



**Minutes of the 32nd Annual General Meeting of
MONTESSORI AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND
Held at Trinity Hotel, Tauranga
Saturday April 11th 2015, 5.45pm**

1. WELCOME AND KARAKIA

MANZ President, Gillian Somers, welcomed members to the AGM and thanked them for their attendance.

2. APOLOGIES

Karmini Hermon - Rangimarie Montessori
Dimitra Pantazis - Montessori @ Berhampore
Michelle Pinfold - Glendowie Montessori Preschool
Karen Hudson - Aroha Montessori
Tesneem Couper - Eastern Suburbs Montessori School
Rose Phillips also put in apologies for leaving early.

3. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

MANZ Council (1 vote)

Gillian Somers (President), Cathy Wilson (Treasurer), Anne-Marie Love, Claire Nesdale, Jan Gaffney, Mamira Ali, Michela Homer, and Rose Phillips.

MANZ School Members (1 vote worth 5)

Aroha Montessori School - Helen Champion; Capital Montessori School - Lois McConnell; Eastern Suburbs Montessori Primary School - Rose Phillips, Glendowie Montessori Preschool - Carol Potts; Koru Montessori - Ruth Libby; Little Steps - Jamie Cortez; Little Sweethearts Montessori Mt Maunganui - Rhonda Davison; Meraki Montessori School - Rebecca Nicholson; Montessori @ Bethlehem, - Michela Homer; Montessori @ Howick Primary - Olivia Browne; Montessori @ Kilbirnie - Lucie Hyett; Montessori @ Mosgiel - Linda Shanks; Montessori @ Otari Preschool - Florence Coram-Lasiner; Montessori @ Rongotai - Marg Roper; Montessori @ the Gardens - Liz Labes; Montessori Children's House Wanaka - Anne-Marie Love; Montessori Children's House Miramar - Sue Walker; Montessori House of Children Hamilton - Mamira Ali; Montessori Milestones Preschool - Kathryn Stewart; Montessori Primary @ Otari School - Florence Coram-Lasnier; Nelson Montessori Preschool - Susan Watson; New Plymouth Montessori Assn - Gillian Somers; Nova Montessori School Primary - Rebecca Nicholson; Otaki Montessori Preschool - Melanie White; Rangimarie Montessori Children's House - Rachel Dawson; Riverhead Montessori Learning Centre - JR Alberto; Small Steps Montessori - Joy Jordan; Tipu Montessori - Folashade Olabiyi; Titoki Montessori School - Tracie Phua; Wa Ora Montessori School Preschool - Cathy Wilson; Wa Ora Montessori School Primary - Jan Gaffney; Wa Ora Montessori School Secondary - Jan Gaffney; Wee Wisdom Montessori School Drury - Claire Nesdale.

MANZ Individual Members (1 vote)

Bronwyn Norman, Carol Potts, Elena Ciobanu, Gillian Somers, Hiranthi Jayasingha, Jan Gaffney, Liz Webster, Roberta Coutts, Rose Phillips, Susan Schwander, Suzanne Drury-Turnbull, Tania Gaffney and Robin Wilkins.

MANZ Organisation Member (1 vote)

None

Other people in attendance

Ana Pickering (MANZ Executive Officer) Jo Bailey (MANZ Finance Officer), Bee-Wah Wong, Mary Coffey, Chris Graig, Tracie Best, Rose Pepper, Rebecca Crockett, Maiken Jordan, Fiona Penn, Helen Ransdale, Raewyn Stewart, Marie-Luce Thevenon, Katie Thompson; Lee Raeburn, Lucie Hyett, Naliny Florida and Karin Zapatero.

Proxy votes

The following proxy votes were recorded:

Tesneem Couper to Rose Phillips

Montessori @ the School House to Michela Homer

Montessori at Moturoa Primary School to Gillian Somers

Montessori Little Hands to Mamira Ali

Nova Montessori School Primary to Rebecca Nicholson

Wee Wisdom Montessori School Paeroa to Claire Nesdale

Wee Wisdom Montessori School Weymouth Tenia to Roberta Coutts

Wee Wisdom Montessori School Weymouth Tuakana to Jan Gaffney

4. CONFIRMATION OF 2014 MANZ AGM MINUTES

Moved that the minutes of the 31st Annual General Meeting be approved as a true and correct record.

Moved by Rachel Dawson/Fenella Wilson
All in favour, carried

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM 2014 MINUTES

There were two matters arising from the 2014 minutes. Gillian briefly outlined the remits and explained that as these are all constitutional amendments the remits need to be voted on.

Remit 1

Proposal to increase the number of members of MANZ Council from six to between six to nine members.

Delete the phrase

10.2 The total membership of the Council will be six (6).

Replace with

10.2 The total membership of the Council will be between six (6) and nine (9).

Delete the phrase

10.2.2 Six (6) Council members elected by the membership.

Replace with

10.2.2 Six (6) to nine (9) Council members elected by the membership.

Delete the phrase

10.2.3 Of these six (6) positions at least four (4) will be Montessori early childhood teachers and at least one (1) will be a Montessori primary teacher.

Replace with

10.2.3 Of these six (6) to nine (9) positions at least four (4) will be Montessori early childhood teachers and at least one (1) will be a Montessori primary teacher.

Delete the phrase

10.10 In addition to the power to co-opt to fill vacancies within the elected members under the provision of Rule 10.9, the Council shall have the power to co-opt up to two additional persons.

Delete the phrase

10.11 Such person or persons may be co-opted for fixed terms which shall expire no later than the next Annual General Meeting. However, nothing shall prevent a subsequent Council from co-opting such person or persons for additional terms.

There was a short discussion on this.

