

## Minutes

### Annual General Meeting of the Moths and Butterflies of NZ Trust held on Saturday, 16 March, 2024 at 2pm, on-line

#### **Present**

Maurice Mehlhopt (Chair), Jacqui Knight (Secretary), Carol Stensness (Treasurer), Peter Akeroyd, Meriel Astrella, Andy Barker, Mark Bateman, Margaret Newcombe, Angela Moon-Jones, Aashna Rahi, Heather Shingles, Wendy Simpson, Hugh Smith, Zenobia Southcombe, Martin Visser, Chrissie Ward and Rachel Thompson (presenter).

#### **Apologies**

These were received from Claire Bibby, Andrea Dorn, Gillian Eadie, Lala Frazer, Faye Gill, Robert Jones, Lex Marshall and Tony Staufer. It was MOVED Carol Stensness SECONDED Zenobia Southcombe that these be accepted.

CARRIED

#### **AGM Minutes 2023**

The minutes had been circulated and posted online. It was MOVED Martin Visser SECONDED Chrissie Ward that they be received and accepted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

#### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes from 2023.

#### **Trustees' Report**

This had been posted online on the website. It was MOVED Martin Visser SECONDED Chrissie Ward that this be accepted.

CARRIED

#### **Accounts for 2022-23**

The Financial Report (Performance Report) had been on the website for some months. As per the changes to the rules which was made in 2023, the accounts were no longer being audited.

It was MOVED Meriel Astrella SECONDED Mark Bateman that the accounts be accepted. CARRIED

Martin Visser added that it was good to see the website listed as an asset in the organisation's books.

#### **Budget for 2024-25**

This had been posted on the website. It was MOVED Mark Bateman SECONDED Peter Akeroyd that this be accepted.

CARRIED

## **Annual Subscriptions for 2024-25**

It had not been seen as necessary to increase the subscriptions for the new year.

## **Election of Members of the Board**

According to the Trust Deed, the two longest serving trustees will retire, that is Mark Bateman and Hugh Smith. They had both expressed a willingness to be re-elected. It was MOVED Jacqui Knight SECONDED Meriel Astrella that they be reappointed. CARRIED

## **Confirmation of Secretary**

The chairman stated that Jacqui was more than a secretary, and without her the organisation would be at a loss. It was MOVED Peter Akeroyd SECONDED Andy Barker that she be reappointed as secretary. CARRIED

## **Confirmation of Treasurer**

Maurice added that Carol does a sterling job in the background, always there, and an absolute treasure and invaluable to Jacqui. It was MOVED Jacqui Knight SECONDED Martin Visser that she be reappointed. CARRIED

## **Confirmation of Legal Advisor**

The trustees not had any need to use the services of our legal advisor over the past year, but it is always useful to have someone in our team. Maurice mentioned that Richard Wood was an old colleague of his, and that he was always willing and able to advise us should we require his service. He MOVED that he be reappointed as our legal advisor. This was SECONDED by Martin Visser. CARRIED

## **Proposed Change to Trust Deed**

There were two reasons why the trustees recommended the removal of the need for a budget to be signed off by the members at the AGM.

Maurice explained that a budget helps create financial stability, but it is a tool only used by the trustees and allows them to make much more effective planning if it is closer to the start of a new financial year.

However, because the AGM is held in March but our financial year begins on 1 July (when the new budget comes into effect). Accordingly it has always been difficult preparing the budget in February when there were still over five months income and expenses to be considered.

As members have never had any input into the budget the trustees MOVED that the Trust Deed be changed to remove the words from clause 13.2 b “and a budgeted estimate of Income and Expenditure for the current year;”

This was SECONDED by Peter Akeroyd.

CARRIED

## **General Business**

Peter Akeroyd had recently bought a painting of a monarch butterfly by a talented emerging artist. His offer for the MBNZT to sell it to raise funds was accepted with gratitude. Peter advised that he would be in touch with Jacqui with a photograph of the work.

There was no other general business.

## **Vote of Thanks**

In closing the meeting Maurice thanked our heroes who continued to support us with donations and by sponsoring our projects. Maurice included the importance of our financial members, and those who were helping the MBNZT achieve its aims.

He also mentioned Jacqui's award, and that this reflected on those who contributed to the MBNZT and its aims, people like Carol and Angela Moon-Jones, driver of The Butterfly Discovery Project, and Aashna Rahi who had managed the meeting room for the AGM.

There being no other further business he closed the meeting at 2.17pm and introduced Rachel Thompson, Lead Environmental Education Coordinator for Kids Greening Taupō shared her presentation covering the work of their organisation.

The meeting closed at 3pm with a vote of thanks to Rachel and congratulations on the excellent work they were doing around Lake Taupō.