

# Royal Society of New Zealand Wellington Branch 165<sup>th</sup>

## 2016 Annual General Meeting

### Agenda

Meeting opened: 6:07

#### 1. Apologies

- a. Nancy Yopp, Simon Granville, George Jones, Mary and Andrew McEwan, Bruce McFadgen, Bruce Miller and Margaret Gordon.

#### 2. Acceptance of the 2015 Minutes

- a. Accept as read. Moved: Frank Andrews moves, Second: Yvonne Curtis

#### 3. The President's address and the Treasurers Report are in the Annual Report on the website.

- a. If anyone wants a copy of the Annual Report with usual binding, please contact Brian
- b. Brian read presidents address. (see Annual report for details)
- c. Queenie read summary of treasurer's report. Move to accept report: Brian Jones, Second: Frank Andrews

#### 4. Annual Report

- a. Honorary members v Life Members in the report- need to be distinguished (so they do not seem like "unpaid" members)
- b. Question about our status under the Royal Society Act- are we a part of the parent body or separate? In law we are part of them but current RSNZ president Andrew Cleland disputes that. Could we be both?
- c. The constitution will need to be reviewed in 2017
  - i. Current proposal for sharing of membership between branches in Parent Body. This is currently in discussion
  - ii. Incorporated societies act changes

#### 5. Approval of subscription *Rule 15. Annual subscriptions for Ordinary Members shall from time to time be fixed by the Branch Council and ratified by an AGM or SGM.*

- a. Recommend maintain current subscriptions. Student fee of \$15. Move: Brian Jones, Second: Wyn Beasley
- b. Enquiry about current subscription rate. \$40 if working, \$30 if retired/of retirement age
- c. Enquiry about our support of Glean Media- we donated \$500 this year, hope to do this this year

#### 6. Election of Council *Rule 42. Six weeks at least before the Annual General Meeting the Secretary shall request from each member nominations for Branch Council or notices of motion for the Annual General Meeting. Such nominations and notices must be received by the Secretary at least four weeks before the Annual General Meeting.*

*Rule 21. The President, two Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, (or Secretary Treasurer), Council Members and the Auditor/Financial Reviewer shall be elected by ballot at the Annual General Meeting from nominations received from members by the Secretary. Such nominations shall by the proposer and seconder and shall have the consent of the nominee. Offices vacant through insufficient nominations may be filled by nomination and election at the Annual General*

Notice was sent out in the September Newsletter. Nominations were received for all of the positions, as follows. I therefore move that the following be elected:

- a. **President** Dr Phil Lester
- b. **Vice Presidents** (x2) Dr Brian Jones, Dr David Lillis (not present)
- c. **Treasurer** Queenie Lin
- d. **Secretary** Chrissy Boulton
- e. **Council** Wyn Beasley; Trevor Drage; Nancy Yopp; Frank Andrews; Lucy Forde
- f. **Financial Reviewer** Paul Jones

#### 7. Any other Business

- a. Move to thank Brian and Nicole for their hard work on the council- Phil Lester and Frank Andrews
- b. Cameron smart has news of George Jones, newly married and living in Philippines.
- c. RSNZ 150 Anniversary 2017
  - i. Cameron Smart: Wellington Success Stories
    - 1. I would vote for the engineering seismology work in which Ivan Skinner, Les Megget and others were early movers.
    - 2. On the engineering side, understanding the dynamics of motion, first studied in the railways workshops with an elevated water tank, then at DSIR Physics and Engineering Laboratory with an instrumented model that acted as an analogue computer. This work eventually led to the base isolation method of EQ defence.
    - 3. On the seismology side, the early scratch plate strong motion recorders, then the MO2 accelerograph recording on 35 mm film, and now the near real-time GeoNet system.
    - 4. The NZ Standards beginning about 1935 that became the Model Building Bylaw and more recently became ways of complying with the Building Code were related work that sometimes led and sometimes followed the science.
  - ii. Founders of RSNZ were members of the branches- and the connection seems to be lost between branches and RSNZ- they don't see us as relevant.
  - iii. George Grey. James Hector- good speaker would be the author of the recent book on him. ("James Hector: Explorer, Scientist, Leader" by Simon Nathan)
  - iv. We need a record of characters involved over the years- there have been many
  - v. Record of our involvement in the Wellington science fair
- d. **George Preddy:** Inadequacy of New Zealand's response to climate disruption. **Not present to speak.** Discussion on the point brought up at 2015 AGM, with the conclusion that it is not our position to strike someone off because of holding an opposing view. The correspondence has been received.

- 8. Meeting closed 6:58pm