



Member of the World Cat Congress

MINUTES OF THE 44th Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Cat Fancy held 20th June 2015, at the Plaza Hotel, 40-44 Oriental Parade, Wellington.

Welcome by Chair – Zena thanked those who had taken the time to attend the meeting and to support those who had registered their proxy votes. Unfortunately the very bad weather has stopped several people from the Manawatu from attending.

Item 1 Attendance & Apologies

- Roll Call – in attendance

Zena Pigden (Chair)

Chris Lowe (Executive Council Secretary)

Marion Petley (Treasurer)

Janice Davey

Gaynor Saxon

Annette Dunn

Diane Holtom

Lyll Payne

David Colley

Deb Armishaw

Maree Roy

Lew Clarke

Sue Gordon

Judy Wereta

Kay McArthur

Jane Webster

- **Apologies:** Val Ball, Mid- Island Cat Club Inc, Emma Kimberley, Denise Grace, Christine Yeung, Mushfik Yeung & Beryl Colley

Leave of the meeting: was granted (with no voting or speaking rights) for a non-financial member of NZCF to observe. (Judith Davis – Secretary Kapiti-Horowhenua)

Recording: The meeting was also reminded that the proceedings are being recorded, this is to assist the Secretary to complete the minutes. Tapes are erased once the minutes have been completed.

Leave of the meeting: was granted to announce the results of the Elections. Three excellent candidates stood for election and the voting was extremely close with all getting between 50-60 votes. The successful candidates are Deb Armishaw & Jane Webster. The Chair took a moment to acknowledge Janice Davey the unsuccessful candidate this round who has worked so hard on the EC and her energy and commitment to her Shows Portfolio was appreciated. Janice did a huge amount of work for the World Cat Congress seminar & meeting which involved a significant level of fundraising and once again Janice stepped up to the mark and did a great job.

- **Voting strength: 135**

Item 2

Minutes of the 43rd AGM 2014:

Chair: *“That the Minutes of the NZCF 2014 AGM be accepted as a true & correct record of the meeting.”*
Carried

Matters arising from the minutes of the 43rd AGM 2014

Chair: Re: Governance Document- Judges Manual: this process has not been completed – at this point in time there is no process identified in the Judges Manual to cover what happens when a judge resigns. The onus should be on the judge to notify (it is at present) Jane Webster reminded the meeting that the intention was to have a backup plan in case the judge fails to notify.

Health& Safety Officer: added to forms on show date application

Historian: role has been revised Jane Webster has been appointed to this role

Fife: if we have a breed not recognized by the current EMS system we can seek assistance to create an appropriate code – (gives a universal code) further consideration is to be given to the possibility of NZCF adopting the EMS system this has been referred to the BSAC the IT implications also need to be looked at.

Remit: quorum is voting members - has come to this meeting as a reminder

Lyll Payne: Page 2: was Garth Morgan invited to attend the World Cat Congress seminar – **Janice Davey** – he was not there was a very full seminar program.

Annette Dunn: Standardization of the Standard of Points – this is still a work in progress it is hoped that a downloadable pdf document will be made available in particular for student judges, judges, clubs and officiating overseas judges.

Jane Webster: offered to organize the production of two pdf files for the standards.

Item 3 Reports

Chairpersons Report (Zena Pigden)

Chair: *“That the reports are taken as read.”* *Carried*

Chair: *“That the Chairs report be accepted.”* *Carried*

Item 4 Portfolio Managers Reports

(a) Breed Standards Advisory Council (BSAC) Zena Pigden

Health Testing:

Currently the Ragdoll breed section is the only breed section that has actively requested that the NZCF implement registration rules that ensure that all registered breeding Ragdolls are clear of the HCM gene. We hope other breed sections will consider mandatory testing for breeding cats. The NZCF and our breeders need to be seen to be taking positive action to minimise the occurrence of harmful genes in pedigree breeds.

