



EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES

DATE 21 March 2009
VENUE Kennedy Park Motel - Napier

The meeting opened at 10.00am. The President welcomed Jane Dudley to her first meeting

PRESENT

Rob Mitchell in the Chair, David Barnes, Rick Barber, Owen Cox, Richard Davies, Jane Dudley, Quentin Duthie, Phil Glasson, Tony Haddon, Graeme Lythgoe, Barbara Morris, Dennis Page, David Round, Brian Stephenson, Viv Milne

1 FORMAL

1.1 Apologies

Robin McNeill, Barbara Spurr

THAT the apologies be received *David Barnes / Tony Haddon* CARRIED

1.2 Confirmation of the Agenda

After a brief discussion the Agenda was confirmed. It was noted that the Agenda had been structured into four sections: Formal, Administration & Governance, Membership & Promotion, Advocacy & Consultation

1.3 Confirmation of minutes of Exec meeting held 8 November in Wellington

THAT the minutes of the Executive meeting held 8 November be confirmed
 AGREED

1.4 Report from FMC Mountain & Forest Trust

1.4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 8/11/08 were received

1.4.2 The President gave a verbal report on what had been discussed at the meeting held prior to this meeting:

- The financial affairs of the Trust are sound
- A grant has been agreed for Brian Wilkins to produce a book on Mountaineering in NZ in the 60's
- A grant has been agreed for hut improvements in the Ruahines (2 huts) & Tararuas (1 hut)
- A request for a grant towards a book on the law of tramping was deferred
- A brochure to promote the Trust was being prepared.

In response to a question Executive members were assured that grants were only paid out after proof that the activities had been completed was provided and that in the case of publications grants were on the basis that if there was a surplus after all costs had been met then the grant would be repaid.

The Trust Board was asked to report back to the Executive on its membership structure in view of the fact that not all Board members attend all meetings. It was noted that any changes to the number of members on the Trust Board required the approval of the Board and the Executive and then had to be put to the AGM

2 ADMINISTRATION & GOVERNANCE

2.1 Correspondence

THAT the correspondence as previously circulated be approved

David Barnes / Barbara Morris CARRIED

THAT the resignation of Hannah McGregor due to her new employment position be accepted with regret and that Hannah be thanked for her service to the Federation

Moved from the Chair CARRIED by acclamation

THAT under clause 6(e) of the Constitution the Executive resolves to coopt Jane Dudley to be a member of the Executive of the Federation for the remainder of Hannah McGregor's term.

Moved from the Chair CARRIED by acclamation

The Secretary reported on the present position regarding nominations received to date.

2.2 Finance

2.2.1 The financial position as at 28 February had previously been circulated to members

THAT the payments of for the period 1 November 2008 to 28 February 2009 totaling \$82090.44 be approved for payment retrospectively.

Graeme Lythgoe / Dennis Page CARRIED

THAT Richard Davies replace Hannah McGregor as a cheque signatory

Graeme Lythgoe / Owen Cox CARRIED

The Treasurer then presented the draft Annual Accounts to the meeting.

It was AGREED that the question of Campaign Funding and reserve Funds be discussed at the June meeting.

THAT the draft Annual Accounts as circulated be approved.

David Barnes / Graeme Lythgoe CARRIED

The discussion on the budget for 2009/2010 was deferred until the afternoon.

Owen reported on his review of the Administration Officer contract.

AGREED that an increase in the Administration Officer's hourly rate as outlined by Owen should be paid. Noted that this was incorporated in the proposed budget for 2009/2010

2.2.2 **Budget 2009 / 2010** deferred to later in the meeting (follows item 4.9)

3.7 Travel Club (Out of order)

At this point John Dobbs, Convenor of the Travel Club joined the meeting and the meeting considered the Agenda item "Travel Club" under Membership & Promotion.

John spoke to the meeting and made the following points:

- There is a good income stream to the FMC from the Travel Club and there is no reason why this should not continue
- Repeat business is very strong
- There is an ongoing need for new leaders
- The best advertising is “word of mouth” and he urged the FMC Exec to spread the word.

