

MINUTES (in Review)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 2021



Name:	Neurological Foundation of NZ
Date:	Thursday, 23 September 2021
Time:	7:30 pm to 8:09 pm
Location:	Zoom web-conference, You need to register for the meeting - panellists will be setup automatically
Board Members:	Barbara Bridger, Professor Cathy Stinear (Chair), John Kelly, Simon John, Georgina Hunter
Attendees:	Baden Ewart, Rich Easton, James Ring
Apologies:	James Hellaby, Sonja Clapham
Guests/Notes:	Dr Sarah Schonberger; Professor John Dalrymple-Alford, Associate Professor Louise Bicknell

1. Present & apologies

1.1 Welcome & approach for meeting

Meeting was attended by Neurological Foundation Council members, Supporters and Staff, a total of 32 people.

Apologies were received from:

- Shirley Blackie
- Jo McKenzie
- Shirley and Neil Patterson
- Lyn Lang
- Roger and Rosemary Clark
- Warren Blundell
- Gail Carran
- L Symonds
- Gladys Burgess
- John Rich
- James Hellaby
- Sonja Clapham

2. Minutes & matters arising

2.1 Confirm Minutes

AGM - 2019 28 Nov 2019, the minutes were confirmed as presented.

Annual General Meeting 13 Aug 2020, the minutes were confirmed as presented.



Accept minutes from August 2020

Approved by 13 members

Decision Date: 23 Sep 2021

Outcome: Approved

2.2 Matters arising

No matters arising.

3. Chair's report

3.1 Present Chair's report

Cathy Stinear presented a summary of the year, highlighting the \$4.5M invested in neurological research.

Cathy thanked the scientists and clinicians that volunteer their time to support our review committees. She thanked departing Council members Dr Barry Snow, Deb Peters and Wayne Boyd, recognising the wonderful leadership contributions they made over many years. Cathy welcomed Georgina Hunter and James Ring as new Council members.

The Council has reviewed the Foundation's investments and engaged Mercer to provide Investment Management services through a socially responsible portfolio, ensuring we sustain the funds available to support research for another 50 years.

Reflecting on the last 12 months and the overlay of COVID-19, Cathy thanked our supporters and the Foundation's team for their commitment to ensuring neurological research remains a priority in NZ.



Motion to accept the Chairperson's report

Accepted by 15 members

Decision Date: 23 Sep 2021

Outcome: Approved

4. Financial report

4.1 Present financial report

Rich Easton presented a summary of the business and financials for the FY20-21 financial year. He highlighted the almost \$500,000 in additional funding made available to the research community to offset impacts from COVID-19 on their work. In the year the Foundation has funded 18 Projects, 5 Research fellowships, 3 Clinical fellowships, 3 PhD scholarships, 4 Summer studentships. Plus the continuation of the Neurological Foundation's Human Brain Bank and Chair of Clinical Neurology.

Rich summarised the key numbers from the audited financial report:

- Over \$4M in committed new research
- Income of \$13.5M, including \$7.5M in bequests
- \$5.9M in investment earnings
- Operating expenditure held steady at \$2.8M

Rich thanked all those who had helped support the Foundation, our Councillors; The members of the scientific committees; the Team and most importantly our Supporters and Donors, without whom none of this would have been possible.



Motion to accept the financial report

Accepted by 15 members

Decision Date: 23 Sep 2021

Outcome: Approved

5. Election of Councillors

5.1 Council members election



Motion to appoint Georgina Hunter and James Ring to Council

Approved by 16 members

Decision Date: 23 Sep 2021

Outcome: Approved

6. Appointment of Auditors

6.1 Appointment of auditors



Motion to re-appoint Deloitte as the Foundation's auditors

Approved by 16 members

Decision Date: 23 Sep 2021

Outcome: Approved

7. Research committee update

7.1 SAC & PAC reports

Professor John Dalrymple-Alford presented the update from the Scientific Awards Committee:

- John became Co-Chair of the Committee in 2020 when Professor Ruth Empson stepped down for family reasons
- The first grant round of the year received over \$6M of applications and awarded 7 large and 3 small projects totalling over \$1M
- One of these was a Charcot Marie Tooth research project funded by the generosity of Patricia Wilson's estate
- The Committee saw an uplift of 38% on applications from 2019's round and 66% on those received in 2018
- The second grant round awarded 5 large and 4 small projects, plus some travel, conference and training grants, totalling just under \$1M
- This included a project looking at the impacts of concussion on junior rugby players

Associate Professor Louise Bicknell presented the update from the Personal Awards Committee:

- Applicants are reviewed by the Committee for the quality of the science plus their planned career paths
- 54 applicants were received an uplift of 59% on 2019

- Overall \$5.2M of requests were received and \$1.2M awarded in the first round including 3 Doctoral Fellowships, 2 First Fellowships, 1 Chapman Fellowship and 1 Senior Research Fellowship
- Overall \$4.4M of requests were received and \$1.4M awarded in the latter ground round including 2 Champan Fellowships, 2 First Fellowships, 1 Senior Research Fellowship, 1 Senior Clinical Fellowship and 1 Dawn Fellowship, researching Charcot Marie Tooth Disease, from the generosity of the Dawn Estate

Thanks were passed to the Foundation from the scientists and clinicians for their support during COVID-19, which has truly helped so many research initiatives, an approach un-paralleled by other funding bodies.

Thanks were also passed to the Scientific and Personal Awards Committee members for their hard work and dedication, and to Dr Sarah Schonberger for the support to making these Committees run so smoothly.



Accept the SAC and PAC Committee reports

Approved by 20 members

Decision Date: 23 Sep 2021

Outcome: Approved

8. General Business

8.1 General business items



Motion to make Dr Barry Snow a life member of the Neurological Foundation

Strongly approved by 17 members

Decision Date: 23 Sep 2021

Outcome: Approved



Motion to accept proposed changes to Neurological Foundation's Rules and Objects document (2 parts)

Changes to the time served by Chair and Deputy Chair - approved by 19 members

Changes to make Foundation membership a 12 month rolling membership - approved by 19 members

Decision Date: 23 Sep 2021

Outcome: Approved

Thanks were passed to the Neurological Foundation team for their hard work moving from an in-person to online event due to COVID-19.

9. Close Meeting

9.1 Meeting closes

Next meeting: Neurological Foundation Council Meeting - 24 Sep 2021, 9:00 am

Signature: _____

Date: _____