The intention is that every breed of cat will have a breeding policy covering what testing for genetic conditions is recommended for that breed. Breed sections will have the opportunity for input and when completed will be asked whether they wish the health testing to be compulsory (as in the Ragdoll breed) with a graduated introduction over a period of time, or whether they prefer it to remain voluntary.

This is considered to be a very important project with perhaps 4-5 year transition period – were guidelines for testing for health & welfare should become points of difference from a backyard breeder with our pedigree breeders placing importance of health and welfare.

Discussion:

Jane Webster: are NZCF intending to recommend Laboratories or dis recommend?

Chair: Not unless we know that there is a specific issue. There have been some issues around a specific test that was based on incorrect published information) this has now been remedied). As there have been issues it could be seen that it is the BSAC responsibility to keep up with the information - this could be written in as part of the project that they have the actual oversight.

Janice Davey: The WCC seminar discussed and it was agreed that the Laboratories need to be more open and transparent with their testing.

Chair: NZCF can ask for this to happen with the Laboratories advising of any issues.

Sue Gordon: requested that a vote of thanks be given to Maree Roy for all the work she is doing in standardizing the SOP's – this was received with acclamation.

Zena Pigden/Sue Gordon: "That the BSAC report be accepted." Carried

(b) Business Administration and Finance Gaynor Saxon

Disputes & Discipline: Having an effective disputes and discipline procedure provides security and reassurance for anyone dealing with our members that we do have clear expectations of our members, and that if they do not meet those expectations, discipline is possible. The level of complaints being received is of concern.

Discussion:

A number of delegates endorsed the work being done with the complaints particularly those associated with animal welfare issues.

Lyall Payne: requested that these questions and answers regarding disputes resolution are to be recorded in the minutes.

- **Who is the Disputes Co-ordinator?**

(The NZCF website says it is 'Mr John Lloyd c/- the NZCF Secretary').

Gaynor Saxon: "John Lloyd is the NZCF disputes co-ordinator"

- **Who has been deciding if there is a prima facie case to answer' when a complaint is laid? (it is an NZCF rule requirement that a prima facie case must be established)**
- **'What process does NZCF go through to establish if a prima facie case is established?'**

Gaynor Saxon: answered "I do".

Lyall Payne: NZCF rules state that the disputes co-ordinator in the first instance contacts someone complained against and that the process is clearly spelled out in the disputes procedures. Are the Executive Council and the membership at large aware that the NZCF Secretary was contacting people 'complained against'?

Gaynor Saxon: told the meeting 'she was aware'.

Zena Pigden: this is part of the in house resolution.

Gaynor Saxon: The rewrite of the DDP will be on the agenda for the August EC meeting.

Lyall Payne: what is the process for current complaints?

Gaynor Saxon: these come via the EC Secretary to the Business/Administration Portfolio Manager then would subsequently be referred to the Disputes Coordinator as required if mediation fails or does not take place.

The meeting agreed that the number of complaints are of real concern, and that it would be beneficial for a report to be published in Flash Cats so that the membership are informed of the scale of this problem.

Privacy Officer – Lyall Payne advised the meeting that a Privacy process paper that he had written had been presented to EC but had not been actioned.

Chair: this is to be placed on the agenda for the August EC meeting.

Gaynor Saxon /Kay McArthur: "That the Business/Administration report be accepted "
Carried

(c) Judges Portfolio

Annette Dunn

Asked the meeting to acknowledge the recent passing of Paul Flanagan - who had served as an Executive Council Member and as a student Judge.

Codes of Conduct -

Deb Armishaw: there are currently two codes of conduct showing on the website. The code of Ethics needs to be removed this has now been superseded by the Code of Conduct.

Judge Emeritus -

Sue Gordon: requested that the process for appointment of Judge Emeritus is published in Flash Cats as there have been a number of NZCF Judges retire who have not even been asked to act in an Emeritus role.

Administration of Judges -

Jane Webster: asked if there is enough structure left in the judge's pyramid to administer.

Annette Dunn: this has been reported back to EC on a number of occasions, a survey has been done to identify what the judges want. It is not on the EC radar to appoint another registrar.

