

OLIVES NEW ZEALAND
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 20 JUNE 2012
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE 7 - 8.10PM

1. Present

Andrew Taylor (President), John Arthur (Vice President), David Walshaw, Chris Moore, Craig Leaf-Wright, Allan Frazer, Gayle Sheridan (Executive Officer)

2. Apologies

John Dunlop, Roger Armstrong
For lateness - Craig Leaf-Wright and Allan Frazer

3. Minutes of the May Meeting

Andrew advised that he had contacted Jaen University re OMMV and they were not aware of the virus. Andrew also advised that he had met with individuals in Auckland and there would be a meeting after harvest had finished to discuss re-establishing the Auckland Regional Group.

Matters Arising

Andrew advised that he had discussed with Chris Penman possibility of filming the Awards judging and he was interested in this.

4. Financial Reports

Recommendation on Membership Categories and Fees

John spoke to the report that he had prepared.

The recommendations in the report as below were approved:

- 1) That the Small Grove cut off point be set at 250 olive trees irrespective of whether they are newly planted or mature producing trees.
- 2) That the Hobby grove cut off point be set at 100 olive trees irrespective of whether they are newly planted or mature producing trees.
- 3) That the Hobby Grove subscription be set at 25% of the Full Member subscription.
- 4) That the Small Grove subscription level be set at 50% of the Full Member subscription.
- 5) That the Associate Member subscription be set at 50% of the Full Member subscription.
- 6) That the Full Member subscription be set in the first instance at a rate not lower than \$300 per annum GST exclusive.
- 7) That the Full Member rate be reviewed annually.
- 8) That the voting rights be 4 votes per full membership, 2 votes per small grove membership and 1 vote per hobby grove membership.
- 9) That the Executive continue to seek new members to the organisation.

Action:

Gayle – Update the Membership Application Form on the website

- Set up membership categories and send out membership accounts in July.

John said that Branch Chairs needed to advise details of any Branch only members so that they could be invited to join Olives NZ.

5. Financial Position as at 31 May

Craig spoke to the financial reports that had been circulated. The organisation is still tracking for an end of financial year profit. Chris noted that this was a major achievement for the organisation, especially in looking back over the past 5 years.

Craig said prudent decision making by the Executive had brought about the positive returns and the cash at the bank was looking good.

Draft 2012/13 Budget

Craig said that he, John A and Gayle had worked on the draft budget based on prior knowledge.

6. Executive Officer Report

Gayle spoke to her report that had been circulated. The bulk of the workload at present is Certification and Awards plus planning for the AGM.

Certification submissions were slow with only one part and one full box of 12 samples having been sent to DPI. A second box would hopefully be sent off next week.

Flights for the Australian judges and Spanish judge for the Awards have been booked. It was agreed that no change, apart from date, was required to the current design of the Awards medal.

There had been only a low response to the training survey. A program for 'The Tasting EVOO Course' with the Spanish judge had been posted on the website and there were already two registrations. Because this was being run in the testing lab at Massey, numbers would be limited to 12, which was probably a good number for this type of course. The course would be promoted in the June newsletter and it would be 'first come first served'.

John A raised there is a major issue in the South Island with processing costs, which are much higher than in the North Island. There were a number of Marlborough groves not harvesting that he would like to have harvested but the processing cost quoted was prohibitive. He would be discussing further with other processors.

In relation to the AGM, John A as Vice President and Craig as Treasurer were eligible to continue in their positions and indicated that they would be happy to do so. This would mean that with Craig on the Executive, the four current Regional Chairs could take up the four positions on the Executive. Chris advised that he was not standing for Canterbury Chair and that he had advised the regional membership that the incoming Chair would take up a position on the Olives NZ Executive. This would leave the President position open for nomination. David said he hoped Andrew would offer himself for President. It was agreed that postal voting for any elections or remits would be available, as well as voting at the meeting.

Andrew said that with the Awards looking really good with the judging panel, etc we need to maximise the promotional opportunity. Allan asked if the organisation would support

specially invited guests for the Awards dinner and it was agreed that Allan would prepare a paper to this effect.

7. Business Plan

Constitution – David reported that he had sent the available Branch Constitutions together with the new Olives NZ Constitution to Colin Hadley for advice on drafting a new Branch Constitution.

8. General Business

Harvest Update – Andrew advised that harvest in the far North had been 4-5 weeks behind previous years. He had now also finished harvesting in Auckland, Bay of Plenty and Waiheke. There had been some good crops of 20-25kg per tree and yields had varied between 8% and 20% with 15% probably the average. He had now started harvesting in Hawke's Bay, Wairarapa and Kapiti and Roger had said Nelson had also started. David said that the crop in Kapiti was thin and that Wairarapa had had problems with frost. Andrew said that branch and leaf was an issue because of the summer and poor disease control.

Chris said that Canterbury was a major disaster because of the snow and then frosts and there may only be one grove north of Christchurch that actually harvests. Fortunately Banks Peninsula has not had the same issues.

Andrew said that nevertheless some excellent oils had been produced and it was important to accentuate the positives.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8.10pm.

NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY 18 JULY 2012