In response to questions

- John would try to see if more after trip reports could appear in the Bulletin but made the point that NZ’ers are not that keen on writing reports after an activity !
- The Travel Club can be promoted even more by the website and the Bulletin promotion is very good.
- Advertising could be done via the Newsletter
- 90 – 100% of trip members are already in the FMC but there would be no major difficulty in requiring any non member to join the FMC as an Individual Supporter
- The age profile of trip members is 40 – 70’s

Graeme Lythgoe thanked John for his work and spoke highly of the efficient manner in which the Travel Club is being conducted.

A motion of thanks to John Dobbs for his work was carried by acclamation.

The meeting then returned to the original agenda order

2.3 Honoraria

Viv Milne presented the papers on Honoraria prepared by the Vice Presidents and after discussion the following motions were put:

For this item the meeting was chaired by Viv Milne

THAT the Executive consider the potential future changes in honoraria costs and paid staff costs

THAT the Executive bear the first report in mind when considering the report which considers Honoraria for the FMC office holders for the 2009/2010 Financial year.

THAT the honorarium for President continue at \$15,000 per annum for the 2009/10 financial year

THAT the honorarium for Secretary be set at \$2,000 per annum for the 2009/10 financial year

THAT the honorarium for Treasurer be set at \$2,000 per annum for the 2009/10 financial year

Amendment:

THAT the figure of \$2000 for the Treasurer be replaced by \$7000 and that the figure of \$2000 for the Secretary be replaced by \$5000.

Richard Davies / Tony Haddon LOST (3 – 8)

(Jane Dudley abstained)

THAT if an office holder does not accept the honorarium set for their position, it should be treated as a donation and transferred into the FMC Trust

THAT the honoraria be reviewed each year at the October/November meeting of the Executive, at least until the future changes and possible expansion of FMC have settled after which a less frequent review may be considered.

THAT during the review for the October/November 2009 meeting of the Executive, the sub-committee consider whether there is the need to expand the honoraria of the Secretary and Treasurer to signal the increased workload and possible need for professional assistance arising from future changes and expansion of FMC, or from the resignation of office holders.

The above motions were put as one group

Viv Milne / David Round CARRIED (UNAN)

[During the discussion on this item the President, Secretary & Treasurer did not participate in the discussion other than to clarify any points presented to them. The President, Secretary and Treasurer abstained from all voting on this item]

2.4 *Constitutional Amendments*

The Secretary presented a paper outlining difficulties with the current date deadlines in the constitution with regard to the AGM and nominations.

Amendment 4 (Change to Preliminary notice of meeting & calling for nominations)

Amend clause 8(c) by replacing the words "five (5) weeks before the end of each financial year" with the words "fourteen (14) weeks before the date of the Annual General Meeting"

Amendment 5 (Change to closing date for nominations)

Amend clause 6(f) by replacing the words "30th April in each year" with "eight (8) weeks before the date of the Annual General Meeting"

Amendment 6 (Change to closing date for notice of business)

Amend clause 8(c) by replacing the words "30th April" with "eight (8) weeks before the date of the Annual General Meeting"

{Note that present clause 8(b) remains unchanged. It requires the business to be transacted at the AGM to be posted to clubs 5 weeks before the date of the AGM. This in conjunction with amendment 6 above will allow 3 weeks to receive material and do the administration before sending it out. }

THAT the amendments numbered 4, 5 & 6 above be endorsed by the Executive for presentation to the 2009 AGM.

Phil Glasson /Brian Stephenson CARRIED

(NB Amendments 1,2 & 3 were considered at the November 2008 Executive meeting)

THAT amendments relating to the method of appointment of the Secretary & Treasurer be deferred until the 2010 AGM and be discussed further at the November 2009 Executive meeting

Phil Glasson /Brian Stephenson CARRIED

The President advised the meeting that the NZ Alpine Club were considering a constitutional amendment to raise the number of delegate votes one person could hold from 2 to 3.

