TSUI and Mr FONG Lung-fei. Ms Amy YUNG and Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho objected and Mr LEE Ka-ho abstained.)

III. Question on the Working Family Allowance Scheme (Paper CACRC 23/2021)

- 10. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the written reply of the Working Family Allowance Office was sent to Members for information before the meeting.
- 11. <u>Mr FONG Lung-fei</u> briefly presented the question.
- 12. Members raised no other issues for discussion.

IV. Reports by Working Groups

(i) CACRC Vetting Group

13. The Chairman said that at the meeting of the Vetting Group on 23 June this year, 42 community involvement project funding applications for activities to be held from September to October this year were processed. The relevant proposals would be circulated to the Committee for approval. At the same time, the recommendation to the Occupational Safety and Health Bureau for the application by Hong Kong Federation of Education Workers Wong Cho Bau School for subsidy for promoting

occupational safety and health activities in 2021-22 was endorsed by the Vetting Group.

14. The three activity evaluation reports were tabled at the meeting for Members' reference and information.

(ii) CACRC Activities Working Group

- 15. Report of the working group was tabled at the meeting for Members' reference.
- 16. Members voted on the approval of the working group report by a show of hands. The result was 15 votes in support and 1 abstention. The report was approved.

(Members in support included: Mr WONG Man-hon, the Chairman; Ms LAU Shunting, the Vice-chairman; Mr Randy YU, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr Ken WONG, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Ms Josephine TSANG, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr Sammy TSUI, Mr FONG Lung-fei and Mr LEE Ka-ho. Ms Amy YUNG abstained.)

(Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho left the meeting temporarily.)

V. Reports on the work of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in Islands District

- (i) <u>Cultural Activities</u> (Paper CACRC 19/2021)
- 17. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms Jasmine WONG, Senior Manager (New Territories South) Promotion of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) to present the paper at the meeting.
- 18. <u>Ms Jasmine WONG</u> briefly presented the paper and added that the *Summertime* showcase of the 18dART-Community Arts Scheme attached in Annex I would be held at 4 p.m. on 21 August this year. Members were welcome to invite participation of the general public.
- (ii) Extension Activities held in Public Libraries (Paper CACRC 20/2021)
- 19. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms Polly CHU, Senior Librarian (Islands) of LCSD to present the paper at the meeting.
- 20. <u>Ms Polly CHU</u> briefly presented the paper and no follow-up questions were raised by Members.
- (iii) Sports and Recreational Activities

(Paper CACRC 21/2021)

- 21. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms Alice CHOW, Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Islands of LCSD to present the paper at the meeting.
- 22. <u>Ms Alice CHOW</u> briefly presented the paper.
- 23. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:
 - (a) As listed in Appendix A of the Paper CACRC 19/2021, the opening performance of "Defying Gravity" would be held at the Discovery Bay Community Hall on 4 July this year. However, he only received its posters from LCSD at the end of June and an invitation to the performance was received on 2 July via the email. He opined that only very short notice was given and the arrangements were inappropriate. Nevertheless, he still assisted in the publicity work.
 - (b) He agreed to the promotion of arts development in Tung Chung to enhance self-cultivation of the youth in the district. However, Mr FONG Lung-fei and he were not informed of the details in respect of the distribution of tickets, so it was difficult for them to assist in the publicity.
 - (c) It was learnt that the Department would subsidise "The Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council" to organise workshops on famous Broadway musical songs for the ethnic minority groups. The workshops would be launched on 12 July. He viewed that insufficient preparations were made by the Department and the information about the activities should be provided to Members in advance, so that they could assist in the publicity.
- Mr LEE Ka-ho had reservations on the organisation of activities during the epidemic. He learnt that the Islands District had resumed the organisation of some activities. Preventive measures could of course be taken for dancing and ball games but people would not wear masks during swimming, and therefore it was hard to prevent the spread of the disease. He enquired the Department what preventive measures could be taken.
- 25. <u>Ms Jasmine WONG</u> made a consolidated response as follows:
 - (a) As for the opening performance of "Defying Gravity", the Department despatched information about the activities to Members on about 20 June by email and the physical publicity materials were sent to Members' offices. The email of 2 July just served as a warm reminder, hoping that Members would invite the public to take part in the activities. She apologised for the unsatisfactory arrangements and promised to inform Members as early as possible for the upcoming

activities. She thanked Members for their assistance in the publicity.

(b) As for arrangements for the distribution of tickets, there would be no physical tickets this year and members of the public interested in the activity could scan the QR Code for their tickets. She noted Members' views and would review on the future arrangements.

(Post-meeting note of LCSD: LCSD sent information about the opening performance to Members by email on 18 June (including links for the collection of tickets)).

