



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Date: Wednesday 13th April 2011
Venue: New Zealand German Business Assn/Hesketh Henry
 Level 11, 41 Shortland St, Auckland

1] Welcome

The meeting commenced at 5.20 p.m. with a welcome from the President.

Present

British NZ Business Association	Andrew	Tony
Consulate of Austria	Goeschl	Reinhold
Consulate of Portugal	Silva	Daniel
Consulate of Switzerland	Deuschle	Peter
Consulate of the Czech Republic	Shanahan	Gregory
Consulate of the Republic of Lithuania	Peciulaitis	Jurgis
Consulate-General of Finland	Hallenberg	Ari
French New Zealand Chamber of Commerce	Watts	Victoria
Italian Trade Commission	Anning	David
New Zealand German Business Assn.	Surges	Monique
NZ Scandinavia Business Association	Enhbohm	Stig
Royal Norwegian Consulate	Robinson	John
University of Auckland	Mayes	David

Apologies

British Consulate-General	Harris	Barbara
Consulate General & Trade Commissioner Austria	Stock	Guido
University of Canterbury	Holland	Martin
Consulate of the Republic of Slovakia	Kiely	Peter
Embassy of Switzerland	Buckrell	Wivian
NZTE	White	Kari
Consulate of Romania	Davidson	Giff
Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade (Europe Division)	Wolland	Joan
Consular Agency of Italy	Magaraggia	Cav. Mario M
Consulate of Belgium	Peterson	Laetitia
Consulate of Spain	Regueiro-Diaz	Antonio
Consulate of the Republic of Hungary	Szabo	Miklos
Consulate of the Republic of Latvia	Bentley	Margarita
Consulate of the Republic of Malta	Thake	Patricia
Consulate of the Republic of Poland	Roy	John

Enterprise Ireland	Gallogly	Treza
European Commission Delegation to New Zealand	Cunningham	George
Flanders Investment & Trade, Auckland	Surmont	Nathalie
French Trade Commission	Amigues	Monique
Italian Chamber of Commerce	Maxwell	Liz

The President moved that apologies be received.

Seconded by Gregory Shanahan

Motion carried.

2] **Minutes** of the AGM for 2010 have been available on the EU Web portal and were previously distributed to NZEBC members. These minutes have been endorsed by the committee as a true and correct record.

Moved by Monique Surges

Seconded by Peter Deutsche

Motion carried.

3] **Matters arising from the minutes**

There were no matters arising.

4] **Presidents Address**

The President reported on New Zealand Europe Business Council activities from June 2010. The complete report is to be made available on http://www.eu.org.nz/nzebc_agm2.asp

Gregory Shanahan moved that the President's report be accepted.

Seconded by Victoria Watts. Motion carried.

Points raised in discussion following the president's report were:

- Review of voting rights and constitution required
- Important to remember the NZEBC is an umbrella organisation i.e. it does not work in competition with the established trade offices, councils etc. but rather promotes Europe as a whole at the political, cultural and educational level, enabling members to better promote their respective interests
- Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade both hold strong views on the importance of China to New Zealand now and in the future. The Secretary for MFAT reminded us of his view of the importance of Europe to New Zealand as a trade partner, notwithstanding China's developing position in the world markets.
- Now necessary to re-establish that NZEBC is not a social club - necessary to now build bridges with those who are presently not involved but should be – Monique Surges indicates it is her intention to utilise some of her time in Sydney in late May to meet with trade colleagues responsible for their respective countries trade relationship with New Zealand, either in Sydney or Canberra.
- NZEBC needs to clearly state and establish its role as the promoter of Europe and matters European at the political, cultural, educational, academic and trade levels in the various public arenas.

- Use of intern is queried and Monique Surges confirms it would be good to look at placing a second intern to complete the EU subsidiary project.

5] Financial Report

A summary financial report was distributed by the treasurer.

	2010	2009
Opening Balance	3937	3863
Subscriptions	2625	2622
Events	6120	
Income	<u>12682</u>	<u>6485</u>
expenses	<u>8061</u>	<u>2549</u>
	<u>4621</u>	<u>3936</u>

Peter Deutschle pointed out that this was the first time the Europe Day event cost more than the income collected. Main additional expense was bridging funds provided for EU web portal during transfer time between EU Delegation and the NCRE. With respect to issuing subscription invoices there would be a delay due to the voting rights/membership allocation issue that needs to be resolved by the incoming committee.

Further points of discussion were:

- That funds are held in an interest bearing account – Peter Deutschle agrees to action this
- Whether the NZEBC is compliant re being tax exempt – this is to be reviewed by the committee

Monique Surges moved that the Financial Report tabled with a net surplus of NZD 4,621.49 be accepted as a true record of the 2010 accounts.

Seconded by David Anning

That no auditor be appointed: Moved; Monique Surges and seconded John Robinson. Motion carried.

There was discussion as to the appropriateness of having our accounts audited, notwithstanding the small amounts involved and the excellence of the process and protections maintained by the Treasurer. The committee was asked to look into the possibility of appointing an honorary auditor to undertake an annual audit

6] Election of Committee.

At this point the President and elected committee stand down and the chair is taken by Peter Deutschle to explain the election process. As per the nominations received there were:

2 candidates for President, Monique Surges (NZGBA) and Patricia Thake (Hon Consul Malta)

1 for Vice-President, Elizabeth Maxwell (ICCI)

1 for Treasurer, Peter Deutschle (Hon consul Switzerland)

3 for the Executive Committee, Peter Keily, Stig Ehnbohm, Tony Andrew

Further points discussed at this point were:

- Non successful presidential candidate not being a part of the new committee – the point was raised that it is a shame this knowledge would be lost. Peter Deutsche mentions this was discussed at the last committee meeting prior to the AGM and both candidates had agreed it would be best to step down for the year.
- The question is raised regarding the tenure of the president and progression of the vice president – it is clarified that there is no time limit or particular procedure within the constitution regarding this. It was agreed that this will be covered when the committee reviews and proposes amendments to the constitution.
- It is agreed the voting papers are to be destroyed directly after the meeting by David Mayes (associate member with no voting rights)

As a result of the vote conducted and counted by non-voting scrutineers (12 for Monique Surges, 5 for Patricia Thake), the new committee for 2011/2012 consists of:

President: Monique Surges – New Zealand German Business Assn.
 Vice President: Elizabeth Maxwell – Italian Chamber of Commerce
 Treasurer: Peter Deutsche - Honorary Consul of Switzerland
 Committee: Peter Kiely - Consulate of the Republic of Slovakia
 Stig Ehnбом – NZSBA (representing Sweden)
 Tony Andrew - British NZ Business Association

7] Annual Subscriptions

Full membership \$100.00

Associate membership \$50.00

The President moved the subscription remain the same as in the previous year as set out above.
 Seconded by Peter Deutsche. Motion carried

8] General Business

- The committee will undertake a review of the constitution, addressing our object and their execution and achievement; and the term of office of the officers and their succession. A draft to be circulated for consideration. Timing to be determined by the committee.
- John Robinson suggests the barrage of emails received prior to the AGM was objectionable and suggests this be avoided in future.
- Monique Surges explains that there was also a nomination for the French Chamber; however this had been taken out as the FNZCCI needed to decide on a representative after their own AGM on the 14th April. She suggested that once a representative was chosen they be co-opted onto the committee. There was no objection to this as it was agreed this was business for the committee to decide on as it has the power to do so under the rules.

Monique Surges thanked all for their attendance.

Meeting concluded at 6.20 pm