It was further AGREED that:

The amendment to enable the immediate Past President to remain on the Executive for the term of the current President should take effect from the 2009 AGM (if carried)

The amendment to reduce the number of Vice Presidents from 4 to 1 and increase the size of the Executive by 3 would be put to the 2009 AGM and if carried would take effect from June 2010.

2.5 *Archiving Material* *Deferred* (due to time constraints)

2.6 *AGM organisation* *Deferred* (due to time constraints)

3 MEMBERSHIP & PROMOTION

3.1 *Promotion & Publicity Committee*

Barbara Morris presented the paper from the Promotion & Publicity Committee. After discussion the following motions were put:

THAT the Executive endorse actions taken so far to increase individual supporter membership of Federated Mountain Clubs.

THAT the executive approves the proposed budget of \$1500 to place advertisements in selected magazines to promote individual supporter membership.

THAT the Administration Officer be asked to make contact with un-affiliated tramping/walking groups around New Zealand, and invite them to join the Federation; the Administration Officer will then report to the Promotions/Publicity committee convenor every two months on the number of contacts made and the number of positive responses.

THAT the sub-committee investigate producing an attractive pamphlet, publicising the work of Federated Mountain Clubs – this to be used for non-affiliated clubs and anyone who enquires about the organisation.

Barbara Morris / David Round CARRIED

3.2 *New Website*

Phil Glasson presented his paper reporting on progress on the development of the new website

THAT the Executive approve the allocation of a further \$2000 from the budget 2009/2010 to continue the development of the website and associated IT work.

Phil Glasson / Owen Cox CARRIED

3.3 *Sale of New Topo50 Maps*

Phil Glasson presented the proposal to coordinate a process by which affiliated clubs could order the new Topo50 maps later in 2009.

THAT FMC coordinate an ordering process for clubs and Individual supporters to enable them to purchase the new Topo50 maps through FMC between September and December 2009

THAT the details of pricing & administration be finalised between the Treasurer, Secretary, Owen Cox and the Administration Officer.

Phil Glasson / Owen Cox

CARRIED

The suggestion was made that the 1-5 category be removed and that the price for 6- 20 maps be increased to \$7 each.

3.4 Discount Card

Lex Smith reported on the Discount Card for the forthcoming year.

3.5 Bulletin Editor Contract

David Round reported on the discussion with Shaun Barnett

THAT the Bulletin Editor Contract with Shaun Barnett be renewed for a further year from the June 2009 issue to the March 2010 issue and that the rate of remuneration be increased to \$3240 + GST per issue.

David Round/ Brian Stephenson

CARRIED

3.6 Newsletter

Dennis Page reported on the monthly newsletter

4 ADVOCACY & CONSULTATION

4.1 Living Rivers Coalition / Wild River Campaign

Rob Mitchell reported on discussions between FMC and the other partners in the Living Rivers Coalition.

THAT having considered the report on the Living Rivers Coalition regarding discussions held between members over the period December 2008 to February 2009 the Executive resolves to continue to work with the Living Rivers Coalition partners for the foreseeable future

Rob Mitchell / Quentin Duthie

CARRIED

There was further discussion on the proposal to hold a 2 day meeting of all organisations with an interest in Rivers at Murchison on 8/9 April

The following points were noted:

- The agenda as outlined needs refocusing to be more specific
- Any press release needs to be vetted by our President if our name is associated with it
- We should push for meetings at the weekend, in easy to access locations and with plenty of advance notice
- Rick Barber will be our delegate and Quentin Duthie may also be able to attend

THAT the FMC approve the travel and accommodation costs for up to 2 delegates to attend the 2 day Wild Rivers Meeting

Amendment

THAT the following words be added to the motion “but that we express our dismay at the shortness of notice and the mid week date of the meeting and further that we grant our delegates powers to develop strategy but not commit the FMC to a policy nor to any expenditure.