Judges Returning to NZCF-

Kay McArthur: what is the criteria used for Judges returning to NZ who wish to come back on the judge's panel?

Annette Dunn: according to the Judges manual the only option we have for placement on panels is the length of time they are away – I have suggested a change and will be further discussed with EC. (Referred to EC Post AGM meeting)

Janice Davey: this has not been assisted by the fact that the Judges Manual has not been updated despite the recommendations on review by Jane Webster.

Chair: the review of the Judges Manual is a project in this portfolio for 2015.

(Lew Clarke arrived: 10.55)

Annette Dunn/Judy Wereta: “That the Judges Portfolio report be accepted.”

(d) Information Technology (IT)

Zena Pigden

Zena Pigden: reported that the biggest challenge in this portfolio is that we have no real budget for IT in the perfect world we would put in a complete new system and that is something that she would like to explore.

NZCF Show Programme –

Chris Lowe: expressed disappointed that nothing is being done to promote the NZCF show programme. There are clubs using the programme but nowhere near enough. A lot of money has been used to develop and subsequently enhance the programme and can see no point in continuing to throw money at it if there is limited buy up by the Affiliate Clubs.

Zena Pigden: Maybe we do need to promote it more, there are clubs using the program. Manuals are provided for before and during show day which include screen shots. Feedback from users is mostly positive. Clubs pay \$115 annually to use the program.

Deb Armishaw: some people don't think it is cost effective, there are a number of people that are not computer literate – they have been so used to a manual system. Therefore training is really important.

The meeting endorsed the suggestion that training sessions could be included in handlers/stewards training and judges refresher.

Online Postal Voting –

Deb Armishaw: suggested that the EC could look into further development to IT system to allow members to do postal voting going into an online system.

Zena Pigden: EC will investigate this especially now that there will be ongoing issues with the decrease in postal services being offered by NZ Post.

Lyll Payne: This would be a constitutional remit as we currently use ballot papers.

Zena Pigden/Deb Armishaw: “That the IT report be accepted. “

Carried

(e) Registrations Portfolio Report

Diane Holtom

Imports/Exports stats for 2015 (should read 2014)

Transfer Fees –

Sue Gordon: there is concern that NZCF are making it imperative that breeder's pay for the transfers – who pays for it is irrelevant. As long as the cat fancy is paid what does it matter?

Diane Holtom: This rule was put in place as a responsibility of the breeder, because of all the complaints that we receive. The matter can be referred back to the EC for further consideration.

Registration Numbers-

David Colley: There seems to be a reduction in the number of cats being registered perhaps this is all about the cost of registering when there is only one kitten in the litter maybe NZCF should look at an individual registration rate.

Diane Holtom: EC have looked at this rule and debated the options. It was found that what people were doing was registering only those kittens that they wished to retain for breeding and/or showing and selling the others without registering them. The rule was changed because the level of complaints relating to paperwork was on the increase. A process for follow up was also put in place with a fine imposed.

Although it is noted that the number of transfers has increased there is still an unacceptable level of complaints regarding non supply of paperwork being received.

David Colley: The cost of dealing with these complaints needs to be passed on to the breeder.

Late Registration Fee –

Sue Gordon: This is a particularly high fee and unfair on those breeders who are working with tabbies and silvers for example who often cannot confirm colours and patterns until the kittens are much older.

Diane Holtom: The 4mth is in place because kittens can be shown at 4mths that is why the limit is there, if that was extended you would probably have to think about the pressure put on the Registrars suddenly having to produce registrations for showing purposes. Case by case basis can go back to EC. We want to encourage breeders to register before their kittens go to their new homes. Maybe the fee for the change of colour could be waived or maybe the age could be extended out to 9 months. This matter will be referred to whoever is the Portfolio Manager for the next year.

Promotion Pamphlets –

Despite that the Portfolio Manager has been pushing for this initiative to send out pamphlets promoting NZCF to all new pet owners (Registrars would send out with the transfer) it is disappointing that this still has not happened.

