



KARIBIB TOWN COUNCIL STREET NAMING POLICY



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POLICY

ON NAMING AND RENAMING OF STREETS IN KARIBIB

RESOLVED

The Street Naming Policy and Processes as set out hereunder is approved as principle guidelines and process for naming and renaming streets/places in Karibib.

Policy objectives

Naming of new streets/places

Criteria for name selection

- 1 In accordance with **Council Resolution No: CM/10/08/2017/0424** streets should, as a general principle, be named after people, places, events and things related primarily to Karibib and its citizens and secondly to Namibia at large. In addition to the guidelines, new street names, proposed names should meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - To commemorate noteworthy persons associated with Karibib, Namibia and international;
 - To commemorate local history, places, events or culture;
 - To promote names with powerful positive meanings for people, so as to provide opportunities to promote Community harmony;
 - To recognise native wildlife, flora, fauna or natural features related to the community and Karibib;
 - To recognise communities which contribute to the ethno-racial diversity of Karibib;
 - To strengthen community identity;

- To use names that can serve as locational tools and navigational aids for a predictable, manageable, and orderly environment (names are the beginnings of journeys or destination); and
 - To use names that creates a sense of place.
- 2 Preference shall be given to names of local area or historical significance.
 - 3 Names of living persons should only be used in exceptional circumstances such as to celebrate Karibib's rich heritage of struggle for a democratic, non-racial society and to acknowledge the contribution that many of the town's residents have made to the development of the town.
 - 4 Only a person's first name and surname should be used as a street name unless additional identification is necessary to prevent duplication with an existing street name in Karibib.
 - 5 Names should be grouped in categories for use in the same areas; new developments can accommodate new trends in the naming of streets.

Names to be avoided

- 1 There shall preferably be no duplication of a name within Karibib.
- 2 Names for public streets that could be construed as commercial advertising.
- 3 Cumbersome, corrupted or poorly modified names, discriminatory or derogatory names from the point of view of race, sex, colour, creed, political affiliation or other social factors shall be avoided.
- 4 The replication of former street names should be discouraged because of the confusion it causes in property records management.
- 5 Names of living people are to be excluded, including present councillors or politicians, except when the age of the proposed persons reach or exceed 70 years.

The Council will consider the following when renaming the town's streets:

- The historical reasons for the original name;
- The public profile or familiarity of the street's original name;
- The cost associated with changing the street's name; that is, the cost of replacing street and traffic signs;
- The relevance of the proposed new name to the street's main user group; and
- The potential confusion created for emergency and other municipal services, commercial delivery services, and the travelling public.

Renaming of existing streets/places

Recognition of persons

Renaming proposals must recognise persons who, in their lifetime demonstrated outstanding contributions to the town and the country at large. The following criteria must be met:

- Persons nominated dead or alive should have made a substantial contribution directly to Karibib or Namibia at large;
- The person must have given extensive or distinguished service to the community that goes beyond any doubt to Council;
- The service should be easily recognisable as having a direct benefit to the town or Namibia at large and should be such that it has produced substantial benefit to the well-being of the citizens of the country; and
- Nominees in the case of a Karibib resident should have lived within the town of Karibib for a significant number of years (significant usually means at least 15 years) and have had a long and close association and identification with the town.

Current streets that should not be renamed

The renaming of streets which have the following characteristics is discouraged, i.e. streets that:

- Have a name that reflects a positive historical event within the town of Karibib ;
- Have a name that has specific relevance to the people of Namibia; and
- Are already renamed after a person associated with Karibib and people of Karibib.

Process

1 Formation of the Street Naming Committee

- 1.1 In order to assist and advise Council in taking decisions on naming and renaming, a committee is established.
- 1.2 This committee consists of two councillors and five people from the public with expertise or experience in one or more of the following: town planning, politics, history, environment, business, education, culture, linguistics, land survey, reconciliation and religion.
- 1.3 Eligibility for membership of a member of the public on the panel shall be by public nomination or Council nomination.
- 1.4 Nomination shall include the agreement or permission of the nominee, full particulars of the nominee including contact details, relevant experience and qualifications and full motivation by the nominator (s).
- 1.5 Nominations shall be reviewed by the Department/Division of Planning and be submitted to the Committee for consideration.

- 1.6 The Mayor shall convene the first Committee meeting as Chairperson of the Committee but a member of the council serving in the Committee may also be appointed to serve as Chairperson.
- 1.7 All submissions with regard to names or renaming are submitted to the chairperson, who then table it to the Committee and the Committee recommends to Council for final approval
- 1.8 The Committee shall hold office contemporaneous with the term of Council.
- 1.9 The members of the Committee shall not receive remuneration.

2 Process by which naming or renaming shall be done

- 2.1 Any person, Community or organisation in the geographical area of Karibib shall be entitled to propose the naming of new streets or renaming of an existing street in accordance with the policies and procedures accepted by Council.
- 2.2 Application for the naming or renaming of streets/places shall be in writing under the name of the person making the proposal, and include details of the affected street, proposed new name, background of the name to be eliminated, and fully motivated reasons which shall include research references, evidence of professional or community support.
- 2.3 Proposals may include the results of referenda or similar consultation within communities by way of evidence of support or opposition but which Council shall not consider as defining criteria.
- 2.4 Proposals will be received by the Chief Executive Officer, and forwarded to the Department/Division Planning for report and preparation of a submission to the Committee.
- 2.5 The processing shall be strictly according to the proposed procedures provided in the Policy.
- 2.6 Proposals will be considered by the Street Naming Committee who will make recommendation to Council.
- 2.7 The Full Council of the Karibib will take the final decision.

Financial implications

None

GUIDE FOR PROPOSING NEW STREET NAMES

Every Township Developer or property owner who, by way of a subdivision, creates new streets are required to submit street names to Karibib Town Council for consideration. The proposals for street names must be submitted simultaneously with the application for subdivision. Subdivision applications without street names may delay the processing of the application.

The following guidelines have been approved for proposing new street names:

1. Street names should preferably be kept short.
2. Names of people, places or objects may be used.
3. Names can be in any language and should be easily pronounceable by Namibian citizens.
4. Information on the meaning of a name or the identity of a personal name must be supplied for the records, for instance, the names of notable people from the past must be accompanied by a brief explanation of their activities.
5. Names of the same object but in different languages can occur but are preferably to be avoided.
6. Names with similar sounds but different spelling cause confusion and should therefore be avoided.
7. When personal names are used, the preferred form is to use only the surname, for instance, "Smith Street"; otherwise the full name should be used, for example "Joan Harrison Street". A third alternative, which allows names to be kept in short form, is to use initials and surname, for example, "HG Veii Street".
8. The naming of streets after deceased persons should be done according to the following:
 - 8.1 The person must have popular support.
 - 8.2 The person is credited with outstanding achievement, for example, in the areas of cultural, educational, social, political or economic development.
 - 8.3 The person should have greatly contributed towards promoting a positive image of Namibia.
9. The renaming of streets after living persons may only be done in cases of exceptional merit.
10. Names with Karibib connections are preferred wherever possible.

11. Names should be grouped in categories for use in the same areas. New developments can accommodate new trends in the naming of streets.
12. First names without reference to any particular person may be used.

These same guidelines should be used where, in exceptional circumstances, it is proposed to rename an existing street.

Lesley Grant Goreseb
Chief Executive Officer