

Olives New Zealand
Minutes of Executive Meeting
Thursday 17th November 2022, 7pm
Zoom Meeting

1. Present

Craig Leaf-Wright (President), Tricia Noble-Beasley (Vice President), Charles Chinnaiyah (Treasurer), Geoff Crawford, Andrew Priddle, Emma Glover

Craig welcomed all to the meeting.

Ray Gregory joined during financials.

2. Apologies

Absent - Andrew Taylor, Alan Blakemore

3. Minutes of the August Meeting

MOTION:

The minutes of the October Meeting to be accepted as accurate and complete.

Moved: Craig Leaf-Wright Second: Tricia Noble-Beasley

Matters arising

No matter arising.

4. Financials

Charles spoke to the October Financial Reports which was circulated via email.

Disappointing year financially with conference, awards and certification numbers down on budget. Currently looking like a \$20k loss for the year, the 2mth handover between Emma & Gayle is a contributor, depreciation is still to be run.

Next year's budget – Charles wants to do more work on budget before he presents it to the Exec for approval, via email.

It is inevitable there will be increase the costs to member for ONZ projects and events this will be a direct reflection to the increase costs of running those.

Committee propose and agreed that we increase the membership fee by at least 4% - 5% to cover the envisaged increase in operating costs.

MOTION:

That the November financial reports be accepted.

Moved: Charles Chinnaiyah Seconded: Geoff Crawford Carried

5. Executive Officer Report

Emma spoke to her report which had been circulated. Additional comments were:

Financial

Not to worry about further chasing Soumi's outstanding invoice for the Olive Oil Tastings Seminar in August.

HRWP (He Rourou Whai Painga)

The 'HRWP Brand' zoom meeting was more a board meeting of businesses thinking about how they want to use the brand. 90% of NZ businesses that supplied food and beverage (F&B) for the study do not export. Just wait and see as the study continues.

Processing Practises

As nearly all participants felt the course should be run 2 yearly, Emma to pencil the next course it in for 2024.

Conference & Awards

Feedback at the awards was people felt a change of venue was needed. Comments were made that with the bar closing at the end of the awards there was no time for those that didn't attend the Conference to socialise. Awards can either be held in Wellington with an excursion to Kapiti or Wairarapa or in Hawke's Bay where they can visit a press, grove and Olivery with relatively easy access. Emma doesn't want the membership to think the move to Hawke's Bay is because she is based there. Executive feel the logistics of holding the awards in HB would be easier, but suggest asking the Membership in the newsletter what is their preference.

There has been requests for the Executive to review the way the Best Processor is calculated, currently is based on awards won and number of entries, the suggestion is to move to a percentage based calculation, as Wairarapa and Kapiti have so many entries, presses from other regions will never be able to complete. Emma to send the Executive the suggested spreadsheet to look at and consider the percentage weighting to be allocated to each award.

NZ Judges confirmed for 2023 – Roberto, Charlotte and Ed. Hilary will if she is available, but unable to commit at this stage. Peter would like a year off, but will if needed.

International Judges – If Eleftheria and colleague judge are unavailable, Emma should try Reni Hildenbrand from South Africa who judged in 2016 and did a wonderful job. Entries will close the 31st August. Jetpark is booked for centralised judging 18th -20th September. Committee agree to bringing the Awards evening forward to the 30th Sept a week as per Gayle's recommendation.

Increasing Productivity Project

Discussion document from the first meeting with Stuart Tustin had been circulated. This project focus is to increase grove productivity, yield of oil and fruit set. With the value proposition being:

- a. High performing groves and finesses the Focus Grove programs to get further increases in yield.
- b. Take Low performing groves and get recovery underway and Focus Grove program implemented.

In addition we need to get clarity and an understanding of Polyphenol measure and production to prepare for future, with an expectation of an increased value of the polyphenol as health benefits to link back to the HRWP Study.

Submission to be made to MPI.

6. Grove Management – Spray Program Communications in newsletter

Need to give advice to members based on tree cycle i.e. flowering, not what is happening in the grove currently as each region is at a different stage.

Note for this month's newsletter - Time to spray for Anthracnose, Protek should be mixed with Manzate, to be repeated every 10 days until flowering is finished. Refer to Disease Management fact sheet.

Should have been putting on Boron as a foliage spray. Can be put with Protek and Manzate For those following an alternative organic program consider using Serenade instead of Protek.

7. Branch Updates

Wairarapa (Andrew Priddle) – Successful field day at Dry Rock. Ian has major pruning over 3 years with Leccino and Barnea which were over 12m high, were looking at 2-3yr new growth, how to thin the trees out for growth going forward.

Gone from wet to dry hard. Flowering about to start

Hawke's Bay (Geoff Crawford) – No events. Everything has dried out, flowering fully underway. T/Hill frosted, burnt new growth and flowers on new wood, so flowering light.

Nelson/Marlborough (Ray Gregory) – No events. Heaps of blossoms, looking for a good year in the district. No Committee at the moment.

Kapiti (Tricia Noble-Beasley) – No events. Into flowering. Some good weather to spray, but wet again.

8. General Business

a. Final Comments from Gayle

Most of her comments have been covered off.

Judging Seminar – Executive agreed the advertised outcomes were not delivered.

Awards 23 – cost of judging will be in the draft budget, it will reflect reverting back to centralised judging. Once we hear from Eleftheria Germanaki we will continue planning the other judges.

2023 Budget is being worked on by Charles.

b. Disease in Olive Trees – Barnea (Andrew Priddle)

In 2005 a bacteria blight disease went through Wairarapa trees. It came in and hit the western side of trees, bark black and peeling off. MPI got involved. The odd tree is now looking sick. Greg Clift had older bark tested for 2 different fungi, the bark was starting to die off around the trunk, the trees are being ringbarked. Andrew is noticing it in a few groves and wants to talk to Stuart once he's read emails from Greg Clift and Peter Graham. In past cut trees off at base and new growth cut to keep away.

There being no further business, Craig thanked all for their participation and declared the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

New Members:

No new members this month.