Service Award –

Annette Dunn: Thanked Diane & Zena for personally delivering the service award to Avon Aspen for her 21 years of service as Provisional Registrar.

Chair: It is hoped that following further review that more service awards will be issued that identify the area of service (e.g. administration, judging, registry etc)

Diane Holton/Sue Gordon: “That the Registrations report be accepted.” Carried

(f) Shows Portfolio

Janice Davey

Health & Safety Officers -

Janice Davey: was pleased to confirm to the meeting that all NZCF affiliate clubs have health & safety officers – received with acclamation

National Show –

Reported that two clubs have indicated an interest in holding a National Show it was likely that this will mean that 2016 & 2017 Nationals will have hosts.

WCC Seminar –

Janice Davey: reported that this was a very successful WCC event. A huge amount of work went into ensuring that all the bases were covered to mark an important opportunity for NZCF to host the World Cat Congress Delegates. A successful National show was also held (9Auckland Cat Club hosting) the same weekend this being topped off with a seminar which was will attended with great speakers. Some of the speakers have agreed to provide pdf files to the attendees (with some arriving late due to confusion around start time for the seminar)

Janice Davey/Kay McArthur: *“That shows report be accepted.”* **Carried**

(g) Publications & Marketing Portfolio **Lyall Payne**

Storage Facility – Christchurch

EC has recently been advised that the container being stored by CABCC is largely intact and EC will discuss what they are going to do with the contents at the Post AGM meeting.

Lyall Payne/DebArmishaw: *“That the report be accepted.”* **Carried**

Item 5 Treasurers Report **Marion Petley**

Marion Petley: referred the meeting to an amendment for year-end accounts – page 2 date on the bottom April 2014 auditor has made the adjustment so the date is shown as 30 April 2015. Thanks to the PM for their support in keeping the expenditure down and continue the maintenance of the bottom line.

EC Meetings -

One of the areas that changes could be made is the EC meeting area which is still a major expense.

Membership -

David Colley: the loss of membership is of concern – more marketing and promotion is needed.

Chair: People’s lives have changed with more social contact and busier lives.

Discussion Points:

- NZCF needs to work harder to attract more members.
- Cat fancy form to go out with all transfers, has been talked about for some time but has not been implemented as yet.
- Online promotion – what are you offering pet owners for instance – flash cats – and nothing else – especially if they are not interested in showing

- Show representative at all NZCF shows could be part of this initiative.
- Facebook page – maintenance of the page
- Identify other social media opportunities- to help our own membership to feel more engaged
- Clubs could promote NZCF at their shows

Marion Petley/Kay McArthur: “That the financial statement for y/e as per the amendment be accepted. “. **Carried**

Item 6 Proposed Constitutional Amendments

6.1C Executive Council/Sue Gordon

That the following clause is reinstated to the Constitution:

3.6 Pecuniary gain is not a purpose of the NZCF

Reasonable compensation for services actually rendered by officers and officials of the NZCF.

Chair/David Colley moved an amendment to the proposed remit: thus breaking it into two clauses **Amendment Carried**

That the following clauses are added to the constitution

1. to be inserted in the appropriate place (the purpose 3.2) the other clause would be
2. Reasonable compensation maybe paid for services rendered by officers and officials of the NZCF.

Discussion:

Chair: Whether it is in our constitution or not it is the law – what it means is our Society cannot make money and redistribute it amongst our members this is not to prevent reasonable compensation for services rendered. We are not here to make money and give it out to our members – it might be considered preferable perhaps to have two clauses.

Lyall Payne: This is a statement of the obvious – how can it be applied in practice, is it the attention if 6.1 is passed will 6.2 be ruled out of order.

Chair: does look like a contradiction however it will not be ruled out of order

Substantive motion **CARRIED**

135	0	0
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Lunch adjournment 12.25-1315

6.2C Kapiti-Horowhenua Cat Club Inc/K McArthur

As noted on the 2013 Constitution listed on the NZCF website.

