

Ōtorohanga College Board
Minutes - Extraordinary Meeting
15/09/2021
Start: 7pm, via Zoom

Board Members: Lorraine Fox (Chairperson), Chris van der Heyden (Staff Trustee), Traci Liddall (Principal), Michael Ritch, Jaimee Tamaki, Kim Ingham and Duncan Coull.

Not present: Emily O'Reilly (Student Trustee) due to connectivity issues.

Presided by: Traci Liddall.

In Attendance: Paul Matthews (Specialist Advisor), Monica Clark (BOT secretary).

Mission Statement: To value all of our students, enhancing their self-esteem, academic potential, abilities and sense of responsibility.

Motto: Ko te mana mo mua ki te whakamana – “Honour before Honours”

Strategic Priorities:

Goal 1: Kotahitanga: Providing effective governance

Goal 2: Rangatiratanga: Building effective leadership and capacity at all levels

Goal 3: Whanaungatanga: Building positive partnerships for learning and wellbeing

Goal 4: Marau Matauranga: Building effective teaching practice at all levels

Goal 5: Ka Hikitia: Relentless focus on student achievement

1. **Karakia timatanga**
2. **To be tabled: Summary of Governance Hui 07.09.21**

It was clarified that the Minutes from the 07.09.21 Hui are only to be shared with trustees, the Summary is to be shared with the school and community.

3. **Traci moved that the following motion, carried at the Board Meeting on the 30th of August, 2021, be set aside:**

That Duncan Coull and Kim Ingham co-chair the BOT of Ōtorohanga College, with a statement of intention to be put forward to Traci Liddall by the end of this week/early next week.

The reason being that it has been confirmed in consultation with the NZSTA that the Board must provide a presiding member and that the co-chair proposal is not consistent with current legislation.

Moved: Traci. Seconded: Chris. All in favour. Carried.

Further discussion relevant to the decision:

The Board would like to maintain the intent behind the motion; Kim and Duncan were nominated as co-chairs for their depth and spread of knowledge and in order to meet the demands of the role and their current commitments outside of the Board.

However, the NZSTA doesn't use the language of "chair" anymore, it is now "presiding member". It is required that there is one person who is the Presiding Member with the responsibility of chairing meetings, holding the presiding vote, being signatory and having a day to day relationship with the Principal. The Presiding Member is a key link to setting the agenda with the Principal. Having a single point of contact is key to good practise. All other jobs can be delegated and/or shared. The Board can't contract out of legislation.

The Board has adopted NZSTA policies and guidelines in the past. They can be adapted in the future to work better for the Board, however a Presiding Member needs to be chosen in order to move forward. The Co-chair role is not recognised with the NZSTA which can make working with them difficult. When dealing with issues in the past, the Board's lawyers and insurer have needed to be assured the Board has sought and followed advice from the NZSTA.

There was concern that if the NZSTA didn't agree with the MoU, progress would stall. The NZSTA (Cheryl) would be looking over the MoU in an advisory capacity, not to have the final word. Paul reasserted the need to develop the MoU to make work done by the Presiding Member and the Board manageable and sustainable. He confirmed the commitment of Cheryl and/or himself to support that process.

There was concern that the legislation doesn't actually reflect the requirement to not have co-chairs. Paul referred to his Governance Summary Document (Oto Coll Governance Summary August 21) which was based on the good practice principles recommended by NZSTA and recognised the central role of the principal/Presiding Member relationship in sustaining an effective governance/management balance.

4. Traci called for nominations for Presiding Member.

It was noted clarification was needed around whether Lorraine's resignation had already taken effect, to allow a new Presiding Member to be elected. Lorraine clarified that her resignation as presiding member was to take effect on the 20th of September and that she would step down from the Board as of the 1st of October. Her intentions were to be flexible with the requirements of, and in order to provide support to, the new presiding member. This was via email, but not formally noted at a meeting. Subsequently the following resolution was put forward:

That the Board accept Lorraine's resignation as Presiding Member of the Ōtorohanga College Board, as of the 15.09.21.

All in favour. Carried.

Kim moved that Duncan be nominated as Presiding Member of the Ōtorohanga College Board, provided there is a MoU in place by the 23rd of September, 2021.

All in favour. Carried.

Information discussed that drove the decision: That deadline would give the Board time to reflect on and understand the MoU before the meeting on the 27th of September, where it would be adopted.

5. Traci moved that Duncan Coull be accepted as Presiding Member of the Ōtorohanga College Board.

All in favour. Carried.

6. Presiding member to lead brief discussion on Governance Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Current state/further responsibilities/delegations. MOU to be shared with Cheryl before being presented at the Board meeting to be held on the 27th of September.

Work has happened, but it's not there yet. Further discussion deferred until more progress has been made and the board can meet face to face, which will be the 27th of September Board meeting.

Traci, Kim and Duncan to meet on Monday the 20th of September to work on MoU, with the further intention for daily interactions that week if necessary to achieve desired outcomes and tick off daily tasks.

7. Meeting closed: 7.59pm

Minutes are true and correct:



Duncan Coull

BoT Presiding Member

Date: 27.09.21