David Round / Rick Barber CARRIED

The motion as amended was put:

Phil Glasson / Tony Haddon CARRIED

4.2 *Hydro Options Guidelines*

Brian Stephenson presented his paper on Hydro Policy options

THAT the paper be accepted as guidelines for the FMC in establishing a position on future Hydro proposals.

Brian Stephenson / Dennis Page CARRIED

David Barnes offered to prepare a similar set of guidelines for future Wind Power proposals.

4.3 *Mokihinui and Mokihinui-Lyell Trust*

There was discussion on the current state of the Mokihinui RMA hearing and the recent Memorandum of Understanding signed between DoC and the Mokihinui-Lyell Trust. No action other than to maintain a watching brief over these issues.

Quentin Duthie offered to prepare a paper clarifying the present position and circulate this to the Executive

4.4 *Draft CMS Template*

Brian Stephenson reported that the NZCA was still considering the Bay of Plenty draft CMS.

There was general discussion on the format of the draft CMSs being used by Conservancies currently reviewing their CMS.

- It appeared that the concerns being expressed about the Bay of Plenty format were having an effect on later draft CMSs though this won't be known for sure until the draft is published
- Sending the clubs a CD of the Waikato draft and then following up with a phone call to discuss particular points was worthwhile. The CD on its own probably wasn't so effective but when reinforced by the phone contact it meant that all clubs were given the opportunity to make an input.

AGREED to send a letter to the new Minister of Conservation reminding him of our concerns over the draft CMS template used by Bay of Plenty

We have received a reply from DoC West Coast detailing what their response has been to each one of our submission points.

(NB The submission was made in October 2007, hearing held in February 2008 and the draft CMS goes to the NZCA on 8 April 2009.)

AGREED Rick Barber offered to draft a letter to DoC West Coast requesting a copy of the CMS which will be presented to the NZCA.

4.5 NATIONAL ADVOCACY

4.5.1 Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Recreation Council

President advised that Robin McNeill had been nominated by FMC. He had been shortlisted and an announcement was imminent

4.5.2 Meeting with Al Morrison post election

President and Owen Cox met with D-G and reported that the meeting was useful and positive.

It was suggested that we should also make direct contact with the newly appointed Associate Minister of Conservation and Peter Dunne.

4.5.3 Visitor Safety Programme

Richard Davies reported on the meeting called by DoC and held on 25/2 (with Brian Stephenson) .

The issue has been taken up by MSC

AGREED that a letter be drafted to MSC asking what this review is likely to require of FMC

Richard Davies & Brian Stephenson to develop a position statement for FMC on this matter.

The meeting was strongly of the view that the FMC should hold to the principles outlined in the "Mountains without Handrails" publication of some years ago which could be summed up in the philosophy that we "make people safe for the mountains and not mountains safe for the people"

4.5.4 Concession Policy Changes proposed by DoC

It was noted that DoC was proposing some changes to the Concessions Approval regime which would be contained in Part 3(B) of the Regulatory Improvement Bill currently being prepared.

Quentin Duthie offered to keep a watch on the progress of this bill and advise us when a submission would be required.

Richard Davies offered to draft a submission from FMC on the proposed changes.

Noted that one of the particular concerns was the extent to which DoC monitored concessionaires to ensure the conditions of their concession were adhered to.

4.5.5 Doc / NGO Meeting 26 February

Phil Glasson reported on this meeting (also attended by Rob Mitchell)

Noted that the Wanganui draft CMS was close to public release.

DoC is going to endeavour to set up a consultation process at a conservancy level parallel to the consultation at national level to ensure that NGO's at a conservancy level can consult more effectively with DoC. Many of the issues raised at this meeting were "local" matters and not national policy matters.

FMC has flagged its concern over the management of Great Walks in general.

4.5.6 Great Walks Management

AGREED that a working party be set up to prepare a paper on Management of Great Walks.

Group to be Rob Mitchell (Convenor), David Barnes, Rick Barber, Dennis Page, Jane Dudley and Richard Davies

4.5.7 Filming on public conservation land

Rob Mitchell & David Barnes offered to prepare a paper on this topic.

