

Olives New Zealand
Minutes Synopsis of Executive Meeting
Thursday 20th April 2023
Zoom Meeting
7pm – 8.31pm

1. Present

Craig Leaf-Wright (President), Charles Chinnaiyah (Treasurer), Chris Moore, Emma Glover

2. Apologies

Geoff Crawford, Tricia Noble-Beasley (Vice President),

3. Previous Meeting Minutes

Read, no discussion as all action points and matters arising to be covered off below.

4. Financials – April 23

Charles spoke to the June Financial Reports which had been circulated.

Membership subs are down \$10k on budget which will eat into the budgeted profits.

The drop in Membership levels is concerning, ONZ will need to look outside the budget to offset some of the losses.

Olive Mark sales are down on budget, and there has been unbudgeted increased costs purchasing the labels.

Auditors – Charles to speak to a partner at the auditors (Parkers) to address our concerns of thoroughness of audit. We aren't overly happy, but can't afford to pay for a more thorough job, so recommends we re-appoint them for 2023 EOY. It is noted that the upgrading of online accounting systems over the years, Xero has made the auditors roles easier and they can access so much more of the organisations processes and practises online, therefore not requiring the same level of questioning.

Website - The ONZ website is the front for the organisation. Emma is concerned that it is sitting on an old platform and is looking very tired and out of date. There is a lot of information on it, but it is often hard to find. To attract sponsorship and more members Emma would like to update it. The update is unbudgeted, but she would like to use the \$5k unspent sitting in the ONZ OliveMark account. The Exec agree the website needs to be using up to date technology and be showcasing the industry. The funds in the OM account are to be used to promote the OM, the Exec are comfortable updating the website to further promote the OM and the NZ Olive Oil Industry, fits within the brief. Emma to bring a proposal on the way forward, including quotes etc to the next meeting.

5. Executive Officer Report

Emma spoke to her report which had been circulated.

Membership

- 33 members have not renewed or have cancelled their membership this year:
- A review the membership structure for 2024, taking focus away from the Grove size to focus value offering for types/levels of membership. She will circulate a proposal when completed.
- Ray Gregory held a pre-harvest meeting with his customers, 30-40 people attended, of that only 3 couples were ONZ members. He wonders if a levied industry, at the pressor is the way forward to get contributions from everyone. A levied industry will financially help ONZ, but not get grower engagement.

AGM – Documents have been posted online. A couple of requests have been made to consider changing the AGM day to a Monday/Tue evening. It is to stay on Sunday evenings, days and times will always be an inconvenience for someone.

Marketing:

- HRWP – the filming is bad timing for other members to be part of, as everyone will be harvesting, however it will be good to be able to catch the harvesting and pressing in process.
- Agrumato trademark opposition has been filed. Both AOA and ONZ filed oppositions, the applicant now has time to respond.

Productivity and Polyphenols Project – it is waiting game for the MPI development advisor to contact us. Emma will follow up in May if still no response.

NZ EVOO Awards – Kay McMath has suggested two panels of 3 good judges each rather than 4. Kay is confirmed as facilitator.

EVOO Awards Excursions – the suggested excursions around the Awards in Napier are an EVOO Tasting, grove visit and press visit.

6. Grove Management – Spray program communication

Communication for spraying is to watch withholding period with whatever sprays you are using. Manzate is 30 days before harvest.

7. General Business

a. Field days

Until next project is underway, the regions should hold 2 field days a year – pre-harvest March/April and pre pruning Aug/early Sept.

- Non-members are invited, but need to be charged for attending, they can no longer get a free ride. Price to be charged for non-members will depend on the value of what information they are receiving.
- The local branches are responsible for the field days. EO can assist where needed.
- In the cases of Auckland / Nelson etc., Emma is too approach active members asking them to organise the field day, suggest groves to hold it etc., she assist by sending out all the information to members in the area.
- Branch to tap into regional knowledge and expertise for field day, if no one available consider using someone from out of region.

b. Succession planning

- Craig welcomed Chris Moore the new Canterbury Branch Chair to the Executive.
- The three Officers are all due to retiree with their 3 year terms ending this year. ONZ needs to start getting new blood on Committee..
- The officers terms should finish one each year, not all on the same 3 year term cycle. To discuss at the next meeting– with a document, outlining the constitution rules.

c. Branch Updates

Wairarapa – fruit is ripening well, a lot of groves have good fruit. Start pressing mid-May.

Canterbury – Average crops. Neil been to most of the groves. Some of the bigger groves like Terrace Edge have much smaller harvests. Canterbury branch is holding a pre-harvest field day 30th April at David and Yvonne Mitchell's grove. In addition to looking at crop and fruit in the grove, they will look at the benefits of irrigation.

Hawke's Bay – Generally Crops are light, with some groves and or varieties not picking at all. This has been put down to a frosty spring and wet flowering period. Ground water levels

remain high, with general anecdotal reports of crop failure and or low yields due to waterlogged grounds, rain over pollination periods, and difficulty accessing paddocks with equipment.

Zac from Bracu will be in the area with mechanical harvester from late May.

There being no further business, Craig thanked all for their participation and declared the meeting closed at 8.31pm.