

## **Minutes of the FUNZ AGM 2021**

Held in the Stewart Island Community Hall  
Wednesday, 14 April 2021 at 5:00pm

**Attendees:** Tom Davies, Renee Johansen, Amy Martin, Shaun Pennycook, Josie McGovern, Sam Lasham, Anna Gericke, Andy Nilsen, Maj Padamsee, Adrienne Stanton, Bevan Weir, Michael Bartlett, David Whyte, Duckchul Park, Peter Buchanan, Kent Jacobsen, Stephanie da Silva, David Hera, Megan Palmer, Joseph Pallante, Lois Allison-Cooper, Sam Gale, Lisa Davies, Kiryn Dobbie, Rebekah Fuller, Alana Den Breeyen, Eric McKenzie, Manpreet Dhami, Kim Triegaardt, Jerry Cooper, Peter Johnston

**Apologies:** Shirley Kerr, Petra Gloyn (secretary)

**Minutes of the previous AGM:** Matters arising – none

*Moved as correct and true:* Tom Davies / Adrienne Stanton

**President's Report:** David Orlovich moved a vote of thanks to

- Renee Johansen for organising the 2021 Foray
- Tom Davies for all his help with the Foray
- Duckchul Park and Shaun Pennycook for their work on the database
- Peter Johnston for making the guide for the week
- Peter Buchanan for liaising with the schools
- Maj Padamsee for helping with the specimens and specimen collection
- Andy Nelson for his contacts for the Mamaku Point Conservation Reserve and Ulva Island visits

He expressed appreciation for all the hard work at making this an extremely successful foray.

*Moved that the report be accepted:* David Whyte / Tom Davies

**Treasurer's Report:** Presented by Renee Johansen. Renee commented that changing bank accounts was a complex process because of the new money laundering rules put in place by banks. She is still working through some issues with moving the bank account.

In summary:

Income from subscriptions/interest - \$599.25

Outgoings (tax/bank fees) - \$299.90

Cheque a/c balance - \$17,282.99

Investment account - \$14,707.59 (includes +\$122.40 interest earnings)

*Moved that the accounts be accepted:* Bevan Weir / David Whyte

Discussion: Bevan and Tom wanted to confirm that there is a value of approx. \$30,000 to the database, with no action being taken.

David Whyte commented on the significant sum of \$17,000 that is sitting in the bank – he asked if there was a plan for this.

David Orlovich (president) said in response the organisation liked to have a buffer in place in case of unexpected financial costs. Also, as a non-profit, the organisation has made contributions to the Ross Beaver Memorial Trust.

Bevan Weir also confirmed FUUNZ needs to pay tax and must consider this when making financial decisions.

Tom Davis also pointed out that the Foray didn't take place in 2020, so some funds allocated to that went into the Term Deposit.

After a robust discussion of what the money could be used for, Dave Orlovich moved the Treasurer and Councillors investigate FUUNZ making a \$5,000 donation to the Ross Beaver Memorial Trust. This would align with the purpose of FUNNZ, which includes outreach and student support, as well as organising the foray. (David Orlovich/Maj Padamsee)

**Election of Council:** All present members agreed to stand again.

The Council consists of:

President - David Orlovich

Vice president - Peter Buchanan

Secretary - Petra Gloyn

Treasurer - Renee Johansen

Webmaster/Councillor - Bevan Weir

Councillor – Maj Padamsee

Councillor – Jerry Cooper

Councillor – Adrienne Stanton

Other nominations for councillors were invited from the floor:

Lois Alison-Cooper was nominated and elected as a Councillor

Tom Davies will continue as examiner of accountants (David Orlovich/Amy Martin)

**Webmaster's Report:** Bevan Weir said visitor numbers to the website were similar to previous years, but slightly increasing. He said Jerry's articles have lots of views with the time around the Foray being especially busy. He asked those at the AGM if they were happy with the website or if they wanted changes. He said at the moment the website is primarily an historic record of mainly the Foray, with photos and blog links.

Manpreet Dhami asked if it was possible to add more information about the individual councillors on the ABOUT US page. Bevan said this was possible. He added he was looking at migrating the site to Wordpress to make it easier for people to make posts. Currently it is quite time consuming.

*Moved that the report be accepted:* Bevan Weir / David Whyte

### **General Business:**

1. Future Foray set up: Renee opened a discussion about the set-up of future Forays. She proposed that there again be less flexibility offered around registrations than there has been in the past (i.e. prior to Stewart Island) and that a similar model to this year's Stewart Island foray be adopted for next year, with the addition of a ½ week option to the whole week pass (i.e. Mon – Wed or Wed – Fri). Hopefully a

venue would again be found with a low rate, so people wouldn't pay much for facilities only for the ½ week, and could just turn up for two days if they wanted to. There would also be the option to register just for the colloquium. People would be offered meal plans including lunch/dinner, or just dinner, that would need to be consistent for every day they were there. The colloquium day would include lunch/snacks for all. There was robust debate around the nature of the Foray and what FUUNZ was trying to achieve during the week. Renee said that if it was principally a scientific event then day passes distracted from the outcomes while adding considerably to the workload of the treasurer/organiser. In addition, the community is already welcome to come into the hall to see the samples, the only thing they can't do is collect without a permit. Michael Bartlett wanted to ensure the colloquium day is kept. David Whyte questioned if it was possible to use more IT to automate the registration process more. Bevan Weir says the cost of this is prohibitive. Toni Atkinson and Tom Davies congratulated Renee on organising a successful Foray in spite of the challenges involved. No action to do anything and no decision taken. The council will discuss when the location is confirmed.