9.1 add (vi) No person who is elected to Executive Council will be paid an honorarium for work that is done by that person while they are on Executive Council.

Lyall Payne: spoke to the motion clarifying the rationale asking the Treasurer to explain the definition of honoraria.

Marion Petley: IRD and our Auditor have been consulted about the payment of honoraria to officials; the group that should be paid an honorarium are the EC. Our appointed officials are paid a scheduler payment as self-employed contractors, paying tax at 33c in the \$.

Discussion Points:

- For example we have an excellent registrar who becomes an EC member it simply means that we would not be able to pay for the registry work
- It may equally mean that a really good candidate will not opt to stand if they are holding a paid position (NZCF losing out all round)
- Judges PM currently fulfils the Registrars role – the editor’s role is part of the publications and marketing. If an EC member becomes part of the payment of an honorarium that is surely a conflict of interest – what is all about what is seen to be correct
- If someone is occupying a position when they are elected to the EC might be different from the case where they become a member of the EC then they want to take on a paid position.
- The rule was changed to enable an EC member to continue in Flash Cat Editors role – legal advice was sought and the outcome has been reported to the membership

Lyall Payne: reported that he has in writing from most of the EC that they were not unaware that they were being charged for work.

Chair: At no time did you Lyall as the Publications/Marketing Portfolio Manager bring this matter to the attention of the EC. A part of getting a magazine printed is prepress and layout this used to be sent to a private company it was subsequently taken on by Gaynor’s company – appropriate quotes were gained (that is the background to that for a commercial service that Gaynor’s company provides)

Lyall: I do not have any issue with the money paid for the commercial content.

Annette Dunn: before the constitution was changed in 2010 the rule stating that EC may appoint people outside of the EC is the rule that has been changed – it has been taken out of the constitution and put into the general rules and policies document. This was not agended it went through an EC meeting. EC is about governance, the EC needs to be aware of what governance means. When you are doing a management role that might affect other portfolio’s it becomes very messy we are doing the membership a dis-service by changing documents – by allowing a rule to be changed.

Lyall Payne: thanked the meeting for the robust debate, with leave of the seconder the remit was withdrawn to allow for further discussion over the next year.

REMIT WITHDRAWN

6.3C Executive Council/Janice Davey

That clause 5.4 regarding life memberships be amended as follows:
An Ordinary Member may become a Life Member only if:

a) Recommendations are made by at least five (5) ordinary Members and one affiliated member;

b) The recommendation is forwarded to the Executive Council Secretary for consideration by the Executive Council (change from requirement that nomination be agendaed for an EC meeting)

c) Nomination if recommended from the Executive Council shall then be placed on the ballot paper for the Annual General Meeting. All persons who are nominated for life membership will be considered Life Members when a majority (51% or more) (change from requirement of a 75% or more majority) of members voting support the motion.

Discussion Points:

- This is something that the membership does not do very often.
- The 75% majority is large – however a number of delegates felt it should remain
- EC only wanted to amend slightly the EC may know something that the membership do not, and therefore can recommend on a case by case basis
- It is all about encouraging people to nominate (before we lose the opportunity with elderly members passing on and not being recognised)
- Publish in Flash Cats the criteria so the membership know how this works

CARRIED

(1 invalid postal vote)

128	4	2
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6.4C Kapiti-Horowhenua Cat Club Inc/Jane Webster

That 11.1 b) of the NZCF Constitution be removed.

This section currently reads:

11.0 Cessation of membership

11.1 Persons cease to be Executive Council members when:

- a) They resign by giving written notice to the Executive Council.
- b) They are removed by majority vote of the Executive Council at an Executive Council Meeting.
- c) Their term expires.

This proposal would amend it to read:

11.0 Cessation of membership

11.1 Persons cease to be Executive Council members when:

- a) They resign by giving written notice to the Executive Council.**
- b) Their term expires.**

Chair: the rationale offered for this remit does propose things that would not work, so it has been suggested that I rule this out of order. However, I am prepared to open this up for discussion by the meeting.