4.5.8 Changes to the Resource Management Act

Quentin Duthie introduced his paper on changes to the Resource Management Act . After discussion the following motions were put:

THAT the FMC submit to the Select Committee on the Phase One Bill and that our submission be to oppose those parts of the Bill we see as a threat to public participation in defending conservation and amenity values and to support those parts of the Bill that we see as positive.

Quentin Duthie / Dennis Page CARRIED

Rick Barber offered to write the submission

THAT Quentin Duthie be reimbursed \$68 being half the cost of attending the Environmental Defence Society one day workshop in Auckland on the changes to the RMA. (Noted that approval to attend had been gained beforehand from President)

Dennis Page / Phil Glasson CARRIED

AGREED That FMC maintain a watching brief on the campaign and engage as appropriate.

[Richard Davies declared a conflict of interest and did not participate in the discussion or vote on this item]

4.6 NORTHERN ADVOCACY MATTERS

Viv Milne presented his paper. No recommendations were required.

Noted that as all Northern clubs had been consulted over the Waikato and BoP CMSs and that we would consult them over a proposal for a National Park in the area (see Item 4.6.1) the clubs would not be consulted widely over the Auckland and Northland CMSs. Clubs would have the opportunity to make input by way of the newsletter.

4.6.1 Northern Recreation Opportunities Review

The Government is considering establishing some form of National Park / Conservation Park and other recreation opportunities in the North of the North Island

Rob Mitchell (assisted by Viv Milne & Jane Dudley) will prepare a paper on this topic.

4.7 CENTRAL ADVOCACY MATTERS

Owen Cox reported verbally on matters from the Central area.

- There had been discussion with Kay Booth who is writing the Molesworth Management plan
- Nothing more has been heard from DoC on the proposed management of the St James area

4.8 SOUTHERN ADVOCACY MATTERS

David Barnes presented his paper. No recommendations were required.

There was discussion about the issue of a concession to a Security Company to patrol DoC land on the West Coast as security for a mining company

AGREED Rick Barber will draft a letter to DoC West Coast requesting details of this concession

Rob Mitchell raised the question of the charge levied by the landowner to use the private road in the Rainbow Valley. There was some dissent as to whether we should be querying this as the land was private, local clubs were quite happy that the charge was reasonable and deterred hoons.

AGREED that Rob draft a letter to gain clarification of the right to charge for use of this road.

4.9 Overseas Investment Regime

Brian Stephenson raised a late matter relating to a press release on Tuesday 17 March advising that the rules relating to Overseas Investment were to be reviewed. Concern about the short time frame and apparent lack of public consultation on this review

AGREED Brian Stephenson draft a letter to the Deputy Prime Minister on this matter and that the letter go out over the Presidents signature. (The draft letter was read to the meeting).

AGREED President to release a Press Statement as soon as possible on this matter.

At this point in the meeting because of time constraints the President ruled that all the items under the Agenda Heading "Reports from Other Bodies" would be circulated to members by email. Noted that MSC and Mountain Biking reports had already been circulated.

The meeting now discussed the budget for 2009 /2010

2.2.2 Budget

AGREED \$2500 be budgeted for a Youth University Forum subject to a paper being presented.

THAT \$10,000 be budgeted for Campaigns in the 2009/2010 year.

Quentin Duthie / Rick Barber CARRIED

NOTED That the Mountain Recreation Seminar would not occur until the 2010/2011 financial year

THAT \$2000 be allocated for archiving costs in the 2009 /2010 year

Dennis Page / Phil Glasson CARRIED

Jane Dudley will prepare a paper to support the idea of offering some form of “Youth Scholarship”

Rob Mitchell will prepare a paper covering training courses and FMC’s relationship with MSC in this area.

THAT the budget for the 2009/2010 year be confirmed showing a \$23000 deficit.

Graeme Lythgoe / Phil Glasson CARRIED

(Noted that this deficit effectively “uses” the \$23,000 surplus from the 2008/2009 year)

MEETING CLOSED at 6:00pm

Confirmed as a True and Correct Record

Date

