



Minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting Friends of Storylines Ngā Pou o te Whare Waituhi Tamariki o Aotearoa Incorporated

4 May 2024, online via Teams

Meeting commenced at 7.07pm

Present: Authors and illustrators invited for the occasion, and members of Friends of Storylines Ngā Pou o Te Whare Waituhi Tamariki: Kaaren Hirst, Pearl D'Silva, Tessa Duder, Ann Luxton, Libby Limbrick, Rosemary Tisdall, Linda Jane Keegan, Lesley Marshall, Leonie Agnew, Amy Luxton-Esler, Alison Shucksmith, Helen Villers, Alana Hawkes, Anne Kayes, Weng Wai Bing, Jackie McMillan, Anne Dickson, Crissi Blair, Janine Williams, Jackie McMillan
Also in attendance: Vicki Cunningham, Anne De Lautour

Apologies: 22 members as read

Opening: Kaaren Hirst, Chair of Friends of Storylines Ngā Pou o Te Whare Waituhi Tamariki; Storylines Children's Literature Foundation, welcomed attendees and opened the meeting with a presentation of her report via PowerPoint.

Presentation of the minutes of the Previous Meeting (Previously circulated)

Matters arising: N/A

Kaaren Hirst moved that the minutes of the 2025 AGM be accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting. Libby Limbrick seconded. Carried unanimously by all present at the meeting.

Statement of Financial Performance (previously circulated): The draft statement of financial performance and the draft annual statement of accounts was provided by accountant Lynette Roycroft in absentia. The profit and loss statement indicated the impact of lower levels of membership. There will be a challenge in the coming year to fundraise at a sufficient level to allow the Story Tours to take place. Term deposits were discussed and the 3 to 6 month investment periods were recommended for the best return. Storylines is audited through the Trust and the audited annual financial report will be available to members on the website as soon as it is made available by the independent auditor. Both draft statements have been accepted in principle by the Management Committee.

Motion: Kaaren Hirst moved the statement of financial performance for the 2024/2025 year be accepted, Libby Limbrick seconded the motion. All in favour. Carried.

Chairperson's report: Kaaren Hirst's report focussed on changes to the Constitution of Storylines to recognise the changes to a 2022 Act of Parliament with regard to the registration and re-registration of incorporated societies. The review of the constitution and the changes made to two versions were outlined and discussed via PowerPoint slides.

Motion: Kaaren Hirst moved that Version Two of the revised Storylines Constitution be accepted, Anne Kayes seconded the motion. All in favour, Carried

General Business:

Membership: The ongoing loss in Storylines membership was discussed. At this point in 2024 there were 257 members and currently there are 249. The goal for the Management Committee for the 2025/2026 years in prospect will be to raise membership to a level that extends the reach and effectiveness of the organisation and the activities we undertake, in particular, the Story Tours. The membership subcommittee has a range of ideas to take forward but this will depend on everyone in the Management Committee assisting with the effort to do so. Membership remains a pressing concern and a focus for the coming year. The Trust Board are aware and will assist where required.

Election of the Management Committee for 2025/26: Vicki Cunningham read the names of all nominees: Leonie Agnew, Weng Wai Bing, Tessa Duder, Alana Hawkes, Anne Kayes, Libby Limbrick, Amy Luxton-Esler, Alison Shucksmith and Helen Villers.

There being no further nominations, Vicki moved the nominations to the Management Committee for 2025/2026 be accepted. Libby Limbrick seconded. All in favour. Carried.

The AGM meeting was declared closed at 7.55pm.

The AGM meeting was followed by an address Gareth and Louise Ward, AKA the 'Bookshop Detectives' of *Wardini Books* in Napier and Havelock North. This part of the meeting was entertaining and an opportunity for questions, answers and responses and an enjoyable an end to the Storylines AGM.

Kaaren Hirst thanked the Wards for their contribution and the attendees for their presence. The evening was concluded with a karakia and farewell to all.