Lyall Payne: At the moment the EC majority is 4, they should not be able to vote someone of with such a small majority – it should not be possible by using this rule. The rules allow this to happen.

Jane Webster: A rule that is not used and a rule that could be used is a dangerous rule to have.

Chair: a similar rule has been used before. The rationale suggests – there are other methods Why would you want someone on the EC not doing their job – medically unwell – engaging in behaviour that is unacceptable? Perhaps we should have something to go with the rule to outline the process. It would not be appropriate if the reasons why the person should be removed encroached on Privacy Act boundaries. The Chair does have the right to bring complaints against somebody – complaints procedure would only be appropriate in some cases only.

Deb Armishaw: Speaking for the original intent implemented in 2007 around poor performance. The consequence was as a last resort with a majority vote at a special general meeting.

Annette Dunn: It does concern me greatly that an EC with a majority of four can terminate. Yes I understand that issues to come forward at time to time there is no process as to how this could be done.

Gaynor Saxon: This rule is not taken lightly. In the past we have had EC members being carried by other members, there have been unacceptable malicious attacks, legal fees. Three years is a long time for other EC members to carry someone who is not performing.

Jane Webster: The rule is too loose there is nothing to say how this rule should be used. We need to have guidelines. Rather than taking the rule out it is surely better to have a process. There have been some valid points raised if this

Lyll Payne: with leave of the seconder (Jane) withdrew the remit with the understanding that this meeting direct the EC to come up with an appropriate process or amendments to this clause to bring back to the 2016 AGM. **REMIT WITHDRAWN**

6.5C Executive Council/Deb Armishaw

That clauses 23.1 and 23.2 of the Constitution be amended to include the word voting – as follows:

23.0 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS

23.1 No Executive Council Meeting may be held unless 4 **voting** Executive council members and a chairperson (5) are present at the Executive Council Members meeting.

23.2 The Chairperson shall chair Executive Council Meetings, or if the Chairperson is absent, the Vice-Chairperson shall chair the Executive Council Meeting. If the Vice-Chairperson is also absent, no meeting shall take place unless the number of **voting** Executive Council members present is (5) five in this case they will elect a chairperson from the elected Executive Council members present.

Chair: following last year’s directive from the AGM this remit has been presented to this meeting.

CARRIED

128	2	5
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6.6C Executive Council/Sue Gordon

Clause 21.10 – Order of Business of AGM:

“That clause 21.0 re: announcement of results of election results be placed as the 1st item of business & remaining items renumbered accordingly in 21.10

Chair: Every year since this clause was added to the constitution, the Chair has requested the leave of the meeting to announce election results at the beginning of the meeting and every year this has been granted. (Letter (k) becomes letter (a) and the subsequent clauses are renumbered) Election results can be announced at any time – it is acceptable to allow results to be announced immediately after attendance/apologies

CARRIED

135	0	0
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Item 7 General Remits (other proposed motions)

7.1G Palmerston North Cat Club Inc. (In the absence of Palm Nth delegate) Janice Davey/Maree Roy

That a new Title above that of Gold Double Grand Champion/Premier be included in the Points Titles System for NZCF Registered Cats.

Discussion Points:

- There are a lot of cats who do really well and are often Gld Dbl Gr Ch by the time they reach the age of two years, and exhibitors decide not to bother to carry on showing because there is nothing to aim for.
- Australia has a higher tier in their titles, something along the same lines could work for NZCF e.g. diamond, royal diamond, platinum
- Consideration could be given for multi titled cats to be excluded from the open challenge class thus giving others the opportunity to gain championship status
- Welfare issues need to be taken into consideration – don't want to see cats being dragged along to shows when they obviously don't want to be there, temperament issues
- Could be good move especially for pet owners, who show cats for a hobby – up to the owners to make the decision around welfare and temperament issues.

Chair: you would be voting for the idea not the rationale presented it would be up to the Executive Council to come up with the system it would be placed on the agenda for an EC meeting thus giving membership time to consider prior to implementation.

