



## **New Zealand Railway & Locomotive Society Inc. Minutes of 2020 Annual General Meeting**

**Held at Johnsonville Community Centre**

**2.00pm Saturday 31st October 2020.**

### **PRESENT:**

A total of 21 members & 3 guests were present.

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**President:** Graeme Carter.

**Directors:** Colin Barry, David Cuthbert, Bill Prebble, Graeme Jupp and Rob Merrifield.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Lindsay Gear, Robin Buddy, Len Chisholm, Mike Coghlan, Glen Summers, Graeme Clover, Lionel Ford, Chris Densom, John Bovis, Kay and Alan Brabander, Stephen Brabander, Sarah Burney, Bob Bevan Smith, Alan Smith, Russell Roberts, Ray Thomson, Tony Hurst, David Rarity, Philip Smith. Brent Efford.

### **APOLOGIES:**

H Anderson, A Arcus, G Banfield, J Clayton, W Cowan, M Cole, S Cornwell, G Craig, K Crosado, M Denne, R Dunham, J Fitzgerald, R Hamilton, G Hannah, A Hans-Henrick, F Hans-Henrik, H Hans-Henrik, R Hinton, F Hulena, S Ingram, G McClare, B Pearce, B Shalders, J Shingleton, C Simmonds, B Taylor, I Tibbles, N Tobin, D Turner, K Wakefield, G Watt, N Wood, & I Wylie.

It was moved that the apologies be accepted

Jupp/ Chisholm Carried

The Chairman welcomed all those present and thanked them for attending.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:** All present stood in silence for a moment In respect of those members who had passed away over the last twelve months.

## MINUTES OF THE 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

**Motion:** That the Minutes be taken as read.

**Moved:** Bill Prebble

**Seconded:** Glen Summers

The motion was put and carried.

**Motion:** That the Minutes are true & correct.

**Moved:** Colin Barry

**Seconded:** Graeme Carter

The motion was put and carried.

## Matters Arising From the 2019 AGM Minutes:

Nil

## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS:

The President Graeme Carter reported as follows on the past year:

It has been a different year with steady progress by the Board. It has also been challenging with Covid 19 but always a good outcome for the Society despite limited access hours for Ava. The first six months were very different to the second when the country was largely locked down. It was very strange not meeting and seeing people. Overall the Society coped well but we were forced to change the way we operate now with "Zoom" meetings. This type of meeting was "not the same" with a lesser level of conversation. This leads to a question around the future of the AGM. The cost of the AGM with room hire, \$800 of printing plus postage is a large drain on the Society funds. A large saving has been made with putting a lot of the reporting on line but a Zoom meeting would not be the same without a meeting of friends. There has been a positive with the saving in costs but the negative is the loss of face to face contact.

Membership has had a reasonable year holding around 760 which is similar to the last ten years. This holding of numbers is due in a large part to social media (web site and Facebook) and the excellent work done by our administration assistant Sandra. There have been lots of visitors to both media.

Our publications are running very well with excellent publications being produced. Observer sales via bookshops increased this year.

There are some challenges ahead of us but these are being worked upon. There is no spare space at our Ava premises and the local authorities flood modelling suggest that with global warming we would need to look for new premises within the next twenty years. Recent bequests have been set aside to provide a fund for new premises,

The digitization group is doing an excellent job despite small numbers of volunteers. . Len Chisholm has set up display equipment showing the "Train Finda" program so that those present my view the progress that this group has made. This program will shortly be available to all members.

The Society is holding up to its objectives – thank you all for supporting the Society.

**Motion:** That the Presidents Report be accepted.

**Moved:** Graeme Carter

**Seconded:** Ray Thomson.

The motion was put and carried.

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

The report was opened for discussion.

### **Society Administration**

Graeme Carter advised that the Administration Committee was working very well. He formally thanked David Cuthbert for his work and commented upon the very able assistance that Sandra provides. Sandra Knight has taken over the Facebook administration from Rod and the Society profile is high in the electronic world with regular updates posted by Sandra. These are generating very positive interest in the Society from people outside the membership.

### **Publications**

Bill Prebble commended Graeme Carter on his efforts to get the Observer out during Covid shutdown and reiterated how this highlighted the need for all members to get their e mail address to us. He also advised that the Kb book is to go to the printers in the next few weeks.

### **Digitization Working Group**

Bob Bevan-Smith repeated his comments of the previous year around the shortage of volunteers and outlined the magnitude of the task. He also advised that there are lots of images that need descriptions and reminded us all that even our digital images need a record kept of their subject matter.

### **WMR Carriages and North End**

Rob Merrifield commented that the small regular team is doing a very good job with some working on parts at their homes. WMR 48 is well on the way to completion with smaller items like interior kerosene lights to be constructed. He badly needs a tinsmith to assist with these. They are always on the lookout for more volunteers with varied skills. Lionel Ford has overhauled and made safe all the machinery that is currently being used at North end

**Wellington Area report:** Len Chisholm advised that he had submitted a report for the year. The secretary apologized for his oversight in not including it. The report is recorded here:

The Wellington Group continues to meet on the 2nd Monday of alternate months from March to November, although our May 2020 meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.

Average attendance was 19.5, with the door charge covering hall hire and ancillary costs.

Programmes included the Cunard 175th celebrations, a Canadian trip, early years of the Tramway Museum and images by former LE Keith Cullen.

The field trip in February was a visit to Kapiti Miniature Railway, where members rode behind a selection of locomotives and several enjoyed a drive on a battery-powered miniature tramcar. Following that we visited the Tramway Museum for afternoon tea, a tram ride and a tour behind the scenes

**Motion:** That the Annual Report be accepted.

**Moved:** Graeme Carter

**Seconded:** Alan Smith

The motion was put and carried.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT (In the form of a Performance Report)**

Ken Lankshear distributed copies of the report. Still to be audited. Surplus this past year of \$36,700 mostly attributed to bequests. It will always be difficult to gather sufficient income to cover costs. The Society is in a healthy financial position with considerable deposits, some of which are allocated to projects.

Keith McGavin thanked Ken for including the segment report (page 7). This led to some explanatory discussion initiated by David Rarity from the floor. Ken advised that the Observer loss will continue when reported this way as the membership income largely contributes to the Observer cost so reversing that deficit.

**Motion:** That the Financial Performance Report be accepted subject to audit.

**Moved:** Ken Lankshear

**Seconded:** David Cuthbert

The motion was put and carried.

## **SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

The Board has recommended that the subscriptions for the 2021 year remain as at present i.e. \$90 for New Zealand members and \$100 rest of the world.

**Motion:** That the annual subscription remain as at present.

**Moved :** Graeme Carter

**Seconded:** Colin Barry

The motion was put and carried.

## **AUDITOR**

Keith McGavin was appointed unopposed as auditor on the motion of Graeme Jupp and David Cuthbert. It was suggested from the floor that as the constitution allows the auditor be elected for a three years term aligned with the election of the officers this should take place.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**WMR 48:** Rob Merrifield advised that he was having difficulty with getting quotes for the next stage of work, mainly as it is specialised and there was not a lot of interested parties that can carry out this specialised work. This work is beyond the skill set of our present volunteers.

**Affiliation with overseas organisations:** Brent Efford asked if affiliation with various groups was still maintained. The Board to look into.

### **Next AGM:**

No recommendation from the floor. Accordingly the next AGM will be held as directed by the Board and constitution.

There being no further business the President declared the meeting closed at 3.10pm.

*Ends.*