

OrganicFarmNZ

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Saturday 16 July
Abbeville Estate, Auckland Airport



1. Attendees: Jim Bennett, Barbara Harford, Linda Samways, Andy Barratt, Rayna Dickson, Mark Dickson, Alvina Murphy, Simon Griffiths, Jackie Craymer, Clive Craymer, Meriel Watts, Jan Arie Kamsteeg, Betsy Kettle, Marion Thomson, Elfriede Patek, Diane de St Quentin, Judy Chrystall, Giselle McLachlan, Perry Spiller, Graham Clark, Jenny May, Chris May, Dennis Enright, Annie Broadfoot, Steffan Browning, Philippa Jamieson, Nicky O'Sullivan, Donald Nordeng, Matt Morris, Dave Treadwell, Korbinian Poschl, Peter Bacehus

2. Apologies: Heli Matilainen, Peter and Dyan Downard, Herman Rooseboom, Lon Johnson, Gilly Parbey, Valda Muller, Derina Turner, Marie Bedford, Kriss and Terry Higginson, Tim Newton, Mark Levick, Victor Grbic, John Palmer, Eric Zwaan, Bailey Peryman, Brendan Hoare – remainder from Jim's list.

Motion: Moved by Meriel and seconded by Andy that the apologies be accepted. Motion passed.

3. Previous Minutes.

Minutes of the 2015 AGM meeting were approved as circulated.

Motion: It was moved by Jan Arie and seconded by Meriel that the Minutes of the 2015 AGM be accepted as a true and accurate record and as circulated to all members. Motion passed.

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

4. Chair's Report – written and read by Jim Bennett, Chairperson, OrganicFarmNZ NCC

Motion: Moved by Jim and seconded by Jenny that the Chairs report be received as read. Motion passed.

5. Financial Report – presented by Linda Samways, National Administrator, OFNZ

Steffan asked a question around the viability of the upcoming forecast figures. It was explained that given the current growth in the organic sector, the forecast revenue and growth for FY16/17 would be achievable.

Motion: Moved by Jim and seconded by Jan Arie that the Finance report be adopted. Motion passed.

6. OANZ Report – as presented by Barbara Harford, OANZ Committee / OFNZ NCC

The OANZ Chair's report is available for circulation.

Motion: Moved by Jim and seconded by Meriel that the OANZ Report be received. Motion passed.

7. Confirmation of NCC

South Island regions were due for re-election this cycle.

- Canterbury / Nelson region has re-elected Alvina Murphy to continue as their NCC representative.
- Otago / Southland region has re-elected Andy Barratt to continue as their NCC representative.

Motion: Move by Korbinian and seconded by Nicky to accept confirmation of re-elected NCC members as above. Motion passed.

8. Reports from Regions

All regional reports were handed out in the meeting. Auckland region will be available electronically.

9. Any Other Business

Regional Boundaries:

Proposal for reviews on the following regional boundaries; to separate and make regions within their own right. Consideration be given to redrafting the territories in:

- Waikato / Coromandel

- Southern North Island - Wellington / Kapiti / Horowhenua and Wairarapa becoming separate regions
- Hawkes Bay / Gisborne are already an existing region which just needs a working committee formed.

Noted that Central Northland region are concerned about losing their working committee. They feel they are more closely aligned with Auckland than Kaitia therefore asked if the joining together of Auckland region with Central Northland would be feasible.

The purpose for this review is to meet our goal of making it easy for members to participate in the affairs of their region and for new members to identify support that is in their vicinity. Our ability to achieve this, reflects the growth in members in these areas.

These smaller regions may still choose to cooperate in matters such as certification, auditing and representation on the NCC. Costs of supporting these roles, will have a bearing on decisions to fully separate these functions.

This review is a process that will be discussed with the membership in the regions and ratified by the NCC following this process.

Certification renewals would have to be taken into account to ensure there wasn't a period of expiration for a member. There would be a continuation until members were aligned with the new regional structure.

Strategic review of OFNZ:

Given the joining of Soil & Health/BioGro and other areas of growth in the organic sector, there was discussion around the ways we can all engage with the broader community in order to strengthen opportunities for OFNZ.

- What are the issues, what actions should we take, how will we go about this?
- What are three strategies / ideas to work upon for the year?
- The proposal to start this strategic review is for Barbara to continue to extract information from the regional reports including processors, supporter members, pods, individual members, cert levels, membership costs, potential members, promotions, achievements, issues etc
- Customer's views will also be good to feed into this process. Don't exclude the opportunity to have an external view as well.
- A SWOT analysis will then be completed and from this will come the strategy to focus upon for the year.

Motion: Moved by Andy Barratt and seconded by Tony Banks for NCC to conduct a thorough strategic and operational review of OFNZ included membership by region. Motion passed.

A Single Organic Standard

- Discussion ensued around this within the room.
- OFNZ to be represented very strongly by having a couple of people on the working group who can keep members updated and informed. Dave Treadwell will be on that group and it was suggested that Chris May also join the group.

The Chair closed the meeting at 5pm.