

OLIVES NEW ZEALAND
MINUTES SYNOPSIS OF EXECUTIVE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2013
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE
7PM – 8.15PM

1. Present

Andrew Taylor (President), John Arthur (Vice President), Tony Millar, David Walshaw, Bob Marshall, Gayle Sheridan (Executive Officer)

2. Apologies

Allan Frazer, John Dunlop, Craig Leaf-Wright

3. Financial Report

The draft 2014 budget proposed no change to membership subscriptions and, provided major sponsorship was secured, there would be a conservative surplus out-turn.

4. Executive Officer Report

Membership

It was noted that membership continued to grow.

Awards Review

Membership was canvassed on their views for the level of Boutique and 23 responses had been received. The responses across the options were fairly similar.

It was agreed that the Boutique category for the 2014 Awards be raised to 249 litres.

Certification

An arrangement has been made with DPI to include the Polyphenol test in the tests being carried out for Olives NZ at no extra cost to members. The Certification Certificate would be updated to include the Polyphenol and also the Organoleptic score for Bitter and Pungency.

Conference 2014

The programme and budget had been drafted. Gayle is working on finding suitable people to do the marketing and selling skills presentations. It was agreed to add a session on costing to the programme.

An optional excursion on the Sunday was planned to visit three olive groves and The Olive Press.

The Brentwood Hotel was a cheaper option than other locations which reflected in a lower attendance breakeven point. The venue also was easier to access, accommodation was cheaper and it offered free parking.

Focus Grove Project

Only minor clarifications had been requested by the SFF Advisor and the SFF application had been updated accordingly and submitted. Depending on branch funds made available for the project would impact on the final contribution required from Olives NZ. However the Olives

NZ contribution would not be required until 2015 which gave the Executive time to consult with the membership on how the funding should be sourced. The project brief on the Olives NZ website had been updated to include the budget overview.

5. General Business

Executive Officer visit to Australia

The Vice President suggested that Gayle should visit the Australian Olive Association to establish a better relationship between the two organisations.

It was agreed that a proposal to be brought back to the December meeting.

Blue Glasses Insurance

Olives NZ had approximately 500 blue tasting glasses that were being stored at Massey's Albany Campus who had advised that these were not covered by their insurance. The blue glasses cost approx \$30 each so have a total value of \$15,000. Gayle had a quote from our current insurance broker for coverage and this would be \$561 plus GST per year. She said she did not think the insurance cover was needed but wanted the Executive to be aware of the risk.

It was agreed that insurance was not necessary.

Nelson AGM

John Dunlop had given Gayle a verbal report on the Nelson AGM.

There was a good attendance of almost 20 people with the majority being members of Olives NZ.

Italian Update

Andrew advised that a bacterial disease in Puglia has resulted in 600,000 olive trees being pulled out. He suggested that this needed to be raised with MPI and members advised of the need for caution when visiting overseas olive groves. Andrew would email the link to the article to Gayle so she could follow up accordingly.

Boundary Bend

John said there was interesting material on the Boundary Bend website and he recommended checking this out. For example they are reporting harvests of 15 ton per hectare.

The Orchardist

Andrew said The Orchardist magazine had 4 pages devoted to olives this month. There was a 2 page article on the Awards, a page on Canterbury Olive Processors and another page on tasting olive oil. He said that inviting Heather Chalmers to the Awards Weekend activities had certainly been worthwhile. Andrew also said that media across the country have been much more supportive in reporting on the Awards this year and many regional papers had articles on their local winning groves.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8.15pm

New Members:

EPF Ltd, Nelson

Rob and Sally Walsh, Nelson

NEXT MEETING – Wednesday 18th December (teleconference)