2. Student Scholarship: Renee confirmed that this year, FUUNZ had a student rate so in effect gave a subsidy to students attending, instead of a Scholarship. She says if a Scholarship is given for future Forays (and especially if it goes back to being a higher amount) there needs to be a clear process around how to apply and how the money will be given, also who will be on the judging panel/what are the criteria/who develops the application form, otherwise it would be easier to stick to the model used this year and FUNNZ should just subsidise the registration cost for students.

*Proposal:* Set a discounted student rate in lieu of the scholarship, at a rate still to be determined by the Council. Students need to provide proof of enrolment. (David Orlovich / Maj Padamsee).

3. Membership: Renee confirmed membership to FUNNZ was included in the registration for the Foray for the first time this year, however the information on the website is incorrect as this indicates otherwise. Megan confirmed that she thought she had to become a member BEFORE she could register. Bevan Weir confirmed there is an action for the Webmaster to correct this.
4. Location of 2022 Foray: President David Orlovich opened the floor to suggestions. Tom Davies suggested the North Island and in particular somewhere near Te Urewera, as he has contacts that could help set up trips in the forests. Renee counter-proposed with using Rotorua as a base for the Foray with day trips arranged into Te Urewera/Whirinaki, possibly on buses as with Mamaku Point. With the potential for overseas visitors to come (COVID-dependent), she suggests a bigger centre will be more attractive and able to accommodate extra people at the last minute. It will also be easier to organise, and provide more options than a remote location including a bit of flexibility with meals (extra people/partners could ideally again join in on the night and pay the hotel/restaurant directly.) Kirin suggested Scion might be able to help in some way with resources, and Renee had already

talked with Michael Bartlett (also Scion) who had agreed to assist. Adrienne suggested that everyone send in ideas to the Council

*Proposal:* Ideas for next year's Foray need to be emailed to any member of the Council before the next council meeting (by the end of July). Ideas need to be detailed including potential venues for the colloquium and indications of available accommodation (Adrienne / Maj)

5. Any other business: None

### **Ross Beaver Memorial Trust AGM**

**Present:** As above (all members of FUUNZ are members of the Ross Beaver Memorial Trust)

**Apologies:** Jessica Beaver (and as above)

**Minutes of previous AGM:** Trustees met via Zoom and in person and have reviewed the minutes. Trustees agree they are a true and correct record.

**Trustees:**

Tom Davies (Trust Administrator)

David Orlovich (FUUNZ representative)

Renee Johansen

Jessica Beaver

**Treasurer's Report:** Tom Davies confirmed a snafoo with the funds resulted in late payment to last year's graduate, Kane Andrew. Kane is a student of David Orlovich and is working on fungal diversity. He expects to finish his Master's mid next year.

Current state of affairs as at 28 February 2021

Term deposit: \$10K due on 1 August 2022

Term deposit: \$5K matured 29 March 2021 (paid the last of Kane's grant)

As at 1 March 2020 - \$474.16

Donations – Shaun Pennycook, \$150.00

Closing balance - \$624.16

No election of officers as this happens every third year. Rose reviewed the accounts and has agreed to be examiner of accounts for 2022 (David Orlovich/Amy Martin)

### **General business:**

1. Grants for 2021: President David Orlovich said the Trust received a number of applications and the Trustees decided to split the grant funding three ways giving each applicant \$1,000.
  - Pratima Dhakal Acharya (MSc Research student at Lincoln)  
Supervisors: Eirian Jones and Manjula Kularathna  
Identification of mycoparasitic *Pythium* species associated with vineyards soil in Canterbury, New Zealand

- Hannah McCarthy (PhD student at Massey University)  
Supervisors Prof Rosie Bradshaw, Dr Carl Mesarich  
Identification of novel virulence factors in Dothideomycete pathogens
- Debolina Sakar (PhD student University of Canterbury)  
Supervisors: Dr Ashley Garrill and Dr Volker Nock  
Using a microfluidic device to determine the electrotactic and chemotactic properties of Phytophthora zoospores.

*Moved that the Trustee Administrators report be approved:* Tom Davies / David Whyte

2. Trustee Administrator Tom Davies confirmed that funding to the Trust from Jessica Beaver has ended, so the Trust will need to look for other funding sources. Any ideas or comments can be emailed to Tom Davies.

Meeting closed at 6:00 pm