



MINUTES OF PROJECT TONGARIRO'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

(Tongariro Natural History Society Inc)

14th November 2020

4pm, Rangitikei Ski Club, 36 Totara Street, Turoa Alpine Village, Ohakune

- **Welcome /Apologies**

Nic welcomes everyone to the meeting.

The apologies received so far. See attached attendance sheet with apologies.

- **Matters Arising from the 2019 meeting, Forest and Bird Lodge, 19 October 2019**

No matters arising from the 2019 minutes.

Sarah O'Sullivan moves that the 2019 minutes are a true and correct record.

Lesley Mochan seconds. Carried

- **Annual Report;**

Highlights from the President and Director

- Paul notes that this has been a successful year. We've had the same excellent staff all year. We've had very positive feedback from Bay Trust (our principal overheads funder) who have offered to be a part of, and a beneficiary of a carbon reduction project and an interest free loan for an electric vehicle.
- Since the end of the financial year (June 2020) we've managed to obtain a vehicle for Greening Taupo (Robyn) and it's been very well signwritten. We have also been able to replace PT's vehicle with a subaru which is currently being sign-written. This is another sign of a successful year.
- However because of covid some events have been affected such as the Goat. But we have not been adversely affected either financially or in a conservation sense. However we will need to stay adaptable and take opportunities as they arise.
- Nic adds that we set up a new strategic plan about 3 years ago, and part of that plan was securing more funding so that we could provide more certainty to our staff. We have achieved that this year with Bay Trust's funding which secures our organisation even more. It will enable us to develop further-reaching relationships and connections. This will (and has) enabled us to become 'connectors' of conservation work across the National Park and north to Taupo. Thanks to the volunteers and the Exec Board for enabling this.
- Another focus for us is iwi. We've had some stops and starts here. We will

continue to strive to create relationships iwi and hapu, on both sides of the mountain to work in partnership more closely. We've done a great job of this on the northern side of the park. And we're building depth, and making progress.

- Nic expresses her absolute gratitude to Paul for his role, but also a risk around not being able to secure a salary or remuneration. We will work towards making this a more secure position, just like we've done with our staff.
- Sarah Gibb congratulates on the presentation of the Annual Report. It's very well laid out, and any funder will be able to see our whole story. She especially likes the info-graphics and volunteer hours and how this can be turned into conservation contribution. Thanks to Kiri, Sian and Dave Wakelin for their efforts with this report.

Shirley Potter moves that the President's report be accepted.

Harry Keys seconds. Carried.

Roy Dench moves that the Annual Report be accepted.

Sarah Gibb seconds. Carried.

- **Annual Accounts**

- The outgoing Treasurer Lucy, brings people's attention to page 5 of the Performance Report and the Entity's main sources of cash and resources. This lists an impressive amount of funders and supporters. Page 6 highlights the massive volunteer input into our programmes.
- Page 8 is the statement of financial performance. During the year there was a total revenue of \$572,000 and expenses of \$539,000, and that gives us an operating surplus of \$32,856.
- Our financial sustainability is being proven with the Covid situation and our relationship with Bay Trust.
- Karen Williams acknowledges that a grant like Bay Trust's doesn't happen due to luck, and that the organisation and it's results have spoken for itself, that they want to invest in Project Tongariro, and it's a credit to the team's effort.
- Paul also notes another important funder is Contact Energy who funds Kids Greening Taupo in a multi year agreement. They fund KGT's overhead. Nic would like to see us publicly acknowledge and thank our funders, supporters and the community support and acknowledge the amount of volunteer hours that go into our projects. It's important that we share this information.
- We also wish to acknowledge DOC and their on-going practical support and the long and established working relationship we have.

Karen Ardin moves that the Financial Performance Report is a true and accurate record.

Sarah O'Sullivan seconds. Carried.

- **Election of Officers**

- Nic informs the meeting that she is the out-going president. She has a young daughter who needs more of her time. Nic would like to step down for a couple of years. She is delighted to announce that Mike O'Sullivan has agreed to be nominated for the President's position. This will be a slow handover, and will take place in March 2021. Mike introduces himself to the meeting, his mining background, and his new company Geo40. He brings a passion for technology and the environment. He is warmly welcomed.

**Roy Dench moves that Mike be voted as President of Project Tongariro.
Shirley Potter seconds. Carried.**

- Lucy is standing down as treasurer. Nic acknowledges Lucy's effort in learning the financial side of our society. She's worked very hard with Paul and the team to ensure that we are compliant with Charities Commission financial reporting requirements. Kiri thanks Lucy for always being so easily contactable and available when she is needed. Kiri has very much enjoyed working with her in this role. Paul notes that Lucy stepped into this role 2 years ago when we were struggling to find someone to fill this role. Lucy is not stepping back from the Board though, she will remain on our Executive Board.
- Patricia Taylor has been nominated for the Treasurer role. There are no other nominations. Pat introduces herself to the meeting. She has recently received a certificate for being an accountant for 50 years. She is hesitant to join as she has no knowledge of conservation, but she is pleased to be nominated, and looks forward to learning all about our organisation and botany! Nic states that we are very grateful for a qualified accountant to become our treasurer!

