

N.Z. Federation for Deaf Children Incorporated



Minutes of the Executive Committee of the New Zealand Federation for Deaf Children Incorporated

Date	Saturday 17 February 2018
Venue	Via ZOOM
Meeting opened	9.00am
Present	Kate Whale, Kirstin Johnson-Coombs, Brent Burcher, Dana Cook, Gill Bonnett, , Justin Farquhar, Meg Melvin
Apologies	Rebecca Atkins-Toon, Debra Bellon
Previous Minutes	<p>MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting dated Saturday 11 November 2017 be correct.</p> <p>MOVED: Kate W SECONDED: Debra B CARRIED</p>
Critical General Business	Nil

President's Report

Please note, due to the last period of time being across the Christmas Holiday, committee do not need to complete reports for this block. Any issues will be brought up in General Business. This meeting is our first full 'ZOOM' meeting, where each of our committee are linking in online. This is hoped to be a way to conduct two of our four meetings, and will save both time and money for the organisation. This trial will be discussed and a decision will be made in regards to the future meetings.

Treasurer's Report (See report)

Account Balances	<p>at February 16th 2018</p> <p>Current account: \$40,991.78</p> <p>Hui account: \$1,902.64</p> <p>DEANZ account: \$14,505.27</p> <p>Beacon account: \$28,253.19</p> <p>Manawatu account: \$26,411.76</p> <p>Term Deposits (Westpac): \$63,214.48</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin Wakefield have been tardy in getting accounts settled, resulting in a late GST return (as well as 2016 accounts). This shouldn't be a problem (i.e. we won't get penalised as we are usually prompt payers) but it isn't very good.

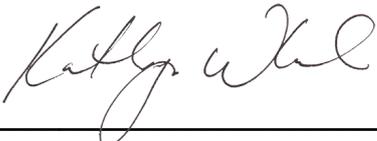
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laptop playing up again. Will need to take to shop. Shouldn't be expensive – it keeps asking me to activate a version of Windows I didn't buy, and it is also not opening BankLink (the accounting software). Meg will work through with Justin to work through issues on his computer first before taking it into store.
MOTION: That the Treasurer's report be received/accepted. MOVED: Justin F SECONDED: Kate CARRIED W	
Actions from Treasurer's report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meg will work through with Justin to work through issues on his computer first before taking it into store.

Services Report (See Report)	
Grants/Assistance etc.	<p>An application for Kavya Chopra for Tutor support period 2 approved and paid 14/12/17 for \$400.</p> <p>We have pre-approved period 1 for Kavya Chopra as well.</p> <p>End of Dec we paid \$571.89 to HBFDC as part of the beacon application that was pre-approved last period up to an estimate of \$910.</p> <p>Declined one application for individual assistance for after school activities</p>
John and Betty Rose Scholarship	None so far.
General	Not much to report – only three applications.
MOTION: That the services report be received/accepted. MOVED: Dana C SECONDED: Kirstin CARRIED J-C	
Actions from Services Report	Nil

General Business	
NZSL Family Camp in Taupo	<p>Kate and Brent went to this camp to represent DCNZ and network with other groups.</p> <p>Positives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kate met a family from Hamilton with a 2 year old girl, and will flick their details to Rebecca to contact. - The organising group were very open to feedback from us regarding how to make the camp work better for families of Deaf/HH children. <p>Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This camp was focused on Deaf community and fluent NZSL users rather than families with Deaf children. - It was very hard to follow the presentations for the families who were just beginning to use NZSL. Kate struggled with communication at some points, and could see the other family did too. <p>In general, if we are to advertise this as something for our families to go to, we will need to work with the organisers to make sure that it is able to be</p>

	<p>accessed by those who don't yet sign well, if this is something that they want. If it's a Deaf Community family camp, that's all good, and we can put out the information, but I don't feel that many of our families would feel confident enough and I would hate to scare them away.</p>
Funding for upcoming events and needs	<p>Kate is looking into options for upgrading our outdated technology. We are looking at the option of 'flexi-lease' where we pay a monthly fee for the technology we need, and at the end of the period we are given the option to buy out or upgrade the tech (or both). The benefits of this are that they are covered for problems or breakage, and replaced if needed. Currently we are buying what is needed as each thing breaks down, and the life span of technology now means that the old stuff is almost completely redundant in a short time.</p>
Family Kits	<p>Kate is trying to find some quality resources. She has changed the template of the letterhead on google drive, for the new name and the letter, and has found a few things that she has printed out and put into a booklet.</p> <p>What we really need is something interesting for the older kids - 7 and over - so get your thinking caps on.</p>
AGM/Camp	<p>We need to get onto planning for the camp.</p> <p>Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We are applying to the NZSL Board for the funds for this camp, again to get the programme running, to pay for the camp and hopefully be able to fund the travel to get as many families there as possible. - The application will be completed soon by Meg and Kate, and Brent will do a video to go with the application. Fingers crossed. <p>Venue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - El Rancho takes 180 people, in shared rooms (not individual cabins). They need a \$1500 non refundable deposit. Queens Birthday weekend in Wellington - outside Wellington. <p>Details</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We have a lot of the details from the last camp. The core planning group (Meg, Brent, Kate and Kirstin) will pull out what we can reuse and put together a list of things to do new. We will need to delegate phone calling, emailing etc to rest of Committee to help with the load. - Meg is a "run sheet" queen and will put together something similar to what we did last time. This worked a treat. It will be based on a month by month, then week by week, then day by day and then at the event hour by hour. It worked brilliantly last time. - There will be a master run sheet on the google drive - you can put comments and notes etc so we are all up to date. <p>If committee has anything specific they want included in the camp, please email to Kate.</p>
Merge Research Project	<p>We have had an email from an organisation called Merge, wanting to talk about family access to NZSL services. They just want some information. Kate will feedback to them what we have heard from other families.</p>
Deaf Action Workshop	<p>We have received an invitation to a workshop they are running on Sunday 25 February 2018. There will be a number of speakers, some on actioning human rights. They would like to build a closer relationship with us.</p> <p>Brent is okay to go and be our representative.</p>
Roles	<p>We're a little unclear on roles again, and need to ensure that everyone knows what the expectations are. Kate will put together some information</p>

