

Sweet Adelines International Region 35 Regional Management

Minutes of Meeting, 4 – 5 October 2014

Present: Mary Ann Zorovic, Mabel Knight, Sandy Gunn, Jocosa Bruce, Chris Thompson, Miriam Spragg, Julie Scoggins

Minute Taker: Liz Young

Apologies: Leigh Whitelaw

	To be actioned by
Saturday 4 October	
The Team visited the Aotea Centre prior to the start of the meeting	
Welcome By Mabel Knight.	
Minutes from the previous RMT meeting approved (including conference call minutes). Matters arising from minutes. - Agreed that RMT stock of diamante and other pins go to YWIH (either part payment or gift, to be decided), RMT to hold Year pins. YWIH national winning quartet – place in the policy that the winning quartet in a year is given free registration to the Region 35 Convention the following contest.	Mabel
Finance Coordinator – Report Cash flow is tight. Mismatch between number of members and levies payments. Two choruses yet to complete payment of levies. Mary Ann following up. Martini – Mary Ann commented on the high food costs involved in these events. She suggested looking at community venues which would lower costs as well as asking choruses if they'd be interested in catering such events. Still break even this year as no further education events.	Mary Ann
Discussion about options for reducing cost at the Jim Arns and Renée Porzel visit included giving attendees the option of paying for meal/s.	Events to follow up

<p>Accounts for 2013 ready to go to auditor.</p> <p>Convention 2015 – the change of venue being partly funded by \$60 levy. Those attending will pay fees approximately the same amount. This will be charged in May – June but will come off the convention held the month before.</p> <p>Software – Mary Ann suggests using a cloud based financial package - the person who has applied for finance co ordinators position has already used this system. When the position is announced, she suggested RMT approve the use of this programme for the accounts. Techsoup may be making this software package available, so it's possible no cost will be involved.</p> <p>Proposal for new software to go on agenda for next meeting.</p> <p>Re grant applications – GAC member (Jenny Jackson) has been doing some background work, checking dates and times etc, regarding the possibility of a community grant for convention. Applications close next month. Agreed to send a thank you card to Jenny for her assistance.</p> <p>Re Rhythm of Canterbury. Ascertain what was in the balance sheet at the time the group disbanded.</p> <p>YWIH - Jocosa and Mary Ann met with NZABS and the YSIH coordinators. NZABS understand they now have to set up a charity for their YMIH. It was agreed to set up a bank account to run the event, with one signatory from NZSANZ and one from NZABS. Neither organisation will take any profit out. Another meeting to be held November 29.</p> <p>Re Prue Blyth Memorial Trust – Mary Ann keen to continue her involvement with this, particularly in the promotion of YWIH in schools etc. All in agreement. Mary Ann also to check the term of appointment for the trustees.</p> <p>Re SANZ website - material should not be uploaded onto the SANZ site website without the approval of an RMT member.</p>	<p>Mary Ann</p> <p>Mary Ann/ Mabel</p> <p>Mary Ann</p> <p>Mary Ann</p>
<p>Communications Coordinator – Report</p> <p>Chris expanded on Leigh's report – Olwyn Jones has resigned as director Manawatu Overtones. The two co-directors will now be Liz Watts and Sylvia Fountain.</p> <p>Mary Ann noted that GAC now has two directors, Melody Lowe and Jocosa Bruce.</p>	
<p>Meeting closed for lunch at 12.30pm</p>	
<p>Meeting recommenced at 1.35pm</p>	
<p>Education Coordinator – Report</p> <p>Re Japan – currently Japan doesn't have enough choruses to create a region, but in the meantime there is the opportunity to keep in contact with these choruses and promote our region and the craft in general. Suggestion to offer subsidised registrations to interested Japanese singers for 2015 SANZ convention. Membership co ordinator will be linking up with Hisako while in Baltimore later this year to gather more information. Discussions will continue following that.</p>	<p>Julie</p>

<p>AHA – Jocosa reported on planning and developments.</p> <p>Jim Arns and Renée Porzel visit – discussion on allocation of coaching time. There will be a full days coaching allocated for champion choruses 2014/15. These choruses will pay coaching fees (\$1400US), but travel costs to be covered by the Region. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday of the following week will be open to choruses (who want 3 hours coaching @ \$900US) to apply for this coaching opportunity. This plan may change if the championship chorus does not wish to have a full days coaching. All above sessions are to be open. The final weekend will be a workshop for all members.</p>	Jocosa
<p>Events Coordinator – Report</p> <p>Convention 2015 – The proposed schedule of events was discussed. Planning continues by the Events and Education Coordinators.</p> <p>*Jocosa left meeting at 3.10pm.</p>	Miriam/Jocosa
<p>General Business</p> <p>RMT Baltimore attendees took this opportunity to share their Baltimore schedules and commitments with us.</p> <p>Domain name changes recommended in line with changes worldwide – will mean a change to name to www.sweetadlines.nz (dropping the 'co'). Documentation needing to be changed would include advertising, business cards, the Addaline, stationery etc. Mary Ann will update the name before March 2015.</p> <p>Groupanizer – Miriam still awaiting correspondence. All members are now loaded on. Still a work in progress.</p>	Mary Ann
<p>Marketing Coordinator – Report</p> <p>Mabel commended Sandy and her team for their work on the Addaline and said the current team would be happy to continue publishing the magazine outside of the RMT.</p> <p>30 Year pin will be made up. Membership to investigate who recipients of the pin are.</p>	<p>Sandy</p> <p>Sandy/Julie</p>

