

SPIRITUALISM NEW ZEALAND

2020 AGM

26 August 2020

Meeting opened 7.34pm

Opening prayer: Karena Dixon (Board member)

Attendees: Joanne Duncan (President), Sue Boyle (Vice-President), Barbara Hand (Registrar), Anne Roughton (Treasurer), Tonni Pedersen (Secretary), Anne Pedersen (Board member), Richard Parker (Board member), Gail Payne (Board member), Gaeila Wester (Hastings Spiritualist Church), Susan Kirker and Matt Tod (South Auckland Spiritualist Church), Annette Rundle (Petone Spiritualist Church), Jenny Unwin, Lynette O'Connor and Anne Duncan (Christchurch Spiritualist Church), Janette Powell (Upper Hutt Spiritualist Church), Diane Thomson (Spirit Wings), Val Johnstone, Grant Forbes, Barbara Forbes, Lyn Herriot, Robert Ritchie, Frankie Schmid, Amanda Cartridge, Krys Zalewski, Jan Nalder, Frances Tyson.

Apologies: Vicki Clarkson (South Auckland Spiritualist Church), Sharon Jose (Morrinsville Spiritualist Church), Sheena Napier (Upper Hutt Spiritualist Church), Suzanne Gibbs (Christchurch Spiritualist Church), Jansie Bond, Kay Howard, Lee Hemming, Sandy Bensemenn

Moved: Tonni Pedersen Seconded: Barbara Hand

Minutes of 2019 AGM were accepted.

Moved: Anne Pedersen Seconded: Lyn Herriot

President's report presented by Joanne Duncan. Accepted.

Moved: Tonni Pedersen Seconded: Janette Powell

Matters arising: None.

Treasurer's report presented by Anne Roughton. Accepted.

Moved: Joanne Duncan Seconded: Tonni Pedersen

Barbara Hand moved a vote of thanks to Anne for a huge job well done. All agreed.

Registrar's report presented by Barbara Hand. Accepted.

Moved: Barbara Hand Seconded: Val Johnstone

Joanne Duncan acknowledged the large amount of work that Barbara does, both as Registrar and for the promotions sub-committee.

Barbara explained a few things about the website. Member organisations were encouraged to ensure their directory listings are detailed and up to date.

Healing report presented by Anne Roughton.

Anne explained the reason for the increase in healing fees to \$25. Cost of insurance has increased, so we needed to increase the registered healer's fees accordingly. Report accepted.

Moved: Anne Roughton Seconded: Tonni Pedersen

A misunderstanding about Police checks and healer applications was clarified. Five Provisional Healer applications from Christchurch are pending.

Confirmation of Board members

Joanne Duncan explained the Board policy. Members are elected for a 3-year term. Nobody can be re-elected for more than a maximum of 3 terms (= 9 years). They must then have at least a 1-year stand-down before they can be on the Board again.

Kay Howard has resigned. Her hard work during her time on the Board was acknowledged, and her resignation was accepted with regret.

All other Board members remain:

President	Joanne Duncan
Vice President	Sue Boyle
Treasurer	Anne Roughton
Registrar	Barbara Hand
Secretary	Tonni Pedersen
Board members	Karena Dixon Anne Pedersen Richard Parker Gail Payne

New Board members	Amanda Cartridge and Lyn Heriot Nominated by Barbara Hand Seconded by Joanne Duncan
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Joanne Duncan moved to accept the new Board members. Seconded by Tonni Pedersen. All agreed.

General Business

Membership fees remain un-changed. However, the annual practising fee for registered healers has increased to \$25 to cover an increase in the public liability insurance cover.

A new financial reviewer is needed as Rod Foster is retiring. Anne Roughton is exploring options.

Frankie Schmid mentioned that she (and some of her friends) found the term “Father God” a bit too “churchy”. Joanne Duncan explained that alternative versions of the 7 Principles will be on the new website, including alternative terms for “Father God”.

Frances Tyson asked if SNZ is not a church. Various officers of the Board explained that, while we operate under the Spiritualist Church of New Zealand Act 1924, we are not a church, although many of our member organisations are churches. They also gave a brief run-down on the process of changing SCNZ to SNZ. Annette Rundle commented that SNZ offers diversity, being inclusive of many beliefs, whereas the SCNZ was exclusively for spiritualist churches.

Karena Dixon asked whether there had been any engagement with the churches about how they feel about the direction of SNZ. Joanne Duncan and Barbara Hand advised that there has been no specific communication with the foundation churches since the extensive consultation process when it was agreed to make the shift from SCNZ to SNZ. However, all feedback is welcome and this is something that can be discussed further at the next Board meeting.

Closing Prayer: Karena Dixon

Meeting closed 8.32pm