



Celebrants Aotearoa

Celebrants' Association of NZ



CANZ Hawkes Bay/East Coast

Minutes of the Annual Planning Meeting (APM)

10:00am – 12:00pm, Sunday 1 May 2022

Howard & Gannon Funerals, Gloucester Street, Taradale

AGENDA

Welcome & Opening Thought: Sharon Sanson (Chair) - read on her behalf by Sandy.

Good morning and welcome everyone. Welcome the challenges. Look for the opportunities in every situation to learn and grow in wisdom. Welcome to those who believe in the power of dream and who would like to join us in the exploration of life. One of the marvellous things about a committee is that it enables us to welcome and help people in a way we couldn't as individuals. Welcome all experiences. You never know which one is going to turn everything on. So, welcome to the present moment - here ... now. The only moment for a positive step forward as we welcome you here to meet our wonderful team Joanne Smith, Sandy Millar, Wendy Beauchamp and myself, Sharon Sanson.

Apologies

Di Peterson, Harold Amner, Dianne Wood, Sue Walke, Dave Pipe, Hope Rogers, Toni Gerbes, Sharon Sanson (illness)

Moved by Jo; Seconded by Marg

Members in Attendance

Marg Escourt, Chris Whittington, Margaret Dempsey, Jo Smith, Wendy Beauchamp, Sandy Millar (in the room); Rhonda Diprose, Malcolm Gape, Susanna Clark (via Zoom)

Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Minutes approved - moved by Jo Smith, seconded by Wendy, Sandy abstention.

Matters Arising

None.

Chairperson's Report - Read by Wendy on behalf of Sharon.

Firstly, a big thank you to our small committee. We may be small but in the last year we have kept it together and done well with an extra big thanks to Sandy for coming on board and taking over as secretary. COVID has made 2021 hard, making a lot of changes in the wedding and funeral sector. Bigger weddings have either become registry weddings or just small family gatherings, especially with the COVID numbers deciding the amount of people being able to attend. Celebrants have noticed a change in the way their own businesses have been affected and everyone has been helping each other more if COVID has hit the families or themselves – so in some ways people have become less selfish and more compassionate.

Meetings are now by Zoom, and when things get back to a bit of normality, being able to go back to a normal meeting will be a blessing for lots of people. There can be benefits of networking – meeting up with other celebrants who in the same game with you to share the same problems and bounce ideas off each other. It's a lonely, isolating place doing thing on your own – so having you here today is wonderful so a very big welcome.

Last May we had a seminar organized on funerals here at Howard & Gannon, which was a great disappointment to have have to put it off until we could hopefully reschedule it again in the not too distant future. It was full of a lot of new learning possibilities, guest speakers, and great ideas. On 24 December last year we lost one of our own – Sheryl Lee Alexander. She was an asset to our committee, she helped get it started in Hawkes Bay. A wonderful, very giving person who is greatly missed.

Hopefully 2022 will be a much more positive year with COVID rules finally easing and life slowly getting back to normal. Keep healthy and happy everyone.

Treasurer's Report

As tabled.

National Executive Report – delivered by Exec Liaison, Joanne Smith.

Celebrant's Aotearoa National Executive has had a very full year assisted by Your Virtual Assistant, our admin support. Through hard work and developing a lot of new resources we have a growing membership. The CANZ Strategic Plan has been reviewed giving clear direction for the next two years. The website continues to update and grow. We encourage every member to browse through resources and information regularly. There is a lot of information including a comprehensive section on FAQ's.

Social media platforms are strengthening our brand awareness and member networking plus promotion and marketing ideas for your benefit. 1. COVID... It has been another challenging year for members. Your association takes its lead from the government Ministry of Health website

and will continue to keep members informed and current by email and on Facebook CANZ Chat. 2. Registry versus Personalised Ceremonies... Members Resources on the website now has detailed documents that clearly illustrate and explain the difference between these two marriage ceremony options with documents for both the Registry Ceremony celebrant and for a couple applying. 3. CANZ stakeholder relationships BDM - the CANZ relationship with BDM and Jeff Montgomery, the Registrar General is in very good heart with constructive ongoing communication from our President and Vice-President. Now required for all marriage celebrant applicants is writing and delivering a mock ceremony. The CANZ document relating to Registry versus Personalised Ceremonies is on the BDM website to assist couples when applying for a Marriage Licence. Further lobbying continues with the Minister of Internal Affairs to raise the celebrant fee for Registry Ceremonies. FDANZ - Our NE has welcomed the appointments of an all-female executive team to the NZ funeral industry: Gillian Boyes, CEO and Rachel Benns, President.

Training Providers: CANZ continues to endorse and promote the two celebrant schools for ongoing professional development: The Celebrant School and The Celebrant Training College. 4. Your Wellbeing: Your NE has approved three professional supervisors with bio's listed in members resources: Winnie Duggan, Josie Scott and Rachel Hawthorne. And there are also links to mental health and grief resources and training. 5. 2022 Virtual Conference ticket registrations are now open.

Our second virtual conference is open to both members and non-members. Details are on the website and in Panui, just emailed to members. It's been a tough couple of years with Covid.

Our goal for 2022 is to reach out; to connect with branches.

Update on CANZ National Conference

Theme: Sustaining Our Work and Ourselves

Happening on 31 July via Zoom, and people can attend individually or in huddles. Three plenary sessions. Register through Humanitix.

Election of Officers

Role	Current committee prior to APM	New committee after APM
Branch Chair	Sharon Sanson	Sharon Sanson
Branch Secretary	Sheryl Lee Alexander and Sandy Millar	Sandy Millar
Branch Treasurer	Wendy Beauchamp	Wendy Beauchamp
National Exec Liaison	Joanne Smith	Joanne Smith
Committee Members		Chris Wittington

Planning Session

Zoom seen as a useful mechanism for people who are unwell or not wanting to travel. Proposal to head up to Wairoa and down to Central Hawkes Bay to ensure we have an inclusive and accessible approach for all members.

Will revisit notes from last year, as good ideas on that list. Encourage an open agenda - just connecting - as well as having guest speakers and distinct learning outcomes. Still more work to do in this area to see what members want and are willing to contribute to.

Presentation – “Top Shots”

Funeral Director and professional photographer Ross Gannon, supported by Sandy Millar

A short presentation on getting great profile shots for websites and socials.

Those who hadn't visited Howard & Gannon previously were given a tour of the premises, including a behind the scenes look at the embalming room.

Closing Thought & Farewell – Jo Smith

We must use collegiality - not to level people down - but to bring together their strength and creativity. — Andy Hargreaves

We are celebrants who create ceremony and ritual and in whose hands people place their trust. No celebrant is an island and will always need to be nourished and replenished. There is great strength in unity. There is great strength in collegiality. There is also great strength in shared ethics and professionalism. By sharing we deepen our understanding, knowledge and application of the place of ceremony and ritual in New Zealand. And we can then apply that to our own service. — Joanne Smith

Meeting ended at 12:00pm.