<p>Meeting closed for the day at 4.45pm. Saturday 4 October Meeting resumed Sunday 5 October, 2014 9.05am. Philippa Rogers replaced Liz Young as minute taker.</p>	
<p>Team Coordinator – Report</p> <p>Discussion around convention, 30th Anniversary celebrations and the show continued from the previous night.</p> <p>A suggestion was made to invite past members to the opening ceremony as a celebration of the past 30 years of Sweet Adelines in New Zealand. This would provide an opportunity to sell more tickets to the competition events and the Saturday night show.</p> <p>The Saturday night show and opening ceremony were discussed as to which items should be held at which event. It was decided that the Opening Ceremony would be Thursday night and would feature the 30th Anniversary celebrations. The theatre can be used or the foyer as a venue to save the \$1500 - \$2000 to hire an additional room. Would depend on the estimated number of attendees. It was felt that the opening ceremony should retain the same atmosphere as last year but a stage may be needed so that all can see.</p> <p>Messages from Ann Gooch, Shirley Kout, Marcia Pinvidic and choruses from other regions would be played on screens at the opening ceremony.</p> <p>Spirit nominees would be announced and their pictures shown on the big screen, and the winner announced.</p> <p>Opening ceremony attendees would be encouraged to wear an old chorus or quartet costume.</p> <p>A cash bar would be available for those who wish to mix and mingle after the formalities.</p> <p>A vote was taken on whether the show should be kept separate from the 30th celebration. 6 people voted for.</p> <p>The Saturday night show was discussed. Suggested that it feature the competition winners circle, chorus items (choruses to submit a request to perform with an audition video of what they can do – show committee to choose). A special well known guest may be needed to perform or an alternative act so that the show isnt all barbershop. RMT members to think about possible guest artists.</p> <p>Miriam to send a questionnaire to directors/choruses to gather more detailed information.</p> <p>The Mass sing part of convention needs to be confirmed. Thought was that it needed to be part of the programme and held in Aotea Square as a good publicity opportunity for SANZ.</p> <p>Mabel provided an update about why the SA International site map wasn't showing all choruses in New Zealand. Email from International outlined how the site worked and that it was how the rehearsal venue and address was listed on the chorus renewal form.</p> <p>Mary Ann to take a screen shot of form and send to chorus Finance Coordinators to check and update</p>	<p>Miriam</p> <p>Mary Ann</p>

<p>Membership Coordinator – Report</p> <p>Spirit Awards – As an action from the previous meeting Julie has been trying to get information from other regions as to what membership awards they give out.</p> <p>Some ideas that have come through are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - quiet achiever awards - leadership awards - women of note - getting all choruses to nominate and then acknowledging all at their educations <p>Discussion was had around what the other regions do but it was decided that we don't need more awards in New Zealand. RMT would like to keep the award similar to the current but have choruses submit applications on a questionnaire to a set of criteria. Then all applications will be equal. All nominees to be recognised and then a winner chosen. Choruses also to be given ideas about how other choruses do it. Choose a spirit award as part of their chorus end of year celebrations then that person is put forward for the national award.</p> <p>Mary Ann provided an update about the number of paid members in the region. So far with 3 choruses yet to come in there are 579 members in New Zealand. Around 70-75 still to come in so membership sitting at around 650. Only 25 youth members. The international numbers have us at 703. Mary Ann to write to choruses with international number and paid members and ask to check and reconcile the difference.</p> <p>The new Groupanizer site needs to have a status for non-active members so a record can be kept of when people joined.</p> <p>25 year pins – to be kept in the same place in the programme at convention but time given to mark the moment. All award winners to be seated near the front to save time.</p>	<p>Mary Ann</p>
<p>Director's Coordinator – Report</p> <p>Communication with the Arrangers' Coordinator, she reports that Alice from Wellington city chorus is interested in attending the arrangers' course in Baltimore. Chris to get more information from Manjula re the Arrangers' Interest group and recent activities.</p>	
<p>He Tangata Chorus</p> <p>Communication was received via email from the He Tangata Chorus around their proposed change of name. The members of He Tangata chorus had had a vote on what they would like their name to be. Discussion was had on the proposed name and what say RMT has on the management of the He Tangata Chorus. It was felt that any use of the words New Zealand or National Chorus was confusing as it implies it is a chorus of New Zealand Champions or selected representatives from NZ.</p>	

<p>Mabel to go back to He Tangata – Jan Toynbee, Rebecca Chaplow, Robyn Ransom and Virginia Humphrey Taylor and inform them that the RMT does not support the name they have chosen due to the use of the words New Zealand and National.</p> <p>The RMT recommends Harmony Show Chorus – He Tangata. The words "from New Zealand" can be used in introductions. The RMT asks that it be announced at their next concert and reflected in all marketing material.</p>	Mabel
<p>General Business</p> <p>Discussion was had on the possibility of having Region 35 convention in the same venue for 3 years in a row to give greater bargaining power on venue costs. Needs to be added to RAM agenda. Will need to have a financial comparison so Miriam to move forward with getting costs from the Michael Fowler Centre for 2016.</p> <p>International confirmed that they have updated the Region 35 convention dates for 2018</p> <p>General membership to be invited to contest debrief. To be confirmed schedule of when classes and debrief will be.</p>	<p>Miriam</p> <p>Miriam</p>
<p>Meeting closed: 12.25pm</p> <p>Next RMT Meeting: 21 – 22 February in Auckland, 9.15am.</p> <p>Future meeting: 13 - 14 June TBC</p>	