

77th Annual General Minutes, Wednesday 8th November 2023, 7.00 pm by Zoom

Attendees

Non-Member:

- Alice Joblin-Mills (PodiatryNZ Operations Manager)
- Alison Molloy (PodiatryNZ Chief Executive)
- Bianca Fourie
- Ian Finchett

PodiatryNZ Member Delegates:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| • Matthew Franken
(Chair) | • Claire Kemp | • Nina Williams |
| • Greer Noble | • Elizabeth Clarke | • Nuzhat Yousufi |
| • Kiseon Hong | • Emelyne Holden | • Pauline Bowdon |
| • Lawrence Kingi | • Erica Whiteman | • Preeti Kaur |
| • Rachael Harper | • Erin Furness | • Rachel Manson |
| • Sarah Duncan | • Fiona Stark | • Rachel Matthewson |
| • Adam Philps | • Hilda Wake | • Ruth Tasker |
| • Alana Herbert | • James Baxter | • Saima Yousufi |
| • Amy Wu | • Jo Anderton | • Shakilo Sekandar |
| • Andrea Connell | • Jude Thompson | • Steve Parsons |
| • Andrew Hawkey | • Julianne Jackson | • TaeHyun Kim |
| • Andrew Jones | • Kate Franken | • Tim Stewart |
| • Ben Lamb | • Kathy Hitchcox | • Trevor Tillotson |
| • Bohae Kim | • Lachlan Smith | • Vivian Wang |
| • Caron Orelowitz | • Leo Brown | • Wade Nell |
| • Chris Gates | • Lisa Hinchcliff | • Winsome Dacres |
| | • Mike Frecklington | |

Apologies:

- Maggie Kang
- Megan Taylor

Opening of Meeting

Matthew formally welcomed all delegates, Lawrence Kingi opened the meeting with a Karakia and.

Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting

There were no questions in respect of the minutes of the 76th Annual General Meeting on the 9th of November 2022.

The motion "that the minutes for the 76th Annual General Meeting be accepted as true and correct" was put.

Moved by Rachael Harper.

Seconded by Sarah Duncan.

The motion was carried.

Annual Report

Matthew spoke to his Annual Report. There were no follow up comments

Andrew Jones thanked Matthew for his service of six years acknowledging time and put in.

Alison spoke to her report noting that there continues to be some challenging issues, some of which we have been able to support well, others that are ongoing, such as ACC and Phenol. She is encouraged that PodiatryNZ as an organisation is in a good space. There were no follow up comments.

Audited Performance Report

Alison noted that the statement of financial performance is a new format and now includes a statement of service performance.

Alison explained the positive financials noting that there was a surplus of \$82,000, which is largely due to our new partnership with Foot Science International and other current partners. There has been savings on payments to suppliers of around \$30,000 less than last year.

Alison asked if there were any questions in relation to the Audited Performance Report.

Andrew asked why governance expenses had a \$10,000 increase, Alison explained that this is due to all the board meetings in person, as opposed to a mix of online and in person due to COVID-19.

Andrew asked what makes up the payments to suppliers in the cashflow; Alison explained that it covers contractor cost, technology, member support, events, website, and IT etc.

The motion "that the 2022 / 2023 Annual Report be accepted as true and correct" was put.

Moved by Lawrence Kingi.

Seconded by Adam Philps.

The motion was carried.

Rule Change

Matthew moved to the proposed rule change, which would be to increase the allowance of board members from seven to eight and increase the allowance of elected board members from three to five. Alison explained that it won't take effect until the next election.

Andrew asked if the benefits / value of this will outweigh the increased cost. Matthew explained that the board was keen to allow for broader representation of the profession. Alison advised that it could be considered a good investment to benefit members. James Baxter mentioned the cost question is very valid but given there is a lot of work to be done, we don't want it to fall on only a few.

The motion "to adopt the rule change, that the Board may consist of up to eight Members: five Members elected as by the Members of the Association in accordance with Rule 7 c, one Podiatrist Māori representative and the Board may co-opt two additional Members" was put.

Moved by James Baxter.

Seconded by Caron Orelowitz.

All member delegates that voted, voted for, no votes were made against.