“That the EC is directed to investigate the implementation of another level”

CARRIED

74	38	4
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Afternoon tea adjournment 3.30-3.45

7.2G Mid-Island Cat Club Inc

Chair: ruled 7.2G from Mid-Island Cat Club as out of order as it is not in remit form but this would be discussed later in the meeting under other business.

Item 8 (a) 2015 Budget – Marion Petley

Historically our AGM has been held in October so it was quite pertinent then to be looking at next year's budget – here we are half way through 2015 in theory we should really be looking at the 2016 budget. Some Portfolio Managers have requested additional items to be shown in this budget. Judges PM has included \$1000 for judge's supervision expenses as we have held a judges school and there are judges requiring supervision. Shows are slightly down on last year by the number of rings however at this point the benching fees are slightly up on last year. \$3500 for legal fees (actual expenditure) has been added. A budget was put together for the funding round for the WCC seminar. To the credit of Janice Davey the seminar showed a profit of \$4500. Janice has requested that the final budget for the WCC

event is completed to reflect the outcome. Janice believed that the finalised WCC budget should not include the annual awards dinner or the National show.

Marion Petley/Deb Armishaw: "That this year's budget be approved."

Carried

Deb Armishaw/Sue Gordon: "moved a vote of thanks to Marion."

Carried with acclamation

(b) Discussion & approval of plans for the balance of the current and next five (5) calendar years.

Chair: The Executive have not made any changes to the strategic plan since last year generally the plan covers directions for this year. Each Portfolio Manager was asked to address the meeting.

Publications/Marketing: (Lyll Payne) the main focus in this portfolio is Flash Cats. This is a very successful magazine of world standard among cat fanciers. Regular and ongoing development by the Editor is to continue. An on line version is being considered the membership should have been given the option to access online rather than receive copies of the magazine for this membership year. Marketing was always my weak point and I do feel for the new EC – there may be some skills bases not covered. Long term vision for the website – forms register was looked at.

Judges (Annette Dunn) – apologized to the meeting as she has not raised the future focus with the EC so it has not been discussed around the table. Therefore did not believe that this is the place to discuss at this meeting. Survey is to be completed with feedback from Judges. Tutors eligibility – to include a process to nominate potential tutors. The five year plan should be set by the EC as a whole and not by individual Portfolio Managers. Future project would be to promote our judges with overseas bodies.

Business/Administration (Gaynor Saxon) – thought the opportunity for EC members to address the meeting was a really good idea it gives the membership the opportunities to hear individual thoughts. The NZCF brochure has been completed it will be going out with transfers to all pet owners in a hope that this will assist NZCF to established a higher profile. Some advice should also be sent out about shows. Other tasks or reviews:

- Contacts/rule books for Affiliate Clubs, Officers & Officials
- Distribution and adoption of the Disputes & Discipline Procedure
- Newsletters online – the printing situation we have now, whether it will replace flash cats?
- Cattery accreditation scheme – welfare review
- Marketing goals
- Closer relationship with cat welfare, SPCA –

Shows (Janice Davey) – In the last meeting of the year (Nov/Dec) the EC do set plans and

roles for the Portfolio Managers. Process is in place for the timely checking of show schedules and liaison with Judges PM Annette who checks the judge's allocation.

This Portfolio is for the membership we need to keep our clubs going, we need to ensure that our clubs continue to hold shows, we continue to keep members happy and informed.

Health & Safety Officers are all in place and the need for refresher training has been highlighted by this meeting.

National Show & Annual Awards – are up and running with input from clubs for 2016 & 2017 National.

Flash Cats continues to provide good coverage of our shows with some great photographs been published.

Breed Standards Advisory Council (BSAC) Zena Pigden - main project is to get the Breed policy development underway with breed section consultation to discuss mandatory or voluntary buy up . It is likely that this consultation will take at least a year to complete leading to endorsement of testing guidelines to develop protocols.

