

Zephyr Owners' Association
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Mt Pleasant Yacht Club, 1930hrs, 26th August, 2010

Attendance: M Sargisson, R Ebert, A Aitken, T Snedden, A Holland, A Ebert, P Crofts, L Ebert, J Foster, M Hannah, M Irwin, T Kite, M Hay, B Elliott, S Smith, T Miller, P Stokell, R Wenham, P Williams.

Apologies: D Le Page, R Mackie, R MacKay.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pt Chev);

Accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting. *Aitken/Ebert*

Matters arising from the previous meeting;

Patron Noel May's proposal to restrict ZOA events to bona fide Zephyr Owners was considered by the Executive. While the underlying issues were respected, it was felt to be impractical and undesirable to close the class off in this respect.

President's Report;

Murray Sargisson read out his Annual Report, adding comments about the cyclical nature of regional class growth – Hamilton, possibly Christchurch, having a quiet period, with growth in Auckland and Wellington. He commented on the evident cohesion in Alex Aitken having a dual role as President and Treasurer, with a high standard of communication with members and sail and mast suppliers. Report accepted *R Ebert/Snedden*

Secretary's Report;

- R Ebert outlined the past year's activities. The web site had been upgraded, thanks to Tim Sadler. Rehosting it – moving it to a cheaper site - was being looked at. West Wind was now distributed electronically, though some members prefer the paper copy.
- Letters received from Grant Beck and Brian Peet, opposing any increase in the minimum weight of a Zephyr. Item to be further discussed in general business.

Treasurer's Report;

- Alex Aitken tabled, then spoke to, accounts previously published in West Wind. Report accepted. *Aitken/A Ebert*. He recommended ZOA subscriptions remain at \$20. *Aitken/Crofts*.
- 2010 Budget was outlined, intending that the subscriptions should cover administration costs, with profits from trading used for class development, though the trading environment was often quite variable. M Sargisson commented that the \$1200 budget allocation had generally been under spent and represented an opportunity for ideas about how this might be spent.
- Issues around the auditing of ZOA accounts were canvassed. There is no constitutional requirement for an audit, but rather an independent assessment by a suitably qualified person.

Election of Officers;

The following Officers were elected, having previously agreed to nomination;

Patron; Noel May, *Ebert/Snedden*

President; Murray Sargisson. *Aitken/Ebert*

Secretary; Rob Ebert, *Sargisson/Hay*

Treasurer; Tim Snedden, *Aitken/Ebert*

Auditor; Matt Hannah, *Ebert/Sargisson*

Committee Members;

Steve Pyatt (Auckland)

Matt Hannah (Christchurch)
Andy Knowles or Bob Smyth (Tauranga)
Peter Stokell (Christchurch)
Russell Turner (Auckland)
Richard MacKay (CZOA President)
Phil Williams (Wgtn)
Tony Miller (AZO)

General Business;

Constitutional Amendments;

- **The motion** that Paragraph 6.2.5 “The Appointment of a Chief Measurer” be inserted in Section 6 of the Zephyr Owners’ Association Rules. *Ebert/Aitken*, having been moved and seconded, was debated, and then passed. Issues in the discussion were;
- A standard methodology needs to be established for measuring boats to ensure uniformity in the measuring process. This would enable standard measuring of boats in regions without a measurer. A Chief Measurer who was independent of the class was desirable, if this could be achieved. Starling and Mistral Measurers were considered possibilities. The early establishment of a Technical Committee as seen as desirable, but overall responsibility for measuring of boats would rest with the Executive Committee. The Executive would delegate measuring functions to the Technical Committee’s role and task it to investigate questions and queries posed by the Executive.
- **The motion that Paragraph 7.1.5 “Chairpersons of regional Zephyr Owners’ Associations shall be ex-officio members of the Executive.” be inserted in Section 7 of the Zephyr Owners’ Association Rules.** *Ebert/Aitken*, having been moved and seconded, was passed.

