

NORTHERN AUCKLAND FREE KINDERGARTEN ASSOCIATION INC.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR 2021 HELD ON 14th APRIL 2021 KAITIAKI KINDERGARTENS SUPPORT OFFICE AND VIA ZOOM

Meeting Commenced: 7.32 pm.

Chairperson: Paul Geden

1.0, 2.0 MIHI AND WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS & 2.0 CALL TO ORDER

Board Members Present

Paul Geden, Nicole Thompson, Alexia Mesnage, Grant Mitcheson, John Lewis and Tui Skelton (Teachers Representative)

Life Members Present

Grant Mitcheson, Robbie Pickford, Mel Jack

Staff Present

Bram Kukler, Alison Baxter, Deborah Wansbrough, Angela Booth, Tracey North, Dianne Williams,

Amanda Tavita, Angela Fox, Anna Biggelaar, Annie Forbes, Brodie Hirst, Charlotte Brown, Chris Nicol, Debra Oneroa, Ga Hye Ko, Gloria Sun, Jane Clark, Jenny Boyle, Jo Holmes, Lauren Loader, Leanne Kenwright, Margie Divitt, Natalie Norwood, Sarah Garrod, Shar Caitcheon, Stacey Sainty, Teresa Kirk, Trudi Morgan, Vanessa Thompson, Vivi Wilcock, Wendy Simpson

Members Present

Afke Bath, Charlotte Lee, Dominique Booyesen, Joanne Nonweller, Lesley Anderson, Liz Geden, Marissa Baxter, Phillip Fox, Shaun & Kaz Kingi, Vic Everett, Zoie Burgess, Don Mackintosh, Felicity Bakx, Hannah Meinhold, Holly Pointon, Ivor Peksa, Monica Davey, Penny Coull, Rachel Pearce, Zoe Pullman, Hendrik Thomas

External People Present

Hendrik Gooson (RSM Hayes Audit)

The Vice Chairperson delivered the Karakia.

The Chairperson introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the meeting. All board members were introduced by the President.

The chairperson welcomed Bram Kukler (General Manager), and Deborah Wansbrough (Professional Practice Leader) as ex officio members of the board.

The Chairperson acknowledged the attendance of Life Members, Staff Members and Hendrick Gooson from RSM Hayes Audit (auditors).

3.0 VOTING STRENGTH ESTABLISHED

Paul Geden confirmed that we have 28 members and a number of staff present.

Paul advised that the voting strength be established at 28 members with 12 kindergartens and one early learning centre being represented.

4.0, 5.0 APOLOGIES / CONFIRM AGENDA & CALL FOR ITEMS OF GENERAL BUSINESS

APOLOGIES RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE MEETING:

Joanna Hough – Board Member, Wendy O'Brien – Professional Practice Leader

APOLOGIES RECEIVED AT THE MEETING:

None to note.

Moved that the apologies be accepted

Nicole Thompson, Vice President / Grant Mitcheson, Board

Vote

CARRIED

AGENDA

Moved that the agenda be accepted

Tui Skelton, Board/Alexia Mesnage, Board

Vote

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

None to note

6.0 AGM STANDING ORDERS

Moved that the session time be 7:30pm to 9:30pm

Tui Skelton, Board / John Lewis, Board

Vote

CARRIED

Moved that the speaking time of three minutes be established with two minutes for further discussion

Nicole Thompson, Vice President / Tui Skelton, Board

Vote

CARRIED

Moved that "Deborah Wansbrough be appointed as timekeeper"

Grant Mitcheson, Board / John Lewis, Board

Vote

CARRIED

Moved that Alison Baxter and Angela Booth be appointed as scrutineers for any vote

Alexia Mesnage, Board / Tui Skelton, Board

Vote

CARRIED

Moved that "the standing orders be adopted"

John Lewis, Board / Nicole Thompson, Vice President

Vote

CARRIED

7.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 2020 AGM

Moved that the minutes of the 2020 AGM be accepted

Alexia Mesnage, Board / Grant Mitcheson, Board

Vote

CARRIED

8.0 PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020

Paul Geden (President) presented the Annual Report for adoption.

President's report is in the Annual Report.

Moved that the President's report be accepted as read

Alexia Mesnage, Board / Tui Skelton, Board

On behalf of the Board, the President paid tribute to the Teaching Teams and acknowledged the additional effort, time and commitment from them in what has been a challenging year.

Vote

CARRIED

General Manager's Report is in the Annual Report

Moved that the General Manager's Report be accepted as read

John Lewis, Board / Nicole Thompson, Vice President

Vote

CARRIED

Financial Report is in the Annual Report

Moved that the Northern Auckland Free Kindergarten Association's Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2020 be accepted as read

Grant Mitcheson, Board / Alexia Mesnage, Board

Member Question: Why is there a donation expense listed in 2019 however not in 2020? The Finance Manager advised that this was the balance of funds remaining for Massey University Auckland ELC on settlement, being transferred back to Massey University. As per auditors, this was treated as a donation expense on the Associations P&L.

