



## **Committee Meeting held March 14th, 2024**

Present: Lee Walters (in the Chair), Nancy Beck, Kevin Grundy, Janice Johnson, Judy Allison, Neil Ruddell, Tel Hudson, Richard Bland, Olive Dent, Kim Thomas.

### Minutes of the Meeting of February 8th, 2023

Judy moved that the minutes of the last meeting held February 8th, having been circulated, be recorded as a true and correct record, seconded by Olive; Approved

Matters Arising: Under General Business

Correspondence:

Inward

Invoices:

- Look Sharp Online
- Tim Boyd (2)
- Smart Office
- Engraving Systems
- Sutherland Security

NZ/Regional Bridge:

- Online Bridge Weekends (2)
- Jane Stearns re Reimbursement for Advertising Costs

General:

- Mercury re Electricity Prices
- Jayne re her sponsorship
- Ant Hopkins

Outgoing:

- Notice to members regarding the raffle
- NZB Housekeeping
- Interclub team registration

Janice moved that the inward and outward mail be received, seconded by Kevin; Approved

### Finance:

Neil presented the monthly financial statement. Neil noted that there were 2 more bills to be paid: \$500 to NZB for advertising costs and \$15 Northland Centre. He moved that the financial report be accepted, including that accounts that have been paid totalling \$2432.79 be confirmed and accounts to be paid totalling \$1741.64 be approved. Seconded by Olive; Approved

### General Business:

Tel: Tel is cutting back on bridge commitments except for Committee meetings. He congratulated Jayne and Laurie for the great job they are doing on the newsletter.

Richard: Lessons are now in their third week and participants are now starting to pay. Attendance is spotty but there are about 4 tables on Monday and 3 on Tuesday. Cala Rentoul will be taking over when Richard is absent.

The Rheem water heater is in need of replacement. The plumbing to the heater is fine which means that the leak is internal and not repairable. Cost of replacement is ca. \$1600 plus the cost of a plumber to install. This will require Finance Committee approval.

Kevin moved that approval for the replacement of the water heater be sought from the Finance Committee. Seconded by Janice; Approved.

In addition, there is a leak from the flush button for the men's urinal but only when it is pressed.

Judy: Jane has contacted Judy to see whether we have any Juniors willing to participate in the interclub team competition run by the Auckland club. They would be joined by 3 Paihia/Kerikeri players.

Nancy: We have more than 40 badges left. Identifying another 20 members interested will allow us to order some more.

The \$9200 grant from the Lottery Corp will expire on June 22. If we cannot get the renovation of the bathroom started by then we will have to ask for another extension or return the money. Lee noted that her last conversation with the plumber and builder identified the need to get Council approval, which in turn requires getting a draughtsman to draw up the plans. Furthermore costs are escalating rapidly making it extremely difficult to get quotes for the job. Estimates are currently running at \$40K or more. Consequently, it is most unlikely that we will be in a position to move before the funding deadline. She is questioning the value of proceeding. The Brenda Gardner grant is not affected because it can be used on the flooring, regardless of whether or not the renovation proceeds. Richard suggested writing to the Lottery Corp informing them of our issues and asking whether we should return the money and reapply. Neil suggested asking them if it is possible to change the nature and extent of the upgrade to fit with our resources.

Kevin: Our email address has been spoofed and we are now subject to a spam barrage. We cannot block the sender because that will also block genuine email to our address. Kevin will check the source code to see if we can do anything and contact Shane Goldsmith to see what he might be able to do.

Olive: Approximately 20 members have not renewed their subs and will be removed from our membership list and have their NZB numbers archived if they do not respond by the end of the month.

Security lights are not working around the back of the building. SHe wants to get Jayne to put a notice in the newsletter reminding members who cannot show up to play that they have a responsibility to let their partners know ahead of time. Old newsletters are now in a folder by the library.

Although the Northland Centre Pairs is slated for Kerikeri, it will be played at our club. We will need a barman for the tournament. The Tait tournament saw a profit of \$623 despite the low turnout.

Kim: Kim drew the meeting's attention to the fact that 3 tournaments (Paihia, Kerikeri and Whangarei) have been identified as capable of being held online. Although we are likely to remain face-to-face, each club is free to make their own choice.

Lee: Lee noted that our claim for reimbursement of costs for lessons has to be made by the end of the month.

Ron has resigned from the committee.

The Northland Centre held its annual meeting last Friday. Lee noted again the lack of travellers to tournaments is putting us all at risk. Paihia and Dargaville are struggling with few members willing or able to travel. They have lessons starting in April and asked if we would help with the purchase of NZB tote bags for the beginners. These have to be purchased in lots of 50 or more. The cost is around \$3.60+GST per bag. Olive suggested that they could also be offered to members for \$5 or so.

Lee moved that we join with Paihia and Dargaville in the purchase of tote bags for the beginners. Seconded by Janice; Agreed.

There was a discussion of reintroducing the face-to-face interclub competition if sufficient interest is shown.

With the decision by NZBridge to hold the Regional Championship (Interprovincials) face-to-face in Wellington, The cost has increased immensely. Even with cutting down the team sizes to 4 members, it will cost the ANRC approximately \$11K to support the team to the extent that there should be no financial barrier for those selected to play. They have proposed converting the Paihia Swiss Pairs tournament to an online competition in order to raise funds for the Regionals. The substance of the proposal is outlined in a letter which was circulated. The issue will be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting was called to a close at 10:55 am.

The next meeting will be held April 11th at 10 am