	<p>and a checklist to give to everyone in the various roles. If you have questions, please ask.</p>
<p>Conferences</p>	<p>FCEI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Family Centered Early Intervention conference is coming up again in June this year. As much as it would be great to get a representative there (predominantly for the Global Parents of Deaf Children Network AGM) Kate is unsure as to whether she can go due to funding. Kate has been offered a 800 Euro scholarship (approx \$1,300 NZ) to get to FCEI but if we can't access any further funding then we can't go. - This is open to anyone on the committee, so if you are keen to go to any of the conferences then let Kate know. - Meg is drafting lotteries application for funding for FCEI conference. <p>Hands and Voices Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This is another conference in the States in September, where Hands and Voices mentor people into parent leadership and advocacy roles. - Kate will not be able to go to both even if we get funding - work will not allow that time off twice. - Meg will be in New York in September, so she could potentially go to the conference under her own steam. The trip is already paid for so would only need accommodation and expenses covered. It would be good to go alongside a parent too, so that both perspectives are covered. <p>If any of the committee see a conference they want to attend, please put it out there and we will look for funding.</p>
<p>Strategic Plan AGM/Camp</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Connect with all parent groups - about to send around emails and phone call and asking for feedback on strategic plan. <p>Camp</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to provide a safe environment for families to come and share experiences, with a bit of signing. - Hawkes Bay have given feedback that they would like to see some Deaf Youths - they want some role models for their kids. Oldest kid in HB is 11. - Wellington have about 15 deaf youth here, and they are quite active - approximately 14-20 years old. <p>From that parent advocacy road trip Meg did, one of the big frustrations is lack of NZSL tutors. One of the ideas was is what if someone came for a time, spend time with families, talk with them, skype with them afterwards, but have face to face every year. One of MOE staff attempted it, but they don't have capacity for people on the road, insurances. Idea thought of before but hasn't gone ahead.</p> <p>It has bought up <u>two</u> things for Meg:</p> <p>There is actually nothing in our Strategic Plan around access and language. It is a thing that seems to be important for many of our parent groups and families. Meg is thinking of making that change to the strategic plan.</p> <p>If a funding group go onto our website and see our strategic plan and it ticks all their boxes, we can get some of their funding.</p> <p>Having learnt sign language through the NZSL Association, there needs to be a module provided - suitable to families of deaf children. Use sign</p>

	<p>language using routine - morning, going to school, after school, bedtime. All the things that are on the baby sign DVD. Part of work for NZSLTA, they will take on the role of developing the module. Meg's theory is they will struggle with this, volunteer organisation. Offer it to them, if they can't we'll do it. End goal is there is someone available each year to travel around the country and develop relationships with the families. We need to change the way of teaching sign language, want them to suit us not the environment.</p> <p>Mobile tutor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meg has started conversations with Sign Language Interpreters Association. - We will apply for two priorities - funding for camp and another for a road trip next year, October/November to send a mobile NZSL tutor on the road to get to the more isolated people.
Skype Call	A general consensus that this worked well, we are not losing entire days, quality of skype was great. We still need to have one more face to face before the AGM as Meg has quite a few changes to go through on the constitution.
Meeting Closed	11.45am
Next Meeting	Saturday 5 May, Wellington Airport
 <hr/> Chairperson's signature	<p style="text-align: center;">7 March 2018</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Date</p>

To Do List from November Meeting

Kate	<p>Look at options to upgrading computers, renting or purchasing.</p> <p>All committee to think of interesting resources for 7+ year olds to add to KIT's.</p> <p>Kate to feedback to Merge Project Group, re: NZSL.</p> <p>Update committee member roles and put in google drive.</p>
Kirstin	<p>All committee to think of interesting resources for 7+ year olds to add to KIT's.</p> <p>If committee has anything specific they want included in the NZDK camp, please email to Kate.</p>
Brent	<p>All committee to think of interesting resources for 7+ year olds to add to KIT's.</p> <p>If committee has anything specific they want included in the NZDK camp, please email to Kate.</p>
Dana	<p>All committee to think of interesting resources for 7+ year olds to add to KIT's.</p> <p>If committee has anything specific they want included in the NZDK camp, please email to Kate.</p>
Justin	<p>All committee to think of interesting resources for 7+ year olds to add to KIT's.</p> <p>If committee has anything specific they want included in the NZDK camp, please email to Kate.</p>
Rebecca	<p>All committee to think of interesting resources for 7+ year olds to add to KIT's.</p> <p>If committee has anything specific they want included in the NZDK camp, please email to Kate.</p>
Debra	<p>All committee to think of interesting resources for 7+ year olds to add to KIT's.</p> <p>If committee has anything specific they want included in the NZDK camp, please email to Kate.</p>
Gillian	<p>All committee to think of interesting resources for 7+ year olds to add to KIT's.</p> <p>If committee has anything specific they want included in the NZDK camp, please email to Kate.</p>
Meg	<p>Look at options to upgrading computers, renting or purchasing.</p>