

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NZ FEDERATION OF SENIORNET SOCIETIES (INC) HELD AT THE BOATSHED, WELLINGTON WATERFRONT, ON WEDNESDAY, 4 MAY 2016 AT 2.00 PM.

Welcome: The Chairman, Ray McDonald, welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised the procedure for speaking and voting.

Present: 92 members representing the following 38 Learning Centres. Bayswater, Bream Bay, Cambridge, Canterbury, Dargaville, Dunedin, Eden Roskill, Glenfield, Hamilton, Hawkes Bay, Hawera, Hibiscus Coast, Horowhenua, Hutt City, Kapiti, Mac, Marlborough Sounds, Matamata, Motueka, Napier, Nelson, New Plymouth, North Wellington, Pakuranga, Palmerston North, Papakura, Porirua, South, Tauranga, Te Aroha, Turangi, Upper Hutt, Wairarapa, Wanganui, Warkworth, West Auckland, Whakatane, Whangarei,

Apologies: Ashburton, Gisborne, Kaikohe, New Brighton, Wanaka, Mac Auckland, Nth Canterbury.

Motion: That the apologies be accepted.

Moved	Gwen Harvey	New Plymouth	
Seconded	Dorothy Davies	Whangarei	Carried.

MINUTES:

Motion: That the minutes the 2015 AGM, having already been circulated, be taken as read.

Moved	Bruce Smart.	South	
Seconded	Lyndsay Noble.	Te Aroha	Carried.

Motion: That the minutes of the 2015 AGM be signed as a true and complete record.

Moved	Ray McDonald	Eden Roskill	
Seconded	Alan Rutherford	Mac Christchurch.	Carried.

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT. The Chairman, Ray McDonald commented on his previously circulated report. He mentioned that a Summary was now prepared after every Federation Committee meeting and circulated to the Regional representatives. If a Learning Centre had not received a copy of the summary they could contact their representative.

He spoke about the background to the establishment of the Executive Officer position and the performance review undertaken annually. He also spoke about the decision by the Tertiary Education Commission to cut funding and the background to that decision. Learning

Centre finances, membership, activity, enrolments and ethnicity and the reason why statistical data still needs to be collected were also discussed.

He particularly thanked the Executive Officer, Grant Sidaway for his outstanding leadership and his very able assistant Jude Mitchener for her assistance. He mentioned the challenges Learning Centres face coming to grips with new technology and thanked them for the valuable work that they do in their communities.

Motion: That the Chairman's report be received.

Moved	Carol Sinkinson	West Auckland	
Seconded	Neville Fursdon	Warkworth	Carried.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT. Grant Sidaway also commented on several aspects of his report. He mentioned that this year there had been a change in the number of calls to the 0800 number but to a large extent this had been balanced by more emails being received. He also thanked the Learning Centres for making him so welcome when he visited and particularly thanked the volunteers in the LCs for the outstanding work that they do.

The Federation could not continue at the same level without the support and goodwill of our partners and sponsors and he particularly thanked Vodafone, Westpac bank, Noel Leeming and the Lottery Grants Board for their support. There were many other smaller sponsors, too many to name individually.

He made special mention of the support he received from the Federation committee and thanked Ray McDonald and Jude Mitchener particularly.

Motion: That the Executive Officers report be received.

Moved	Ray McDonald		
Seconded	Kathleen Rigg	Whakatane	Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Lyndsay Noble, Treasurer, presented the report and asked for questions on any aspect of the report. There were no questions or comment.

Motion: That the Financial Report be received and the 2015 Audited Accounts be adopted.

Moved	Ray McDonald		
Seconded	Jane Smith	Dunedin	Carried.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Motion: That the 2017 Membership Fee for Member Societies be set at \$3.00 per Society member. Membership numbers to be set as at the 31st of December of each year.

Moved	Brian Newton	Whakatane	
Seconded	Pamela Davison-Howie	Tauranga	Carried.

There were a number of questions and comments from the floor. Maurice Lloyd, (Whangarei) suggested that the benefits of belonging to the Federation strongly outweighed the disadvantages. Brian Milne, (Kapiti) asked if the Federation had given up asking for any money from government. Grant replied that he had spent many hours talking to Government Departments and that was ongoing. However, the answer was that almost all the departments had indicated that they would benefit from our services but had little or no money. Dialogue is continuing.

