

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEW ZEALAND HOME BIRTH ASSOCIATION. held on 9 MAY, 1982. in DUNEDIN.

Minutes of the last AGM were read and accepted

Matters arising from minutes

Joan Donley pointed out that it was 1,000 home births since 1974. Jenny Pollock, (Nelson delegate) indicated that her husband could take over processing of statistics this year.

Apologies: Jgy Barry (Taranaki), Jenny Gardner, (Hauraki/Coromandel), Bronwen Pelvin (Nelson), Jessica MacLean, (Wellington).

Secretary's Annual Report. Was read and accepted. Hazel Adcock expressed a vote of thanks to Henriette Kemp.

Treasurer's Report was read and accepted.

General Business:

With regard to Secretary's correspondence with Health Dept. about regulations for registration of Domiciliary Midwives, Joan Donley said that she thought there were no regulations written anywhere.

Auckland explained that the reason they had not paid their national levy this year was because they were confused about what proportion of the \$15 sub they charge to members was owed. Henriette explained that they needed to pay \$2 out of every \$15 and \$1 out of the \$5 sub, this being one fifth of the \$10 sub set at the last AGM. Thus any branch who charges more than \$10 for their "booking" sub has to pay the one fifth levy only on the first \$10.

National Logo. There was unanimous agreement that the Wellington Logo be used as a national logo.

Constitution.

Some branches expressed their concern that they were not aware that there was a constitution for the assoc., and that they had not seen it before it was printed and accepted. New secretary to distribute copies to all branches for inspection and feedback. The regulation pointing out that no national officer can stand for reelection unless no nominations are forthcoming was criticised. Most people felt that a national officer should be able to stand for office for another year at least if she wants to. Branches to be asked to discuss this so this regulation can be changed at the next executive meeting.

Resits:

1. That voting at the national AGM be on a proportional representation basis. (Auck., seconded, Henriette Kemp). PASSED.  
It was decided that voting be based on 1 vote for every 100 members. Thus a branch with a membership between 1 and 100 has 1 vote, between 100-200, 2 votes, and so on.

2. That office holders on the national executive can come from different branches, and that the national executive (which includes the secretaries of all branches) meet twice a year. One of these meetings would be at the national conference and one could be a "Telephone conference". PASSED

Minutes of AGM 1982 Cont'd.

Marie Kirk (Feilding Branch) said she felt that small branches like hers would be unable to meet the cost of sending their secretary to two national meetings. Henriette pointed out that it is not absolutely compulsory for them to attend, and that branches would be briefed on any matters of importance that would have to be decided on at these meetings so their views can be considered.

3. That the NZRBA appoint a National Lobbying Co-ordinator.  
(Wellington, seconded, Joan Donley.) PASSED (Unanimous)

The meeting agreed that this person would also be responsible for the gathering and redistribution of information to be used when lobbying. This officer to be elected at AGM.

4. That the national lobbying co-ordinator be helped from national funds for expenses incurred in the job.  
It was pointed out that this is already provided since all national executive officer expenses are reimbursed from national funds.

5. That national funds be used to help pay the cost of sending national office holders to conference. (Wgtn., seconded, Nicky Conroy).  
PASSED (Unan.)  
It was pointed out that we could apply for a grant to help with this expense.

6. That some form of equalisation of cost of sending delegates to conference be worked out and implemented next year. (Wgtn., seconded, Lyn Nicholl).  
PASSED (unan.)

The system decided on is as follows: That the cost of sending one delegate per branch from every branch be added up and divided by the number of branches. This is the amount each branch has to pay into the national travel fund. The national treasurer then has to pay to each branch the amount needed to send their delegate to conference.

7. That a suitable group of members write a booklet on "BIRTH-WHAT TO EXPECT", setting out the process of a natural birth and also the types of complications that can occur and what they imply in the home birth situation. (Wgtn.)

This remit was not seconded as it was generally felt that a. there was plenty of literature available, and b. it is too vast a project. It was agreed that a "promotion" booklet specifically on the facts and figures of home birth in NZ would be a better idea, as a long term project. Auckland has already made a start on something of this sort.

8. That our statistics be given out soon to the media with the slogan along the lines of "Home birth is at least as safe as hospital birth- we are prepared to give our statistics, why aren't they?" (Auck.)

This remit was not seconded. It was agreed however that the annual statistics should be released to the media and to all domiciliary midwives.

Minutes of NZHBA AGM 1982 Cont'd.

9. That the NZHBA express to the Minister of Health the concern felt at the diminishing number of registered nurses undertaking their midwifery training in New Zealand since the introduction of the Technical Institute-based course. (D.M.S., seconded Joan Donley). PASSED (Unan.)
10. That the recommendations in the Maternity Services Report be asked to be referred to a Parliamentary Select Committee. (Auck., seconded- Nicky Conroy). PASSED (Unan.)
11. That the NZHBA express strongly to the Director General of Health its concern that domiciliary midwives are being obstructed in attempts to register with the Health Dept. through the use of the recommendations put in the Maternity Services Committee report which have not even been codified. PASSED (Unan.) (Auck., seconded- Coromandel).
12. That the NZHBA support the wish of domiciliary midwives to remain under the supervision of the health department. (Auck., seconded Henriette Kemp). PASSED (unan.)

Election of Officers.

The following people were elected:

- Spokesperson: Marilyn Walker (Dunedin). Ph. Waitati 614. P.O. BOX 6124, Dunedin.
- Secretary: Nicky Conroy (Dunedin). Ph. Portobello 670.
- Treasurer: Helen Staples (Wellington).  
41 Wyndrum Ave.,  
Lower Hutt. Ph. 697 118.
- Newsletter Editor: Henriette Kemp. (Wellington)  
1 Salisbury Garden Court  
Wadestown. Wellington. Ph. 728 975
- Lobbying/Resource Co-ordinator: Henriette Kemp.

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Vote of Thanks . A warm vote of thanks went to Dunedin for organising a very enjoyable and productive conference.

Next Conference. Auckland volunteered to organise and host the next conference to be held in May 1983.

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