

Wellington Region Committee: Minutes of 25th February 2025 meeting, Petone Community Centre

Present: Rod Downey, Sarah Epps, Lynne Scott, Denise Pitts, Lesley Campbell, Elaine Lethbridge, Brenda Vale.

1. Apologies from Elaine Laidlaw, Joy Tracey, Debbie Stephens.
2. There were no bereavements to note.
3. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a true record.

Matters arising

- a) The discrepancy between the accounting in the New Dancers Celebration reports was resolved and the relevant correction made.
- b) The potential Branch grant application in support of a band of young musicians to play at the Early Dances Day cannot go ahead as Lynne Scott found the young musicians were over committed.
- c) The Branch hosting of the region domain name is still pending. Rod Downey will write for an update. (done)
- d) Lynne Scott reported that James Scott had looked at the issue of storage for the Branch website. There is no limit to storage but the website may slow up as storage becomes filled. He recommends two things:
 - Keep the website up to date
 - Back-up the material on the website

No-one at the meeting knew whether back-up was happening. Brenda Vale to write to Lee Miller to check and to ask for date of final Basics Class to be changed from 1 May to 1 July.

- e) Elaine Lethbridge asked for details of the magnetic badges circulated to clubs to be sent to her as Seatoun appear not to have received the message sent on 3rd December 2024. (done)
 - f) There was discussion of the problem of identifying the new dancers at the NDC celebration from their badges. It was suggested new dancers' badges could have coloured background to distinguish them from club badges. Brenda Vale to write to Linden, this year's organisers, and pass on this suggestion. (done)
4. Sarah Epps spoke to the previously circulated Treasurer's Report. Westpac have proved difficult regarding the changing and removal of names etc. They still need a physical address and evidence of this, which Brenda Vale will supply (done), together with two signed copies of the constitution and two signed financial reports, which Sarah Epps has. Petone now have an on-line booking system. The only outstanding payments are for the Summer Dancing tutors. The totals in the Treasurer's Report are correct. The report was accepted (Sarah Epps/Rod Downey).

Sarah Epps will check the on-line forms are working and payment details are correct some time before the Basics Classes are due to start.

5. The correspondence report had been circulated. Zoe Attwood's resignation was received after this had happened on 17th February and was noted. Thanks for her work on the committee were to be passed on by Brenda Vale (done). The committee noted a card had already been sent to Janice Henson thanking her for all her work for the region.

The 'thank you' card from Summer School was passed round the committee.

Lynne Scott will probe whether someone from Upper Hutt would come on to the region committee and Rod Downey will approach Linden for a possible committee member.

A nomination for this year's Region Appreciation Award was tabled by Elaine Lethbridge.

6. There was no archival report.

The report on Summer Dancing had been circulated. The committee are grateful that Chris Totten has agreed to run 2026 Summer dancing.

The Summer School report had been circulated. The committee affirmed what an excellent and well-run event this had been. This led to a discussion of the Branch proposal that future Summer Schools should alternate between Christchurch and Wellington. This could lead to efficiencies with the same groups repeating their model but could also be a drain on local clubs providing helpers and baking. Brenda Vale is to ask clubs for feedback on this idea that the region could then collate and send to the Branch. (done)

Elaine Lethbridge was concerned at the way some of the region equipment loaned to Summer School had been returned. She will prepare a set of guidelines for use and return to give out with the equipment in future.

7. Elaine Lethbridge has distributed the calendar booklets to club contacts. She noted that the date of the final Basics Class was wrong on the website but correct in the booklet (see item 3 d)).

Lynne Scott reported that it seemed all classes and events would be covered by musicians with a variety of instruments.

The committee suggested writing to clubs to find out if the current range and type of classes and events should be repeated in 2026. Brenda Vale will do this. (done)

It was noted that clubs should not be sending information to Désirée Patterson for Harbour City Happenings via her personal email address. The address to use is editor@wellingtonscd.org.nz

8. Possible application for a Branch Grant was discussed. Elaine Lethbridge will investigate whether there is sufficient interest for a youth dance, with the grant covering the cost of hall hire and band.

9. Lesley Campbell reported that the flyers for all region classes and events were ready and the flyer for the Early dances Day was on the website. She will send all flyers to HCH and to all club secretaries.

The meeting closed at 20.26.