Vote

CARRIED

9.0 PRESIDENT'S UPDATE ON KINDERGARTENS AOTEAROA

The President gave a verbal update stating, since our previous AGM in September 2020 (when members carried the vote for Kaitiaki Kindergartens to transition to KA) the work has continued with 8 Associations being part of a KA Working Party holding weekly meetings. Additional to this there are Governance Group meetings, working together to continue the detail on forming Kindergartens Aotearoa. A lot of work behind the scenes has taken place and although Kaitiaki Kindergartens has voted to transition to

KA, the additional 7 sister Associations are yet to hold their membership vote to do so. This will be done in the upcoming months through their AGM's or SGM's.

Life Member's Question: Is there a risk (with the 7 sister Associations) that the proposed vote to transition to KA will not be favourable? The President responded that although there is always that risk, we are looking at sustaining the wider kindergarten movement throughout NZ and believe that our sister Associations are advocating this also. All three of the larger Associations (AKA/Whanau Manaaki/Kids First) are confident their member's vote will be to proceed with KA.

KA's AGM will be held next week to vote in the initial board and to set up the governance structure for one association.

There has been recognised support from MoE, NZEI and the Teaching Council endorsing the move to KA.

Member Question: Since last year a lot of time and energy has been focused on KA which is of concern. How do we balance investment and restructure into KA whilst also considering the short term issues that our kindergartens are facing and do we have the resources available for addressing today's issues? The General Manager responded that enrolment figures have kept stable throughout Covid Pandemic, although attendance levels have changed. We have maintained full funding during lockdowns and financially we are in a healthy position.

We have gained additional resources with the employment of an Operations Manager at our Support Office along with the now sharing of resources with AKA – from an operational perspective support is better. The collaboration work within KA and the development of a Northern Hub means we have the capacity and capability to keep Kaitiaki Kindergartens in good shape. Additional to this, we are employing external help regarding the proposal across Associations for KA.

Member Question/Comment: More effort needs to go into targeted marketing for individual kindergartens and how is this going to happen with becoming KA? Creative awareness needs to be driven by staff that are not part of the teaching teams as this is over stretching them and should be better supported from the Association. The General Manager advised that building community development is imperative and we need much stronger brand recognition for kindergartens. Kindergarten profiles are based on local teaching teams and their communities, we are here to support them in that.

10.0 PROPOSED MOTION FROM THE PRESIDENT

A Proposed Motion from the President for Kindergartens Aotearoa – extension of timeline

Motion: I move that both motions to wind up Northern Auckland Free Kindergarten Association passed at AGM 10th September 2020 be amended to read by replacing...

Moved that, in order to future proof Northern Auckland Free Kindergarten Association Incorporated t/a Kaitiaki Kindergartens, members endorse the board in winding up Northern Auckland Free Kindergarten Association Incorporated t/a Kaitiaki Kindergartens as per the current Constitution, transferring all property,

assets, and operating licences to Kindergartens Aotearoa – as one of the Foundation Members, **within 12 months of the 10th September 2020 to now read within 24 months of the 10th September 2020**

That the motion to wind up Northern Auckland Free Kindergarten Association Incorporated t/a Kaitiaki Kindergartens and as per the current Constitution, transferring all property, assets and operating licences to Kindergartens Aotearoa – as one of the Foundation Members, **within 12 months of the 10th September 2020 to now read within 24 months of the 10th September 2020** be confirmed after a majority vote of members present

Explanation

Due to unforeseen circumstances including the international pandemic Covid 19, it has been impossible to achieve the objectives of these remits in the short timeframe. By increasing the timeframe to 24 months, this will enable the Board to complete the transition to Kindergartens Aotearoa.

Paul Geden, President/ Nicole Thompson, Vice President

Voting Strength re-established at now 32 members

Those in favour of the motion 27

Those against the motion 1

Vote

CARRIED

11.0 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE

Moved that “the membership fee be kept at the current cost of \$5.00”

Grant Mitcheson, Board / Tui Skelton, Board

Vote

CARRIED

11.0 ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

As there are three vacancies and three candidates, all three nominees will be elected unopposed.

Nominations for available board positions have been received for:

- Nicole Thompson
- Ivor Peksa
- Alexia Mesnage

Nominees each introduced themselves and gave an explanation as to why they wished to become a Board Member.

The Chairperson congratulated all and welcomed them to the board.

13.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

None to note

13.0 CLOSURE

Life Member, R Pickford congratulated everyone on a difficult 2020 and looks forward to the progress on Kindergartens Aotearoa.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending in person and via Zoom and their patience in the voting processes. He also thanked J Hough – leaving board member, T Skelton Teacher Rep, General Manager and the Support Office Team for their hard work.

Karakia

Nicole Thompson – Vice President conducted the closing Karakai and Paul Geden declared that the 2021 Annual General Meeting closed at 8:40pm.