- Ms Alice CHOW said that the number of participants of the swimming classes would be trimmed down to maintain distancing among swimmers. In addition, swimmers had to measure their body temperature before entry to swimming pools and they also needed to wear a mask when queuing up. Swimmers with symptoms such as fever would not be allowed to enter the swimming pools. Shower heads not within individual cubicles would operate in the alternate mode to ensure appropriate distancing among swimmers, and limited the number of persons in the spectator stand of the original capacity.
- 27. Mr Randy YU considered that the arrangements for the "Islands Community Arts Scheme" were comprehensive and there were various programmes for Tung Chung and Discovery Bay. However the areas in the Islands Districts were dispersed, he enquired the Department whether activities would be held in the densely populated Cheung Chau, Lamma Island, Peng Chau and South Lantau apart from the above two districts. He understood that not every island was suitable for conducting the relevant activities as some places might fail to meet the venue requirements. According to the paper, the venues for the programmes in September and October this year were to be determined. He asked whether arrangements would be made for the programmes to be held in other areas such as Cheung Chau.
- Ms Amy YUNG said that according to the Deed of Mutual Covenant, the owners' committee was required to convene a meeting every year. However, she learnt from the management office that every time it made an application for the community hall for the meeting, it was rejected by the Home Affairs Department (HAD). There were over 100 participants for the activities held by LCSD at the community hall. Therefore, she doubted that the authorities concerned had double standards. She emphasised she had no objection to the organisation of activities by the LCSD, but she hoped that the HAD would review the decision to refuse the loaning of the community hall to the owners' committee for holding its annual general meeting.
- 29. <u>Ms Jasmine WONG</u> made a consolidated response as follows:
 - (a) She understood that the areas in the Islands Districts were dispersed. The "Islands Community Arts Scheme", apart from "Defying Gravity", also included other performances. The Department had always hoped to bring quality performances to the residents of Cheung Chau, Lamma

Island and Peng Chau. However, due to the epidemic, no outdoor activities could be held for the time being. The Department would monitor the development of the epidemic and if circumstances permitted, priority would be given to hold activities on those islands to meet the needs of the community in all districts.

- (b) If the epidemic remained rampant in October this year and outdoor venues were not suitable, activities would be held in community halls only. It was mentioned in Appendix A that there were preliminary thoughts to hold the activities at the community halls in Tung Chung and Discovery Bay in October, but their details had yet to be confirmed. The department would make further arrangements according to the development of the epidemic.
- 30. <u>Ms Alice CHOW</u> said that regarding the recreational activities to be held at the Discovery Bay Community Hall, the Department would trim down the number of participants in accordance with the provisions of the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition of Group Gathering) Regulation. There would be four people in a group and social distancing between each group would be at least 1.5 metre.
- 31. Mr Randy YU opined that in the Department's reply it was assumed that if the activities were to be held in Cheung Chau, Peng Chau or South Lantau, they would be held outdoors. However it was mentioned in Appendix C that the Department had hired the Cheung Chau Kwok Man School for its activities. As there were a hall and classrooms in the school, it was not infeasible to hold workshops or performances on the above-mentioned islands, and there was no need to hold them outdoors after the epidemic subsided. He viewed that there was discrepancy between the Department's reply and what was stated in the paper. He hoped the Department would respond to this.

32. <u>Mr FONG Lung-fei</u> expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He attended the opening performance of Defying Gravity and found the performance was comparable to that of the Academy for Performing Arts, but there was still room for improvement in its light effect. Adequate preventive measures against the epidemic were taken during the activity and appropriate distancing was maintained among seats.
- (b) He suggested that the Department should consider arranging the Defying Gravity to be performed in different districts, and the effect of outdoor performance would also be good.
- (c) He suggested allocating more resources to the activities, incorporating local elements into the dances and songs, and including messages on public health, observance of traffic regulations, etc. into the activities in various districts of the outlying islands to enhance the educational elements.

- 33. <u>Ms Jasmine WONG</u> made a consolidated response as follows:
 - (a) The other performing activities by the LCSD listed in Annex C were targeted at students and were therefore conducted in schools. The reason why the musical Defying Gravity was not arranged in school was that the target audience was the residents of the outlying islands, not just the students of individual schools. Also, there were time restrictions on activities to be held in schools, such as only after school hours and on holidays. The Department found it hard to tie in with them. Defying Gravity would hold mid-section performance and she would reflect the views of Members and try to arrange the performance on other islands as far as possible.
 - (b) She thanked Members for participating at the opening performance. As for the views on the improvement of the light effect and the incorporation of local and educational elements, she would reflect them to the programme section for the possible inclusion of local characteristics. The Department thanked Members for their views on publicity and reiterated that Members would be informed of the new programmes well in advance.
- 34. <u>Mr FONG Lung-fei</u> said that many participants wanted to enroll in the workshops after attending the performance but many activities were fully enrolled. He proposed that the Department should increase the number of participants.
- 35. <u>Ms Jasmine WONG</u> said she would reflect the views to the programme section to review if the number of participants could be increased. She would follow up the matter with Mr FONG after the meeting.

VI. Any Other Business

36. No other business was raised by Members.

VII. <u>Date of Next Meeting</u>

37. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m. The next meeting would be held at 10:30 a.m. on 20 September 2021 (Monday).