

**New Zealand Register of Acupuncturists (Acupuncture NZ) Inc
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**

3.30pm Saturday 10 August 2019.

Te Wharewaka Function Centre
Odlins Square 109 Jervois Quay, Wellington.

AGENDA

1. Opening address by Acupuncture NZ President, Angie Harding

Angie Harding welcomed members old and new to the AGM and thanked them for taking the time to attend.

2. Present:

Council: Angie Harding President, Thomas Lin Vice President, Renée Oliver Treasurer, Janine Nana Secretary, Robin Kerr, Kate Roberts and Sophia Xiao Colley Member Representatives. Registrar Lesley Haiselden. Yujin Helen Li was absent.

Members Present: Armen Aghuzumtsyan, Bridget Allison, Vanessa Bevin, John Black, Andre Capiez, Zhi Gang Wilson Cen, Kim Chenery, Janine Cuff, Chenghao Dai, Belinda Falconar, Martin Greenleaf, Tim Haiselden, Ingrid Hauge, Shelley Hickson, Zhan Hua Jane Huang, Pauline Joe, Serena Joe, James Johnson, Daniel Judd, Peter Kecskemeti, Yen Cher (Jack) Koh, Heiko Lade, Martin Lee, Yun Jong Lee, Qiu Hu Liang, Dawn Lucia, Jessica Marshall, Eve McGregor, Jocelyn McLean, Phillip Mettrick, Peter O'Connell, Reiko Ohara, Karuna Olatunji, Song Tao Charles Pan, Chito Pantig, Grant Pearse, Kevin Plaisted, Lisa Polaczuk, Robert Sturge, Hairui Henry Su, Yunsong Sun, Peng Chye (Charles) Tan, Amanda Teagle, Angela Thomas, Leah Voysey, Nathan Wafstet, Heijing Connie Wang, Qiang Wang, Robert Warren, Selwyn Wong Doo, Yuzheng Vinson Wu, John Xu, Yaqin Jessica Yuan, Jian Jason Zhang, , Sharlene Green-McInnes, Trudi Collins, Paddy McBride, Suzanne Tapper, Debra Betts, Leonie Kueh, Philip Jameson, Gang Gordon Zheng, Peilin Li, Rongdi Zhou, Huiqin Susan Ji. (Number 73)

NZRTCM Practitioners

Xiao Heng Zhou, Wing Kan Chiu and Pengde George Cui

Administrator Brandy Zhao.

3. Apologies: Jenny Allison, Heather Bruce, Jill Davidson, Laura Callaghan, Dirk Weishaupt, Tracyann Lek and Albert Zhang

4. Conflicts of Interest: Thomas Lin as he owns a clinical software company that is in competition with Noted

5. Minutes of the previous AGM – 11 August 2018

Errors and Omissions: None

Motion AGM2019/1: That the Minutes of 11 August 2018 as tabled are a true and accurate record.

Moved: Sophia Xiao-Colley **Seconded:** Dawn Lucia

7. Matters arising from the previous minutes: None

8. 2018/19 Reports: Tabled and presented orally

- **President** - Angie Harding
- **Vice President** -Thomas Lin
- **Treasurer** -Renée Oliver

Kim Chenery queried the annual registration fees. The budget shows that we have met the amount required for the HPCA act. If so, why don't the registration fees reflect that and be reduced?

Angie explained that the current estimated amount for HPCAA is from 2015 and the amount is bound to be more than currently estimated. Before fees are set for the 2020/21 year, (in November) the council will find out the current financial estimate for HPCA act and adjust fees accordingly.

Motion AGM2019/2: That the Treasurer's Report and Statement of Accounts be accepted.

Moved: Peter O'Connell **Seconded:** Tim Haiselden

Motion AGM 2019/3: That the Review Accountants Moore Stephens Wellington Audit are to be appointed for Acupuncture NZ.

Moved: Peter O'Connell **Seconded:** Selwyn Wong Doo

Reports

- **Secretary:** Janine Nana
- **Registrar:** Lesley Haiselden

Member Representatives Reports

- Robin Kerr
- Yujin Helen Li
- Kate Roberts
- Sophia Xiao-Colley

Motion AGM2019/4: That all the reports as tabled be accepted subject to the number of new members being reported accurately.

Moved: Peter O'Connell **Seconded:** Martin Lee

9. 2019 Council elections.

The positions for re-election this year were the President, Secretary and two Member Representatives. The President, Angie Harding did not seek re-election. Nor did Member Representatives, Yujin Helen Li and Kate Roberts.

In terms of the rules, all these positions were put to a vote.

In terms of the Acupuncture NZ Rules Member Representatives 11.9.2 There will be at least one Member Representative from each of the North and South Islands.

Two nominations were received for the President's position; Robin Kerr and Bozhao Albert Zhang. Robin Kerr was voted in as the new president.

There were two nominations for the Secretary's position; Peilin Li and Janine Nana. Janine Nana was voted to remain as secretary.

