

New Zealand Historical Association
Annual General Meeting'
12:30pm 22 November 2013, St David's Lecture Theatre, University of Otago

Present: Tom Brooking (President) Barbara Brookes (Secretary), John Stenhouse (Treasurer), Tony Ballantyne (Committee)

Members: Chris can der Krogt, Marguerite Hill, Geoff Watson, Sarah Murray, Hugh Morrison, Greg Ryan, Rebecca Lenihan, Susann Liebich, Rachel Patrick, Cybèle Locke, Peter Field, Lyndon Fraser, Katie Pickles, Jim McAlloon, Malcolm Prentis, Felicity Barnes, Debbie Dunsford, David Verran, Charlotte Macdonald, Michael Belgrave, Peter Lineham, Aroha Harris, Leanne Tamaki, Basil Keane, Peter Meihana, Angela McCarthy, Raewyn Dalziel

1. Apologies

Kerry Taylor, David Green, Linda Bryder, Cathy Coleborne, James Beattie, Nepia Mahuka.

2. Minutes of 13 November 2012 AGM

Moved by Tom Brooking, Seconded by Charlotte Macdonald, that Minutes of the Previous AGM, 13 November 2012, be accepted, Carried.

3. President's Report

Tom Brooking spoke to his report. Acceptance of the report moved by John Stenhouse, seconded Barbara Brookes, carried.

4. Treasurer's Report

John Stenhouse spoke to his report, including his recommendation that the NZHA employ assistance 'to process information and finances related to NZHA membership and conferences'. This suggestion arises from the difficulty of keeping good records with a constant rotation of the NZHA Executive.

Jim McAlloon noted that acceptance of the Treasurer's Report should not include agreement with the suggestion that Membership of the Association should be required for Conference presenters. With that caveat, John Stenhouse moved, and Geoff Watson seconded, acceptance of the Treasurer's Report, Carried.

Discussion:

Suggested the incoming Executive should discuss combining the membership fee with conference registration which happens elsewhere and provides an incentive to join. Once member received the Newsletter a part of their membership but the Blog is open to all free of charge. The query was raised as to whether accounting firms that benefit from university business might perform the work of maintaining the accounts pro bono.

John Stenhouse explained, in answer to a question about payment of the Welfare History Workshop, how that money had come to be part of the NZHA accounts.

A PHANZA representative suggested how that association had found accountancy and auditing services very helpful.

Charlotte Macdonald had suggested via email that the NZHA might liaise with ARANZ which has contracted a person to run their secretariat.

5. NZHTA/NZHA Young Historians' Award

Tom Brooking proposed a vote of thanks for all the teachers involved and to Michael Belgrave for judging the award. Michael Belgrave noted the need to promote the Young Historians' Award to increase the level of interest amongst schools. The incoming Executive might seek a discussion with the NZHTA to promote interest,

6. Digitalisation Award

Charlotte Macdonald explained the background to the Digitalisation Award which had been seen as a way to further the aims of the Association. Raewyn Dalziel noted the development of a National Digital Strategy and suggested that the Association should decide how to participate once this strategy had been developed.

7. Wi Maihi Te Rangikaheke Memorial Lecture

The President expressed the thanks of the Association to Michael Stevens and the people of the Ōtākou marae for providing the setting for this lecture by Atholl Anderson.

Discussion ensued as to the protocol for the selection of the lecturer. Charlotte Macdonald proposed that 'the lecturer be selected through negotiations between the NZHA Executive, Te Pouhere Korero and consultation with Mana Whenua,' seconded by Jim McAloon. Carried.

8. Governance of the NZHA

The Executive sent out a discussion paper to all members canvassing opinions on governance issues. Cathy Coleborne, from Waikato University, who could not be present, asked that the following be tabled:

'I am really opposed to all options and am not sure why a further idea was not canvassed - that the NZHA runs like the AHA in Australia, with an elected body comprised of members from across the country, who attend the AGM and conferences, and who hold office for a period of time between 3 or so years? This is much more equitable than having a 'larger' department do it - it means that people in smaller departments and programmes will not gain experience or have much access to the executive and I think this is a mistake. (I also have experience as President of the ANZLHS, which runs like the AHA but with one central bank account; and am part of the ANZSHM as well as others - all of which do the same! so this proposal seems to me at odds - but others may have different models.)'

Jim McAloon spoke against a Wellington-based Executive. Margaret Tennant argued in favour of a National Executive with some administrative support and a moving Conference Committee.

Felicity Barnes pointed out that there is a difference between administration of the association and governance and that the

administrative decision to contract out work could be made apart from any wider governance decision.

There appeared to be consensus that the incoming Executive should pursue the option of subcontracting membership list and subscription management to central administrator, perhaps sharing the services that ARANZ is using.

Raewyn Dalziel raised the question of proper notice for any Amendments to the Constitution which required 30 days notice.

After discussion of alternative proposals, it was decided that the issue of governance should be taken up by the Council to bring forth any amendments to the Constitution to the next AGM.

9. Transition to Canterbury

The following Office Holders were elected unopposed:

Katie Pickles, President

Joana Cobley, Secretary

Peter Field, Treasurer

James Smithies, Webmaster

Lyndon Fraser, Executive member

10. Membership of Council

The following Council Members were confirmed:

Felicity Barnes, University of Auckland

Marguerite Hill, PHANZA

Geoff Watson, Massey University

Tony Ballantyne, University of Otago

Nepia Mahuka, Waikato University

Charlotte Macdonald, Victoria University of Wellington.

11. Community Archive

Charlotte Macdonald suggested that the Association express its support for the Community Archive. The Otago Executive will take action on this matter.

12. Open Access

Charlotte Macdonald suggested that the incoming Executive take up the question of Open Access.

13. Vote of Thanks

To Margaret Tennant for her ongoing work on behalf of the Association on the Council of the Royal Society.

To Charlotte Macdonald for her vigilance on behalf of the Association.

Meeting closed at 2pm.