The motion was carried.

Board Election

Matthew stated it was great to have so much interest and that the two successful Members were Adam Philps and Kiseon Hong.

Matthew advised that the board will meet in the next fortnight, and at this time would confirm a chair and possible co-option.

General Business

Phenol: Alison has produced timeline of activity occurred because of the 'Phenol debacle'. Today (8/11/23) a letter was sent to Medsafe requesting further information on decision that Phenol Swab-It is not a medical device and includes an Official Information Act (OIA) request, noting that a significant amount of effort has been spent on the matter.

Alison asked if there were any questions in relation to the 'Phenol debacle'.

Andrew asked what the outcome was of the legal opinion. Alison explained that the legal opinion was that the regulations state that the Phenol Swab-It can be treated as device rather than a medicine. Andrew further asked if there could be a legal stance that this is limiting peoples access to appropriate care and treatment, Alison explained that we described that there is a negative impact to public safety as result of Podiatrists not being able to use these products. Once again, Medsafe declined to accept that opinion which is why we have gone back to the OIA request. Matthew mentioned that as shown in media recently, we aren't the only group that's not overly happy with Medsafes performance and reasoning.

Pauline Bowden asked what the Podiatrists Board of New Zealand's (PBNZ) have been doing to resolve the situation. Alison explained that they have been incredibly supportive, they have attended meetings with Medsafe, they have actively supported development of the application as far as they can and that Sandi has been very supportive.

Adam asked if the Medsafe decision can be challenged in a higher court, Alison explained that yes it can, however the concern is that the cost would be significant, so we have chosen to go down the OIA request process.

Further discussion ensued including using NaOH as a substitute which is the only current available option.

Prescribing Rights: Alison moved onto prescribing rights, explaining that PBNZ are the ones leading this process and they provided a response which was printed verbatim.

Alison mentioned that she hopes the PBNZ information is helpful and asked if there were any questions in relation to the 'prescribing rights situation'.

Trevor Tillotson asked if PodiatryNZ has any influence on the decision for prescribing rights, Alison explained that categorically no, PodiatryNZ can't influence this, and she is of the view that trying to exert influence would have a significant detrimental effect.

Trevor asked which professional bodies supported the current prescribing rights submission by the PBNZ (as have in the previous submission, e.g., the PG). Alison explained that she can't answer as it is before her time, although does understand that the submission went out to consultation so would have gone out to other professional bodies as well as podiatrists.

Regional Groups: Andrew wanted to discuss whether it would be worthwhile having the regional groups set up again, explaining they were shut down for financial reasons but given the size of the profession, challenges we have and potential benefit from collegiality. Alison asked for clarification regarding whether he means branch financial structure or social support at a local level, Andrew confirmed not from a financial structure but purely from a collegiality, educational and problem-solving perspective. Alison is 100% for that and has been in the business plan for the last two years and have tried to get local groups going again but has proved problematic as people don't turn up. Alison is keen to touch base with the board about how we can incentivise and motivate attendance.

Further discussion ensued and Rachael advised that if anyone would like to help to please get in touch with Alison.

Action: Alison to get in touch with those members to brainstorm how a regional support structure can be set up., Pauline, Leo Brown and others were keen to help.

Foot care assistants: Winsome Dacres asked for an update for the future of footcare assistants. Alison advised that the intention is to provide some resources for this and those that see value can use them and those that don't see value don't have to, a lowkey approach. This is beignb developed with the help of a number of podiatrists and AUT. Alison also mentioned that AUT are working on a first-year training programme which will take some time. Alison asked if Mike wanted to add anything, Mike reiterated that people are already using foot care assistants in their practices, in a whole lot of different ways (as well in UK and Australia), Mike is also working with a group of people to understand best how they are using foot care assistants and that this a very small piece when looking at broader work force issues.

Close of meeting

Matthew thanked everyone for attending and the interest in the profession, he also welcomed the new Board Members.

Sarah thanked Matthew for all his hard work over the past six years (as his term as Chair is over).

Matthew announced the close of the Annual General Meeting 2023 and Lawrence concluded the meeting with a Karakia, one hour after the open of the meeting.