There were four nominations for the two positions of Member Representative. The nominations were: Zhan Hua Jane Huang, Philip Jameson, Paddy McBride and Gang Gordon Zheng. With Robin Kerr being promoted to president three new member representatives were required. The new member representatives voted in were Zhan Hua Jane Huang (North Island), Paddy McBride (South Island) and Gang Gordon Zheng (North Island).

10. Specified business

Rule Changes 2019

Rule 5. Entry Requirements for membership

Proposed by Sophia Xiao Colley

Current Wording

5.1 that the applicant has completed a full-time course of study for a period of four years at a New Zealand institution recognised by the Register and can present supporting documentation showing that Traditional Chinese Medicine Diagnosis and Acupuncture theory comprises the central disciplines undertaken. The applicant must have completed not less than 500 hours of supervised clinical training.

Proposed wording for rule

5.1 that the applicant has completed a full-time course of study for at a New Zealand institution recognised by the Register and can present supporting documentation showing that Traditional Chinese Medicine Diagnosis and Acupuncture theory comprises the central disciplines undertaken. The applicant must have completed not less than 500 hours of supervised clinical training.

Reason for the change

- There is no need to request the length of the study time. Acupuncture course is not really need to be that long. The main shift is the mind sets changes. The understanding the 5- element theory and the application on the theory is the main components. A lot of people self-study and master the skills must better than those school graduates.
- NZQA and other state own qualification authorities is working hard to make NZ have a world recognized qualifications. Trust their skill and their Specialty.
- NZCCM has a 3-year course in Acupuncture approved by NZQA as level 7 Bachelor Degree. We will like to welcome them to join our organization.
- Attachment: <https://chinesemedicine.ac.nz/programme/bhsc-2/>

Seconded by Huiqin Susan Ji

Robust discussion was held and the following points were made:

- Speaking as teachers, Alphonse Pantig and Pengde George Cui reported that the NZSATCM degree involves many facets of training an acupuncturist. Students are exposed to real life and complicated cases that are not in the text books. 3 years is not long enough to teach modern medicine alongside TCM, in fact 5 years would be better than the current 4.

- The quality of our members is more important than quantity. – John Xu
- There is no point changing the rule prior to HPCA as the board will decide. We don't want to reduce the quality of our members prior to HPCAA. -Tim Haiselden.
- Speaking as a student of the 3-year degree, the demand of learning a complicated course in that amount of time is overwhelming. - Pauline Joe
- While the course is very intense, it is doable – Sophia Xiao-Colley
- It was suggested that the rule changes not proceed, and the new council do a complete overhaul of the rules.

Motion AGM2019/5: To accept the rule change to Rule 5.1

Rule change was unsuccessful as the clear majority stood to vote against this change.

Rule 11 The Council

Rule 11.4

Proposed by: Bozhao Albert Zhang

Current Wording

11.4 Without limiting the generality of the power of the Council to direct the affairs of the Register

the Council shall in particular have power:

11.4.1 To review the financial policy, set the annual subscription and control members of the Register

11.4.2 To employ office personnel as required.

11.4.3 To acquire, sell, lease or deal with any real or personal property.

11.4.4 To borrow or raise or secure the payment of money as the Council may think fit and in particular by the issue of debenture bonds, mortgages charged upon all or any of the Register's property (both present and future), and to purchase, redeem or pay off any such securities.

11.4.5 To adopt, amend, revoke and replace the Code of Professional Ethics and Standards of Practice from time to time.

Proposed wording for rule

11.4 The Council must ensure the members have meaningful input into the development, consideration and decision-making on any significant project, process or policy undertaken by the Council. The level of the consultation depends on the extent to which Council knows the current views and preference of the members who may have interests in the decision.

The Council has power to direct the affairs of our organization in the following items:

11.4.1 To review the financial policy, set the annual subscription and control members of the Register

11.4.2 To employ office personnel as required.

11.4.3 To acquire, sell, lease or deal with any real or personal property.

11.4.4 To borrow or raise or secure the payment of money as the Council may think fit and in particular by the issue of debenture bonds, mortgages charged upon all or any of the Register's property (both present and future), and to purchase, redeem or pay off any such securities.

11.4.5 To adopt, amend, revoke and replace the Code of Professional Ethics and Standards of Practice from time to time.

Reason for change

The Council's power should be limited rather than unlimited as its power is from members.

Seconded by Peilin Li

Motion AGM2019/6: To accept the rule change to Rule 11.4

Rule change was unsuccessful as the clear majority voted against.

3 Proxy votes for the motion. No one abstained

Rule 14 Meetings

Rule 14.11

Proposed by: Bozhao Albert Zhang

Current Wording

14.11 Special General Meeting

Upon receiving a requisition in writing signed by a majority of members of the Council or by no less than 15% of voting members of the Register the Council shall forthwith, by notice in writing to each member, convene a Special General Meeting of the members at the expiration of not less than 30 days and not more than 40 days from the receipt of such requisition. The requisition and the notices convening the meeting shall specify the subjects which the meeting is called to consider and no other subject shall be dealt with by the meeting.