Lesley Mochan moves that Patricia Taylor be voted as the Treasurer.

Suzy Deroles seconds. Carried.

- Nic lists the existing Executive who are continuing on for another year;
 - Lucy Roberts
 - Jason Cameron
 - Roel Michels
 - Lesley Mochan
 - Karwen Grimwade
 - Shirley Potter
- It is agreed that Karen Williams is a Vice President, and the original Families representative.
- Nic lists the following people standing down from the Board - and we acknowledge and thank them for their valuable contributions;
 - Nic Etheridge - just stepping back for a couple of years, but is happy to continue in a strategic support role. Lucy wishes to acknowledge Nic's leadership skills on our committee and we've had some interesting discussions over the last 2 years, and Nic has chaired these really well, and Lucy wants to acknowledge this and hope that she is coming back!
 - David Easson - one year with us but he worked hard in the Waiotaka and Oruatua projects and initiated excellent discussions at Exec Meetings.
 - Sarah O'Sullivan - acknowledged for her immense work in the Rotopounamu project, Oruatua project, the Whio volunteers and the work taking the board's minutes and organising the society's field trips. She is allowed 2 years off! Then she will return.
 - Roy Dench - what a huge amount of time and work that Roy (and Annette!) have contributed to our society. It's been over 30 years since Roy joined our organisation and he's been on our executive committee all but one of those years. He's been president twice and he is always there lending support when it's needed. His contribution to conservation extends to the Waikato and Little Barrier Island. We are very grateful that he chose PT to be the benefit of his passion! Sarah Gibb was appointed in 2001 to the Director's position when Roy was the president at the time and she spoke with great enthusiasm and fondness of Roy and Annette, especially the morning teas and lunches! She especially appreciated the support she got for her weird and wonderful idea for the Tussock Traverse. Harry also acknowledges the countless field trips that he has led and organised. Roy assures us that he will continue to help out the organisation wherever they can, especially for

marshalling.

- Nic calls for new nominations for the Executive Board.
 - Karen Grimwade nominates Allan McKenzie to join the board. Sarah Gibb seconds.
 - Shirley Potter nominates Brenda Lawson. Dianne Michels seconds.

- **General Business**
 - Sarah O'Sullivan wishes to again acknowledge Paul Green for his tireless work for our organisation. Sarah also thanks Kiri for her contribution and feels that the organisation would probably fall apart if it weren't for Paul and Kiri.
 - Paul informs the meeting that member Elaine Warr who used to run the Whakapapa Visitor Centre for the past 10 years had sadly passed away. She helped organise and run the Mahi Aroha summer programme and recently became a volunteer for Greening Taupo. We fondly remember her.
 - Shirley also remembers PT member Mary Marshall who also passed away last year.
 - Events update - Jason Cameron - read by Kiri, his apologies for not being at the meeting. His company Victory Events runs 2 events that PT is partnered with and which we are the charity partners for. He updates the meeting on the Tussock Traverse, and the Ring of Fire Event which will unfortunately not be run in 2021 due to Covid. It's reported that the Goat event will be held on the new date of Saturday 27th February 2021. The event is near capacity and the event date was moved to ensure better probability of weather. It's been a tough year for eventing and we have had to hibernate 3 of our 5 events. Kiri thanks those people who marshall at these events as this is important fundraising and profiling for our society.

With no further business the meeting is closed at 5.12pm

Attendance Register		Apologies received
Kiri Te Wano	Ali Foy	Selwyn Bullock & Linda Dyck
Robyn Ellis	Suzie Deroles	Maureen Chatterton
Rachel Thompson	Pat Taylor	Peter Godfrey
Sian Moffit	Sarah O'Sullivan	Pamela James
Barbara Durrant	Mike O'Sullivan	Noel & Lyn Thomas
Lesley Handcock	Roel Michels	Graeme & Barbara Bryant
Helen Boston	Dianne Michels	Ian Penny
Frank Katavich	Harry Keys	Geoff and Lis Brunton
Paul Green	Karen Williams	Mary-Rose Blackley
Shirley Potter	Christine Potter	David Easson
Karen Ardin	Lucy Roberts	Bruce Jefferies
Roy Dench	Sarah Gibb	Maureen Smith
Annette Dench	Bryony Hales	Brian McKeon
Karen Grimwade	Allan McKenzie	Gail Powell
Nic Etheridge	Josh Parris	Louise & Steve Bell
Lesley Mochan	Evelyn Cooper	Dave Bamford
		Jason Cameron
		Shirley Geering
		Edna Williams
		Margi Keys