Measuring Zephyrs

- John Foster, CZOA Secretary outlined measuring strategies for the 2010-11 nationals. Measuring would be available at Naval Point Yacht Club on Saturday 15th, January, for Canterbury boats, otherwise at Akaroa on January 19th, 1300-1800hrs.
- Shane Smith queried whether measuring of random items on some boats would be carried out, or the same items for all boats. It was felt that the measuring strategy could be explained in the Notice of Race, but owners could expect any item to be measured on any boat. At Akaroa, it was intended to measure foils and weigh boats.
- Publication of Measurement Certificates on the web site was seen as desirable.

Building Report

- No new hulls have been sold and #521 awaits a buyer. A defect in #514 had been remedied to the owner’s satisfaction. Limited stocks of veneer for the boats remain so a new specification and a new supplier would have to be organised.

Masts

- Tim Snedden outlined discussions with NZ Rigging over their supplying Zephyr and most likely, Mistral, masts. NZ Rigging would organise a die for an extrusion which would ideally replicate the existing McKechnie section, but a prototype would be bend tested before final acceptance and appointment of NZ Rigging as a

supplier. At this stage there was no cost or other commitment for the ZOA. Andy Holland expressed concern about the possibility of altered bend characteristics and its possible effect of sail shape.

- Carbon Fibre masts have been investigated by the ZOA but no further work in this area is currently planned.

Nationals 2011-12

The meeting noted a number of issues around the hosting of future contests. Issues canvassed were;

- Current timing of the Christmas holidays is not ideal; it has been later in the season in the past, typically Easter in the Nth Island.
- The yearly NI/SI rotation is a more recent thing, as historically there has been no set pattern.
- Worsler Bay's offer to host the Nationals noted and something the ZOA should accept.
- Canterbury sailors alluded to the cost and effort required to cost Cook Strait two years out of three, and would be reluctant to agree to a NI, NI, SI split as a policy.
- AKL preference was for 2011 event to be in Auckland, with 2012-13 in Worsler Bay, with the incoming Exec to make the final decision.

Life Membership

Rob Ebert noted Alex Aitken's retirement as Treasurer and as an Executive member. On behalf of the Executive, he moved "that Alex Aitken awarded Life Membership of the Zephyr Owners' Association". Carried unanimously. A certificate was then presented.

Rule Change, Minimum Hull Weight

A rule change proposal to increase the minimum hull weight of Zephyrs had been received from some Tauranga members just before the AGM. It was the culmination of considerable debate over the various merits of such a move, which had been suggested at the Tauranga Nationals. The meeting received letters from Brian Peet and Grant Beck, opposing the move. The rule change proposal would be dealt with according to the class rules, with the timing of the required vote and implementation of any rule change, to be decided by the incoming Executive. It was suggested that it should not be done so as to apply at the Akaroa Nationals and that members needed to be fully informed about the pros and cons of the proposal. It was reiterated that a standard process for weighing boats needed to be consistently applied.

Current Rule Changes

Phil Williams (Wgtn) alluded to rule changes currently being voted on by the class. The timing and wording of the rule change for set back goosenecks meant that certain owners could not fit one in the lead up to the Akaroa Nationals, placing them at a theoretical disadvantage. The meeting acknowledged that this was an unintended consequence that was able to be resolved. Phil also felt the rule change insisting on external halyards had not been adequately signalled to the class and that the Class Rules appeared to allow some leeway in the type of halyard used. He also pointed out the advantages of an internal halyard. The meeting acknowledged his point, and suggested the class might favourably entertain a further rule change specifically allowing internal halyards in future.

Cheque Signatories

In the wake of a change of Treasurer it was moved “that Zephyr Owners’ Association cheque signatories M Sargisson (President), T Snedden (Treasurer), R Ebert (Secretary), replace A Aitken, R Wenham and R Mackie.

Meeting closed 2220