

Minutes of the AGM of the Fungal Network of New Zealand held at Tauhara Retreat & Conference Centre, Taupo, 8.30pm, 19 May 2011

Present: David Orlovich (President), Peter Buchanan (Vice President), Petra White (Secretary), Shirley Kerr (Treasurer), Jerry Cooper (Councillor), Paula Wilkie (Councillor), Bevan Weir (Councillor), Tegan Garland, Laure Taylor, Karyn Hoksbergen, Simon Cook, Di Batcheler, Wanda Daley, Karen Mackay, Shaun Pennycook, Pat Leonard, Elsa Paderes, Tom Davies, Helen Bichen, David Catcheside, Pam Catcheside, Ben Myles, Suli Teasdale, Stewart Bell. 24 people.

Apologies: Genevieve Gates, David Ratkowsky, Kira Taylor, Ross and Pauline Muir, Don and Gwen Horne, Peter Austwick. Moved that apologies be accepted: Laure Taylor/ Tegan Garland.

Minutes of the previous AGM: Moved as true and correct subject to some spelling changes. Peter Buchanan /Jerry Cooper.

Matters Arising: Mining on Conservation land: We wrote a submission opposing opposing the removal of lands from Schedule 4 Conservation Act and won.

President's Report: Presented by David. He said that numbers are lower at this foray but it has turned out to be a great foray, not just because of the fantastic location and great collections but also because of those people who have spent a significant amount of time in the organisation and running of it. He thanked Shirley Kerr, the local organizer, for organizing the foray, liaising with the venue and all of the participants; Landcare Research staff did a lot, including Bevan and Shaun bringing down microscopes from the University of Auckland; Bevan, Peter J & Shirley for making maps; Peter J for arranging permits; Shaun and Wanda for databasing; and Paula and Michelle for packaging up specimens from the dehydrators. These all make the collecting, processing and recording of fungi a very streamlined process and we shouldn't take for granted all the person-power that goes into the exercise every year, so thank you very much to those people. He thinks the forays are much more valuable now than they were when he started coming to them 11 years ago and that is because of the excellent systems and support we now have. Outside the foray itself, Bevan maintains the web site, Jerry the Facebook page and Petra keeps us in contact through communications from year-to-year, so again, thank you very much to those people.

Treasurer's report: Presented by Shirley Kerr. During the year we changed banks to Kiwibank. The new system of receiving payments before the foray begins has helped enormously. She recommended that this be continued. She stood down as treasurer.

Moved that the accounts be accepted: Laure Taylor/Helen Bichen.

Election of Officers: Apart from Shirley Kerr the previous committee all agreed to stand again and no election was needed. David called for nominations of treasurer from the floor. Bevan said he would take the treasurer role if no one else put their name forward. He was nominated by Paula Wilkie/Petra White and his nomination was unanimous. The following were then confirmed for the committee:

President – David Orlovich
Vice President – Peter Buchanan
Treasurer – Bevan Weir
Secretary – Petra White
Councillor – Jerry Cooper
Councillor – Paula Wilkie

Councillor – Shirley Kerr

Auditor: Moved that Bob Banks be confirmed as auditor: Shirley Kerr/Paula Wilkie.

FUNNZ website: Bevan reported that our website is currently hosted for free by Landcare. He asked whether we stay under the Landcare umbrella or go it alone, which would give us more flexibility. If the latter there would be a small financial outlay, possibly \$150 per year. We could have a link to the Facebook page Jerry set up. (We have 31 friends currently!) The meeting gave Bevan the mandate to investigate external hosting options.

General Business:

Cost of Foray – Bevan said that numbers were down because of the cost. Shirley explained the different options investigated by the committee and why Tauhara was finally chosen. Essentially it came down to the only option all things considered. Petra asked whether we should advertise a bit more, e.g. BotSoc, F&B.

Location of next Foray – Suggestions were put forward from the committee and the floor: Golden Bay, Kaikoura (need to book two years in advance), the Catlins, Borland Lodge, Te Anau (access to Fiordland), Doubtful Sound (good facilities but access difficult), Stewart Island (facilities may not be adequate + high cost). Simon Cook suggested Great Barrier Island in the next 2–3 years. After a discussion it was agreed that David would investigate the Catlins and Stewart and David would investigate Doubtful Sound.

Current Foray – Peter Buchanan reminded everyone that this is the 25th Fungal Foray and 10th Colloquium and we should celebrate this.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.