- Standard of Points – standardisation
- Feasibility to change to EMS breed codes. Need also to talk to IT as to how this would work with ROCAP. This would of course be placed on the agenda for consideration by the membership

Information Technology (Zena Pigden) –

- need to complete the on-line payments provision which may require NZCF to look for another provider
- Show package development to continue (feedback updates)
- No-reply forum as a means to reply to the membership
- Good systems in place to keep the membership forum updated (especially at roll over time in February)
- Members having access to their own information, their own cats (unsure if it is feasible with our current system) to follow-up

Registrations (Diane Holtom) –

- complete feasibility study on microchipping
- Improvements we need in the system to make it more user friendly for the registrars. Online registrations are cumbersome for the registrars - Breeding restrictions could be included on the pedigrees
- Overseas registries need the pattern details for tabbies

Discussion Points:

Deb Armishaw: has there been any **age! Succession planning?**

Chair: Yes we do have some plans in regards to personnel. We have put some work into this with the production of desk files, job descriptions etc.

Health & Safety Officer – is training transferable? **Janice:** Yes you can be an Officer for two clubs. It just needs to be advertised in the club schedules. Work has recently been done with the NZCF broker etc. to ensure that the NZCF is covered.

Reformatting of SOP – this was EC endorsed many years ago – this is not happening at the moment but definitely could be part of our five year plan. This should also include standardisation of colour standards.

Membership on line capability: are we going to get to the stage were individuals can log in and update their own profiles,

Lyll Payne: EC need to prioritise what can be delivered on (we are a cat registry) this should be focused on. There might have been strong supporters for a project
Prioritise what you want, focus on that. For instance why would NZCF get involved in microchipping?

Chair: more and more testing is being required and eventually the Labs will require microchip numbers to confirm therefore it will be necessary to have cats chipped, this could be done cost effectively by trained chippers rather than the high prices paid at vet clinics. NZCF would not be a competing database it is only about people becoming a trained operator.

There have not been any major concerns expressed by the meeting, they were happy to endorse the general plan.

Item 9 Any Other Business (that the meeting decides to discuss)

- **Appointment of Auditor** (Constitutional Clause 20.1) Marion

Marion Petley/Annette Dunn: “That we appoint our current auditors Fluker/Denton of Levin.”
Carried

- Election results – Executive Council (see beginning of meeting)
- Social media – discussion (mid-island discussion topic) that might be injurious to the club or NZCF there is no cover in club or NZCF constitution Maree: nothing in the clubs constitution should not conflict with NZCF
- NZCF are actively – in consultation with Trade me. (Potentially is a major issue for our breeders)
- Social media law in NZ is extremely well developed – it is very much up to each society to make up their own rules and put into their constitution.
- If a posting is done on Facebook that is fundamentally true as long as it is not untrue, you can post whatever you like. I am allowed freedom of speech. We do not have the right to dictate what they can and cannot say... bringing discredit on the feline world – could be seen as bringing discredit to the organisation. It would be very hard to police.
- Trade me – animal welfare for cats & dogs – restrictions Trade me have consulted with NZCF, albeit not being given very much time to comment. Trade me code of compliance – people looking for a

kitten will look for a breeder that is compliant. There are some very good welfare things in the code but there are matters that affect breeders with restrictions around the number of litters a year, and the age of the breeding cats.

- Reminder to clubs about show rules – handler/steward reminders....nobody is supposed to give their opinion to the officiating judge.
- Steward/handlers need qualifications - Should do at least bi annually refreshers.
- EC should look at how a policy should work in the future for retiring EC members –regarding travel and accommodation expenses. There appears to be different circumstances for the two retiring members. One has paid accommodation and travel and the other does not. Policy needs to be in writing.
- Can pet owners be able to be part of the Breed section representatives therefore any member of a breed section could hold a breed reps role. BSAC Portfolio Manager to follow-up.

Deb Armishaw: Asked the meeting to acknowledge the hard work that the EC have done and thanked the Portfolio Managers and the two outgoing members – received with acclamation.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.50 pm

Chris M Lowe
Executive Council Secretary