The Braille Authority of New Zealand

Aotearoa Trust (BANZAT)

# Confirmed Minutes of Meeting 52 of The Braille Authority of New Zealand Aotearoa Trust, the tenth Annual General Meeting, held via Zoom, on Tuesday 15 September 2020, commencing at 3:06pm

# 1 Welcome, attendees, apologies

The Chair, Maria Stevens, welcomed everyone to the tenth Annual General Meeting of the Trust. She thanked Clive Lansink for his technical support with Zoom. She asked attendees to mute themselves unless they wished to speak.

She invited trustees to introduce themselves, explaining their backgrounds and who had appointed them. She then invited observers to introduce themselves. She also called for apologies.

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| Name | Appointed by | Term Expires |
| Trustees |  |  |
| Paul Brown | Founding Organisations | 2021 |
| Leyna Coleman | Blind Citizens NZ | 2021 |
| Justine Edwards | Parents of Vision Impaired | 2021 |
| Amanda Gough | BLENNZ | 2022 |
| Chantelle Griffiths | Blind Low Vision NZ | 2021 |
| Nicola McDowell | Founding Organisations | 2023 |
| Jenny McFadden | BLENNZ | 2020 |
| Dr Wendy Richards | Founding Organisations | 2023 |
| Mary Schnackenberg, Secretary/Treasurer | Founding Organisations | 2023 |
| David Smith | Blind Low Vision NZ | 2022 |
| Maria Stevens, Chairperson | Kāpō Māori | 2022 |

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| Name | Organisation |
| Observers |  |
| Rebecca Long | Auckland Emergency Management |
| Hannah Reynolds | Auckland Emergency Management |
| John Lambert | AUT University |
| Raeleen Smith | Former BANZAT trustee |
| Karen Stobbs | BLENNZ |
| Rose Wilkinson | Blind Citizens NZ |
| Martine Abel-Williamson | Blind Low Vision NZ |
| Peter Hine (from 3:36pm) | Blind Low Vision NZ |
| Clive Lansink | Blind Low Vision NZ |

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| Name | Organisation |
| Observers (Contd.) |  |
| Geraldine Lewis | Blind Low Vision NZ |
| John Mulka | Blind Low Vision NZ |
| Paula Tesoriero | Human Rights Commission |
| Latoa Halatau | Vision Pacific |
| Tewai Halatau | Vision Pacific |
| Neil Jarvis | WBU Asia-Pacific Treasurer |
| Jonathan Mosen | Workbridge |
| Apologies |  |
| Greg Morgan | Auckland Emergency Management |
| Philip Miles | Auckland Libraries |
| Nicola Owen | Audio Described Aotearoa |
| Karen Plimmer | Former BANZAT trustee |
| Marion Satherley | Former BANZAT trustee |
| Natalie Stewart | Former BANZAT trustee |
| Jonathan Godfrey | Blind Citizens NZ |
| Rick Hoskin | Blind Low Vision NZ |
| Genna Saifiti | Blind Low Vision NZ |
| Julie Woods | Blind Low Vision NZ |
| Linda Wright | Blind Low Vision NZ |
| Chrissie Cowan | Kāpō Māori |
| Raewyne Lovich | Kāpō Māori |
| Simon Latimer | Office of the Ombudsman |
| Vincent Naidu | Vincilaw |

Apologies were accepted by agreement.

# 2 In memoriam

Here we remembered friends in the braille sector who have passed away in the past 12 months.

In particular we remembered: Ann Bain, who learned braille later in life and made considerable use of it; Lenore Jessop, a lifelong braille user who worked in the Library at Blind Low Vision NZ for almost 30 years; Bette Gilmore who taught music at Homai College and transcribed music for over 20 years; and Connie Aucamp from South Africa who was the first Chair of the International Council on English Braille.

# 3 Minutes

## 3.1 Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting 47, the ninth Annual General Meeting, held on 10 September 2019.

It was resolved:

That the Minutes of Meeting 47, the ninth Annual General Meeting of The Braille Authority of New Zealand Aotearoa Trust held on Tuesday 10 September 2019 be confirmed.

Moved: M. Stevens. Seconded: P. Brown. (Res. 52-1).

## 3.2 Matters arising from Minutes not listed in the Agenda

No matters were raised.

# 4 Performance Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2020

On Friday 11 September we distributed the Performance Report with the Meeting Agenda to those who had accepted our invitation to attend this meeting. We did not read from the report. We invited questions and comments from the floor.

Martine Abel-Williamson asked about BANZAT's report against the Strategic Framework for the Provision of Braille Services. We noted we had reported on this in the Performance Report. “The Disabled People's Organisations' Coalition is encouraging production of braille as one of the accessible formats. BANZAT is very pleased to see government made available through Blind Low Vision NZ braille documents about COVID-19 which were especially important to users not online. There has also been a significant rise in braille materials in te reo Māori for adults. For example, in 2019 and 2020 the Auckland Arts Festival provided braille copies of their songbooks of Waiata for their community sing-alongs. The Office of the Ombudsman has produced in braille several of its booklets in Māori.”

Treasurer Mary Schnackenberg thanked Peter Hine for reviewing the accounts and for his favourable review letter.

It was resolved:

That the Performance Report, including the financial statements, of The Braille Authority of New Zealand Aotearoa Trust for the year ended 30 June 2020 be adopted.

Moved: W. Richards. Seconded: A. Gough. (Res. 52-2).

# 5 Election of officers

At 3:24pm Maria stepped down from the Chair and Wendy Richards assumed the Chair.

Wendy called for nominations for the position of Chair of BANZAT. Maria Stevens was nominated by L. Coleman, seconded by P. Brown. As there were no other nominations, Maria was declared the Chair for the year 2020-2021.

At 3:25pm Maria resumed the Chair. She said that it is a privilege to work with such a diverse, passionate group around braille matters. Wendy thanked Maria for steering the ship so ably.

Maria called for nominations for the role of the Secretary-Treasurer. Mary Schnackenberg was nominated by A. Gough, seconded by P. Brown. As there were no further nominations Mary was declared the Secretary-Treasurer for the 2020-2021 year.

# 6 Bank signatories

The signatories for the ASB Bank accounts held by BANZAT have to be reviewed and appointed at the AGM. Three signatories are required, two of whom approve each payment. Currently the signatories are Jenny McFadden, Wendy Richards and Mary Schnackenberg. Jenny McFadden, one of our 2010 founding trustees, is stepping down from BANZAT at this meeting.

It was resolved:

That the signatories for the BANZAT bank accounts for the 2020-2021 year be Amanda Gough, Wendy Richards and Mary Schnackenberg.

Moved: M. Stevens. Seconded: D. Smith. (Res. 52-3).

# 7 New business

The Chair invited our guests to raise questions and provide comment and feedback.

Jonathan Mosen thanked BANZAT for providing the AGM via Zoom which saved him considerable travel time. He also congratulated BANZAT for safeguarding braille. He then raised the question whether the word “braille” should always be capitalised. In Jonathan's view it should be capitalised to honour its creator, Louis Braille. He asked that we survey New Zealand braille readers about this question. Maria commented that the ICEB General Assembly is coming up in October where we might be able to raise this issue.

Tewai Halatau told us she really enjoys the BANZAT Facebook posts about braille.

# 8 Vote of thanks and Closure

Maria thanked everyone for attending. She again thanked Clive for his technical help with Zoom.

The meeting closed at 3:38pm.

Note: These Minutes were confirmed at the 11th Annual General Meeting held on 14 September 2021.

**Chairperson Maria Stevens**

**Date**