Remit 2

Proposal to increase the length of time that members are elected from two to three years.

Delete the phrase

10.4 Members of the Council shall hold that office for a term of two (2) years before further nomination or re-nomination is required.

Replace with

10.4 Members of the Council shall hold that office for a term of three (3) years before further nomination or re-nomination is required.

There was a short discussion on this.

Members voted on these remits and the meeting continued while votes were counted.

6. PRESIDENT'S WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Gillian Somers, MANZ President, gave a brief outline of her report which was in the 2014 Annual Report and available to all members prior to the AGM.

Moved by Gillian Somers/Fenella Wilson
All in favour, carried

7. REPORT ON MANZ STRATEGIC AIMS (2011-14)

Ana Pickering, MANZ Executive Officer, gave a brief outline of the progress made on the MANZ strategic aims which was in the 2015 Annual Report and available to all members prior to the AGM.

She explained that this will be the last time that MANZ would be reporting under this strategic plan. From 2015 the report will focus on the aims in the new strategic plan.

Ana went on to thank Pam Shand for running the Montessori Near You workshops around the country and also made special mention and thanks Nicki Dowling from Massey University for her contribution to Montessori Journey to Excellence.

Moved Ana Pickering/Gillian Somers
All in favour, carried

8. 2014 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND 2015 BUDGET

Cathy Wilson, MANZ Treasurer, gave a brief outline of the 2014 Annual Financial Statements which was in the 2015 Annual Report and available to all members prior to the AGM.

Moved Cathy Wilson/Anne-Marie Love
All in favour, carried

Cathy Wilson, MANZ Treasurer, gave a brief outline of the 2015 Budget, which was in the 2015 Annual Report and available to all members prior to the AGM.

Moved Cathy Wilson/Susan Watson
All in favour, carried

5/cont. MATTERS ARISING FROM 2014 MINUTES (CONTINUED)

The results of the remit votes were announced by Gillian Somers.

Remit 1 result - remit passed and the MANZ constitution will be amended.

Remit 2 result - remit passed and the MANZ constitution will be amended.

9. AGM CONSTITUTIONAL REMITS 3&4

There were two constitutional remits that were circulated to members in the 2015 Annual Report. Gillian explained the remit:

Remit 3

Proposal to clarify in the constitution that membership of MANZ is not automatically granted even if the membership criteria is met and annual subscription is paid.

Add the phrase

5.3 Membership may not be granted if Council has made the decision that membership of the applicant is not in the best interests of the Association or its objectives.

There was a proposed change of wording of the remit from the floor, that membership 'can be declined' rather than 'may not be granted', this had general consensus and the remit wording was amended.

Phrase to be voted on

5.3 Membership can be declined if Council has made the decision that membership of the applicant is not in the best interests of the Association or its objectives.

Membership raised questions about this and asked will there be a process to decline membership. Gillian explained a process will be developed. If passed the process will be discussed at Council, a procedure will be written and Council would ensure that this is followed.

Remit 4

Proposal to alter wording of the constitution so that MANZ continues to have charitable status.

Delete the phrase

22.2 Upon winding up any property surplus assets will be given or transferred to some other Society or organisation in New Zealand (who is not a member of the Association) which has similar objectives to those of the Association.

Replace with

22.2 Upon winding up or dissolution of the Association any property surplus assets shall NOT be paid to or distributed among the members of the Association BUT shall be given or transferred to such other charitable society or societies within New Zealand which have similar objectives to those of the Association.

There was a short discussion on this.

Members voted on these remits and the meeting continued while votes were counted.

10. NOMINATIONS TO MANZ COUNCIL

Nominations were sought for six positions on MANZ Council. Those standing are:

Cathy Wilson, Wa Ora Montessori, Wellington
Claire Nesdale, Wee Wisdom Montessori, Auckland
Jude Collings, Small Steps Montessori, Matakana
Katie Thomson, Meraki Montessori, Auckland
Mamira Ali, Montessori House of Children, Hamilton
Michela Homer, Best Start, Tauranga
Rose Phillips, Eastern Suburbs Montessori, Auckland

All nominees outlined to the members at the AGM what they could offer MANZ Council.

Members were asked to vote and the meeting continued while votes were counted.

9/cont. AGM CONSTITUTIONAL REMITS 3&4 (CONTINUED)

The results of the remit votes were announced by Gillian Somers.

Remit three result - Yes, remit passed and the MANZ constitution will be amended.

Remit four result - Yes, remit passed and the MANZ constitution will be amended.

11. OPEN FORUM

Roberta Coutts began discussion about the need to limit the number of terms that Council members can stay on the Council for, and that more members should be able to vote other than the people at the AGM. There was a general discussion about this, particularly that there is a proxy vote system in place and people can exercise their democratic right to vote for MANZ Council members. A motion was moved that MANZ Council should develop a remit to go to the membership to be voted on at the next AGM "that the term on Council should go to two terms

consecutively” Moved Roberta Coutts/Raewyn Stewart
Count was held by show of hands, motion failed.

10/cont.NOMINATIONS TO MANZ COUNCIL (CONTINUED)

As all matters for the meeting had been discussed it was decided that the meeting would be closed and the results of the Council vote would be advised at the MANZ Reception at the end of the AGM.

There being no other business Gillian closed the meeting at 7.06pm.

10/cont.NOMINATIONS TO MANZ COUNCIL (CONTINUED)

The results of the Council votes were announced by Gillian Somers, the following people were elected to MANZ Council:

Cathy Wilson, Claire Nesdale, Katie Thomson, Mamira Ali, Michela Homer and Rose Phillips.

Signed by MANZ President as a true record of the meeting.

Gillian Somers

Date _____