Duncan Fuller (Nelson) said that the Federation committee were concerned about comments from supporters and sponsors who saw how low our subscriptions were and that was a barrier to getting increased funding from sponsors. It seemed that the perception was that we do not value our own society. He also commented that in the 10 years that the Federation had been in existence there had never been an increase. Other speakers also commented that the fees should have increased in 10 years.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE.

Four members of the committee retired by rotation.

Nominations for the committee were received from the following.

Canterbury region. Paul Hopewell.

Wellington region. Rex Fowler.

Otago/Southland region Bruce Smart.

Waikato/Bay of Plenty region. No nomination received.

As only one nomination was received from the Canterbury, Wellington and Southland regions, Paul Hopewell, Rex Fowler and Bruce Smart were declared duly elected.

No nomination was received for the vacancy in the Waikato/Bay of Plenty region so the position remains vacant but may be filled by the committee coopting/seconding a person from the region.

The Chairman thanked all those who had offered themselves for election to the committee. He particularly thanked Lyndsay Noble who stood down this year but had represented the Waikato region since the inception of the Federation. She had made a significant contribution to both the Waikato region and the Federation.

He presented Lyndsay with some gift tokens in recognition of her services.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR.

Motion: That Moore Stephens Markham be appointed as the Federation Auditors for 2016

Moved	Bruce Smart	South	
Seconded	Nancy Edge	Bream Bay	Carried.

MEMBER SOCIETY MOTIONS.

SeniorNet Whakatane had advised the AGM that they intended to move “That the capitation fee be raised to \$3.00 for 2017.”

As the matter had been dealt with under Subscriptions the motion was not discussed further.

Motion: Is it time to rethink the name “SeniorNet”

Moved SeniorNet Turangi.

Seconded Pamela Davison-Howie Tauranga

Christine Marshall, Turangi, said that the name puts younger people off and if younger people are not attracted to SeniorNet it will die out.

Maurice Lloyd, Whangarei, suggested that the brand was well known and the cost of a name change would be substantial. Carl Horn, Nelson, asked what the implications of a name change will be. Grant Sidaway replied that the cost of corporate re branding was considerable.

Marilyn Goodwin, Warkworth, told the gathering that she would repeat what she said last year when the topic was also discussed. She said that Warkworth did not have an age limit and had many 40 plus members joining. She had not noticed age being a concern at all.

When put to the vote, the motion was lost.

Motion: Addition of “Maori By-line to SeniorNet logo.”

Moved SeniorNet Turangi

Seconded Geoff Sanders Hutt City.

Christine Marshall, Turangi, said that there were 3 official languages in New Zealand and that we should be attracting a greater share of Maori members. She suggested that it did not need to cost a lot to add a by-line and that the by line could be chosen by Te Puni Kokori.

Ian Grant, Whitianga, suggested that if a by-line was added we should come up with our own. Another suggestion was that “Learning Technology Together” should be the by-line in Maori.

However, when put to a vote the motion was lost.

The Chairman thanked the Learning Centres who had taken the trouble to put remits forward, as this was what the AGM was for.

SENIORNET FEDERATION PLAN FOR 2016/17.

Grant spoke to the plan. He mentioned the Project Grants scheme that had been initiated last year and although it had not achieved exactly what the Federation Committee had wished, \$10,000 had been budgeted for again this year. He mentioned that the previous funding model and ethnicity content had been deleted from this year’s plan as although every effort had been made it had not been possible to reach the proposed targets in the past.

Grant also spoke to several other items in the plan.

Motion: That the Annual Plan for 2016/17 be adopted.

Moved	Rex Fowler	Wairarapa	
Seconded	Brian Newton	Whakatane	Carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

Neville Fursdon, Warkworth, advised that Warkworth do not have an age limit and suggested that all Learning Centres remove any age restriction.

Alan Rutherford, Mac Christchurch, also said that his Learning Centre had many members who were under 50, but Mac Christchurch had an associate membership category for those members.

Bruce Smart, South, suggested a QR code be used to take people straight to the SeniorNet website. Grant Sidaway welcomed the suggestion and also suggested the hashtag #seniornet be used for social media.

The Chairman again thanked members for attending and advised that the 2017 AGM/Symposium will be at a time and place yet to be determined.

The meeting closed at 4.40 pm.

Approved as a true and complete record.

.....**Chairman.**

Date.....