



**Minutes of the 31st Annual General Meeting of
MONTESSORI AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND
Held at Devon Hotel, New Plymouth
Saturday July 5 2014, 5.45pm**

1. WELCOME

MANZ President, Jan Gaffney welcomed members to the AGM and thanked them for their attendance.

2. PRESENT

MANZ Council (1 vote)

Jan Gaffney (President), Cathy Wilson (Treasurer), Rose Phillips, Gillian Somers, Claire Nesdale, Michela Homer.

MANZ School Members (5 votes)

Aroha Montessori School - Karen Hudson; Coast Montessori Preschool - Chantelle Ronchese; Eastern Suburbs Montessori Primary School - Rose Phillips; Glendowie Montessori Preschool - Carol Potts; Kumeu Montessori Preschool - Robyn Janes; Montessori @ Bethlehem, Montessori @ Otumoetai - Michela Homer; Montessori @ Rongotai - Marg Roper; Montessori @ Taradale - Megan Burling; Kumeu Montessori Preschool - Robyn Janes; Little Sweethearts Montessori Greerton, Little Sweethearts Montessori Mt Manganui, Little Sweethearts Montessori Historic Village - Symon Armstrong; Montessori @ Malfroy - Diane Valavanis; Montessori @ Tawa Primary - Anna McLean; Montessori at Moturoa Primary School - Gillian Somers; Montessori Children's House Wanaka - Anne-Marie Love; Montessori House of Children, Blenheim - Rose Montgomery; Montessori Milestones Preschool - Kathryn Stewart; Montessori Primary at Huapai District School - Lesley-Jane Davies; New Plymouth Montessori School - Gillian Somers; *Wa Ora Montessori School* - Cathy Wilson; Wee Wisdom Montessori Drury, Wee Wisdom Montessori Otahuhu, Wee Wisdom Montessori Weymouth - Claire Nesdale; Montessori @ Otari Preschool - Seedeви Da Silva (part of meeting); Montessori Primary @ Otari School - Florence Coram (part of meeting).

MANZ Individual Members (1 vote)

Bronwyn Norman, Carol Potts, Pam Shand, Roberta Coutts, Rose Phillips, Susan Schwander, Tania Gaffney, Jan Gaffney, Gillian Somers, Robyn Wilkins.

MANZ Organisation Member (1 vote)

Aperfield Montessori Trust - Mary Stephen

Other people in attendance

Ana Pickering (MANZ Executive Officer) Jo Bailey (MANZ Finance Officer), Sarah-Jane Lambie, Nikole Campbell, Rhonda Davidson (part of meeting), Fenella Wilson (part of meeting)

Entered partway through the meeting

Rhonda Davidson, Fenella Wilson, Florence Coram-Lasnier, Seedeви Da Silva

3. APOLOGIES

None

4. PROXY VOTES

The following proxy votes were recorded:

Wee Wisdom Montessori Weymouth - Michela Homer

5. CONFIRMATION OF 2013 MINUTES

Moved that the minutes of the 30th Annual General Meeting be approved as a true and correct record.

Moved by Jan Gaffney/Roberta Coutts
All in favour, carried

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM 2013 MINUTES

There were three matters arising from the 2013 minutes, Jan briefly outlined them below, as these are all constitutional amendments and proposals will have to go to membership for voting.

A. Number of terms on MANZ Council. Should we amend the constitution to limit the number of terms that people can be on council for? And if so to how many terms?

B. Number of MANZ Council Members. Should we amend the constitution to increase the number of council members so that we can have six to nine council members at any one time?

C. Length of term on MANZ Council. Should we amend the constitution to increase the length of term on council from 2 to 3 years?

Jan opened the discussion to the floor, many people contributed with different points being raised and discussed.

The following proposal was made:

That the length of term for an individual on MANZ Council be changed from two to three years; and that total membership of MANZ Council be amended to between six and nine members.

This proposal is to be drafted by MANZ and remits circulated prior to the next AGM for voting by members.

Moved by Roberta Coutts/Mary Stephen
All in favour, carried

There were arguments both for and against the first discussion point regarding the number of terms that an individual can be on MANZ council. As a result it will be left open for members to raise for inclusion at future AGMs if desired.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jan Gaffney, MANZ President, gave a brief outline of her report which was in the 2014 Annual Report and available to all members prior to AGM. Jan noted that the Montessori Community in New Zealand suffered a great loss with the passing of Dr Nicola Chisnall, she will be greatly missed. Jan highlighted the work by MANZ in 2013 was the continuation of the Montessori Journey to Excellence programme, along with MANZ starting to get involved and thinking about Montessori for Social Change.

Jan noted her thanks to Ana Pickering and all those on MANZ Council.

Moved by Jan Gaffney/Nikole Campbell
All in favour, carried

8. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Ana Pickering, MANZ Executive Officer, gave a brief outline of her report which was in the 2014 Annual Report and available to all members prior to AGM.

Ana went on to thank all the Montessori Journey to Excellence pilot programme people and noted that their commitment to the programme made it a great success.

Moved Ana Pickering/Robyn Janes
All in favour, carried

9. TREASURER'S REPORT

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

Cathy noted her thanks to Jo Bailey, MANZ Finance Officer.

Moved Cathy Wilson/Carol Potts

All in favour, carried

10. 2014 BUDGET

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

Moved Cathy Wilson/Pam Shand
All in favour, carried

11. NOMINATIONS

At this point the meeting was passed to Cathy Wilson to chair.

Nominations were sought for three positions on MANZ Council.

Jan Gaffney (Wa Ora Montessori School) nominated by Robin Barrowclough Wilkins
Anne-Marie Love (Montessori Children's House Wanaka) nominated by Debs McKerchar
Claire Nesdale (Wee Wisdom Montessori School) nominated by Samantha Morrison
Gillian Somers (New Plymouth Montessori) nominated by Nikole Campbell
Mamira Ali (Montessori House of Children) nominated by Lynette Tuck

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

Members voted and the following people were elected to MANZ Council:
Jan Gaffney, Anne-Marie Love and Gillian Somers.

Jan Gaffney thanked all the nominees for offering to stand for MANZ Council. Jan noted that there is a strategic plan discussion on tomorrow (Sunday July 6) and encouraged members to come along.

There being no other business the AGM closed at 7.15pm.