Proposed wording for rule

14.11 Special General Meeting

Upon receiving in writing signed by a majority of members of the Council or by no less than 12% of voting members of the Register the Council shall forthwith, by notice in writing to each member, convene a Special General Meeting of the members at the expiration of not less than 30 days and not more than 40 days from the receipt of such requisition. The requisition and the notices convening the meeting shall specify the subjects which the meeting is called to consider and no other subject shall be dealt with by the meeting.

Reason for change

Lower the barrier to initiate a Special Meeting to make sure of democracy and transparency principles are secured in our organization. $600 \times 12\% = 72$ which is still a large number of people.

Seconded by Sophia Xiao-Colley

Discussion

There was support for 15% as it represents a greater majority. And there was support for dropping it to 12% to make it easier to contact enough members to call a special meeting. A further comment was made recommended leaving this rule change until the Rules overhaul.

Motion AGM2019/7: To accept the rule change to Rule 14.11

The motion to change the rule was defeated by the majority.

4 Proxy votes for the motion. 8 Abstained.

Noted Report-Tabled

Thomas Lin declared he had a conflict of interest before expressing his views that the contract is not fair on our members. He had a problem that the current and final signed version of the contract as it is different to a previous version that was also signed. Because of this, and because council was not notified as changes were made, he doesn't trust the process.

Angie Harding responded to explain that due diligence was taken and in the process several changes were made by lawyers prior to the final contract. As the contract had council's support, it was just a matter for lawyers and there was no need to engage council in each step of the way. Whether a previous version had signature on it is of no matter as there is a final binding contract agreed on by both parties. The matter was taken to mediation. Albert Zhang and Grant Pearse were present.

Peilin Li questioned the finances and that to date. The contract has cost members and would continue to do so for a further 12 months or more. What if our projections are incorrect?

Angie Harding explained that we have a clause to review the contract every 12 months and the next be done prior to the end of May 2020. At that point we will know if our figures are correct and if we haven't met our targets, we will review the contract and options may include an increased charge or to scrap the contract.

Sophia Xiao-Colley queried why we are paying so much to Noted instead of developing our own software. If we own our own software the data will be there instead of with Noted. As a security matter, Noted can access our data. Also, we have a clause to give Noted 6 months' notice to terminate the contract at any time, and do not need to wait for the 2020 review. Sophia proposed that members agree to vote today to cease the contract immediately and give notice of the contract's termination to Noted after this meeting.

Angie Harding pointed out the members have to be notified prior the AGM of such a proposal and as such, a vote could not proceed.

Peter O'Connell said a motion could be put forward under unnotified business. He expressed the concern that over 4 years, members who were not using Noted we subsidising members who are by about \$2500K. Each year the amount paid to Noted increases and this is not good.

Paddy McBride expressed the view that the Noted contract has been an extraordinarily unpleasant and difficult situation that has arisen in our organisation. The majority of our members have not even been aware of it as it has been discussed almost exclusively on WeChat which has about 200 members. Paddy suggested that the new council start, as of tomorrow, to have a good look at the situation, and make sure that we put out some sort of explanation to our full membership so they can ask questions. Paddy suggested that the members who have stirred up so much trouble through lack of understanding, through lack of explanation, allow the new council time to see they can calm the water, calm everyone down and move on.

Paddy pointed out that the 12K is the outgoing amount, but this is offset by the amount users of Noted are paying. That is coming back in. Not unlike our insurance policy. We pay a big amount of money to our insurance company, and our members then pay their insurance which counteracts the expense. This is not dissimilar to the arrangement with Noted.

Paddy also pointed out that Noted has been adopted by a large number of organisations through NZ and internationally, and the group that has the best contract is AcNZ. If so, many healthcare providers are looking at Noted as the best software we should be careful not to throw it out.

Suzanne Tapper, as a non-Noted user has no problem paying to subsidise others if it improves the professionalism of our organisation. We could all look beyond ourselves as individuals and look at our professional profile. There was general applause after this comment.

Health Practitioners Competency Assurance Act (HPCAA) – Report Tabled

Andre Capiiez asked how ‘everyone’ will be involved in the process and what will post HPCAA look like?

Robin assured members she would keep them informed. Once we find out what our options are, we will bring these to the members for discussion. It may be that there would be meetings up and down the country to discuss our options.

11. Unspecified Business: None

12. 2020 AGM and conference

Date of next AGM: 9 August 2020

Discussion was had on where to hold the next conference and AGM. Angie told members present that prior to being on the AcNZ council, she also wished to have it in her home city Christchurch. But she now understands the enormous amount of preparation done by the Registrar and Brandy at the Wellington office. It would be very difficult to have the AGM and conference not in Wellington.

Motion AGM2019/8 To hold the conference in Wellington as voted by the members

For: 26 Against: 10 Abstained: 1

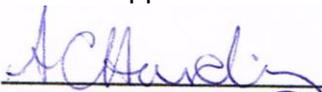
Moved: Angie Harding **Seconded:** Martin Greenleaf

13. Changing of the Guard:

Retiring Council members were thanked and given a small gift. The new Council members, Paddy McBride, and Jane Huang were welcomed and took their place at the council table.

Meeting closed: 6.25pm

Minutes Approved:



Angie Harding
President

Date:

02-08-2020



Janine Nana
Secretary

1 May 2020

Date: