

Zephyr Owners' Association
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Pt Chevalier Yacht Club, Auckland
1930hrs, September 17th, 2007

Attendance: A Aitken (Chair), R Ebert (Secretary), D Blair, A Miller, M Sargisson, T Snedden, P Stokell, A Geddes, R Wilson, R Dew, R Waterer, R Martin, K Gager, G Gager, T Sadler, S Pyatt, W Heathwaite, R Turner, R Allen, C Maddren.

Apologies: N May, G Adams, K Paine, C Moss R Brooke. *Accepted, Aitken/Geddes*

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The minutes of the previous meeting held at the The Sand Bar Hotel, Christchurch, on August 26th, 2006, previously published in the West Wind were taken as read and accepted as a true and correct record of that meeting. *Stokell/Snedden*

Matters Arising: Nil

President's Report: Circulated in West Wind and taken as read. A Aitken elaborated on some aspects of the report, acknowledging those that contributed to the hull and sail developments. Interest from the Wellington region was especially welcome. *Accepted, Aitken/Geddes*

Treasurer's Report: The accounts had been published in the West Wind. A Aitken presented an audited set of accounts to the meeting and thanked Auditor R Ineson. A Aitken elaborated on some items. Fewer Zephyr hulls had been built this year, but at more profit. The mould is essentially now full written off. T Snedden queried the amount of the travel grant Hamilton sailors had received for Akaroa. A Aitken explained that this was a Lion Foundation grant that had been handled via the Association. A Geddes suggested the ZOA's liability taxation be kept under review. With that, the President's Report was accepted. *Aitken/Proko*

Budget: A Aitken outlined the budget for 2006-07. Total budgeted income was \$2400, not \$2600 as published in West Wind. *Accepted Aitken/Snedden*

Subscriptions: To remain at \$20. *Accepted, Aitken/Stokell*

Election of Officers

The following Officers had agreed to continue and there being no other nominations, were elected unopposed

Patron: N May

President: A Aitken

Secretary: R Ebert

Treasurer: A Aitken

Auditor: R Ineson

Regional Representatives: The following were nominated, Hamilton: *Keith Paine*, Auckland: *Tim Snedden*, Canterbury: *Peter Stokell* and *Don Currie*, and duly elected. *Aitken/Ebert*

General Business

1. President's Honorarium

The motion “*That the be allocated an honorarium of \$250 for services rendered*” was carried *Ebert/Stokell*

2. **Nominations for Life Members**

R Ebert spoke in support of the following nominations for Life Membership.

The four men listed have been instrumental in ensuring the survival of the class by building new hulls after Des Townson stopped doing so.

In 1975, **Austin Ebert** and **Maurice Hines** wanted boats for themselves or their children. They enlisted aid of **Ken Maynard**, associated with the class through wife Rema, a life member. The only way was to build them themselves. They took patterns off existing boats and constructed a mould, subsequently producing #301-304. This mould became basis of the “300” series boats produced by builders Franklin and Frost. The availability of new boats was a significant boost to the Canterbury Zephyr fleet which became the mainstay of the class for a considerable period. The ZOA acknowledges their efforts on behalf of the class in awarding them life membership.

Class Patron **Noel May** continued the building impetus with the development of the cedar glass jig and the production of the first “250” series boats. As ZOA Patron and former Zephyr builder, he has contributed his substantial knowledge of boat building and Townson designs to the ZOA, along with a number of full and half models. He also deserves recognition as life member of the ZOA.

3. **Sail Construction Update:** Tim Snedden expressed general satisfaction with the sail. The Velcro batten ties may not be strong enough and the inner batten ends are too far from the bolt rope. These quality issues will be raised with Doyle Sails shortly.
4. **Centrecase Modification;** R Ebert suggested a modification to the standard centrecase to permit higher mounting of the mainsheet lazy block. It was suggested D Currie be asked to formulate a design for this. S Pyatt pointed out that if this was made a standard for new boats, any owner removing it would need a dispensation from class rules which do not permit modifications to Zephyrs as built.
5. **New Hulls:** The rationale behind a slight reduction in veneer size and the subsequent weight savings were explained. One completed hull remained at Horizon boats, available for \$3950.
6. **Constitutional Amendment:** R Ebert outlined changes to the constitution, reflecting the difficulty small businesses are experiencing in getting their accounts audited. Subsequently the following motion was put to the meeting; “That the following sections of the Constitution be amended to read:
 - 6.2.4 the appointment of a suitably qualified person to inspect the financial accounts.
 - 11.5 The accounts of the Association shall be inspected by a suitably qualified person who is not a member of the Executive Committee” *Ebert/Aitken Carried unanimously.*
7. **Masters Lane Trial:** The concept of a separate starting zone on the start line for Master contestants had been explained in a recent West Wind. After discussion it was clear that not all present liked the concept. It was agreed by a 5-3 vote, (lots of abstentions) that the organising authority of the 2009 Nationals be asked to

consider a trial of the concept.

8. **Forum Discussion:** The meeting broke up into small groups to discuss some points raised by Alex Aitken. He sought comment of the following issues noting that the day to day administration of ZOA is established and will tick along, however without a plan for the future we risk burnout and decline;

- Do you feel that ZOA needs a new direction ?
- What is driving us to sail Zephyrs, are we having fun.
- Do we support club sailing
- Are we presenting an exiting image.
- Do we have the ability to attract new and younger sailors.
- Is the wooded hull of limited appeal.
- Is there a need to provide a glass hull, the Mistral has gone down that track.
- There is a change in life style and maintenance of the Zephyr could put people off the class.
- What about a new promotion pamphlet
- What do you think of Web site
- Are yearly national contests still needed.
- General
- Points emerging from the discussion were
 - Zephyrs supported club sailing – all were members of clubs. Co-operation between clubs for Zephyr races improved fleets sizes.
 - Web Site: This was felt to be a resource for the class, but not great at promoting the class – especially the image presented by the historical photos. R Ebert to look at a revamp.
 - The wooden hull was felt to be an advantage, giving those that wanted to an ability to “tinker” with their boats.
 - New sailors were being attracted to the class, albeit in an older age group.
 - A revised pamphlet was felt be of limited use, given the predominance of the Internet nowadays.
 - National Contests: Felt to be an essential activity.

9. **National Championship 2008:** Tim Snedden reported that arrangements were proceeding smoothly, thanks to excellent assistance from Manly Sailing Club.

Meeting closed 2200hrs.