

## Minutes Annual General Meeting Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022, 7pm ZOOM meeting

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### Attendees:

Vicky Graham (President), Beverley Jocelyn (Vice President); Leanne Gibson (Secretary), Dallas Hopkins (Treasurer); Rachel Butler (Committee member); Sandy Fea (Committee member and Lower Hutt Liaison Officer); Julie Cowell (outgoing Rotorua Liaison Officer), Vicky Gaunt (incoming Rotorua Liaison Officer); Annette Dougherty (New Member co-ordinator), Carol Drew (Volunteer Mentor), Scott Mansfield (Committee Member); Hannah Li (Whanganui Liaison Officer), Helen Moriarty (Committee member and Wellington Liaison Officer), Rachelle Murphy (Rotorua), Margaret Scaife (Liaison Officer Nelson Tasman), Annette Sheridan (Wellington); Miriam Chamberlain (Lower Hutt); Judy McRae (Waikato); Julia Melville (Whitby); Sue Clarke (Liaison Officer Foxton/Levin); Ann Newsom (Christchurch); Stephen Thompson (Secretary, DogsNZ);

### Apologies:

Zoe Langman (Ziwi)

**Auckland:** Ashok Bhat & Buddy, Megan Bowden & Monty, Alison Elford & Hannah, Leon Goldwater & Riley, Helen Mulcahy & Georgia, Kirsty Pascoe & Freya, Tushar Sharma & Shyla

**Blenheim:** Jill Caslick & Molly, Wendy Reynolds (Assessor), Melanie Spence (Liaison Officer), Jenny Wills & Riley

**Christchurch:** Caroline Densem & Ebony, Jan Evans-Freeman (Assessor), Maria Gomez & Sadie, Zelda MacKenzie & Shadow, Ian Mann & Alfie, Carol Millican (Placements Officer), Wendy Pryor & Ollie, Debbie Rule (Liaison Officer)

**Far North:** Nicky Dobson (Liaison Officer)

**Foxton/Levin:** Gwenda & Neville Laphorne & Lucy

**Hastings:** Chris Partridge (Liaison Officer); Brian Peterson & Prince, Katja Williams (Liaison Officer)

**Kapiti:** Irene Calvert & Beau, Lynley Evans (Liaison Officer), Robin Fraser & Izzie

**Lower Hutt:** Elizabeth Boyes & Tia, Rachel Davison (outgoing Liaison Officer), Brenda Kenworthy (Liaison Officer); Jane Schuitema; Sita Thakersi & Bailey; Ian Weatherall & Maggie

**Manawatu:** Ann Evans (Liaison Officer), Pam Jamieson & Murphy, Dilys Stephens & Tina

**Napier:** Steve and Jo Fox and Niko, Mandy White & Harvey

**Nelson/Tasman:** Philippa McFadden & Molly

**Northland:** Mary Easterling & Sam, Lynda Macgregor & Ricky, Maureen Skinner & Digger, Nadene Slabbert & Pearl

**Oamaru:** Cath Rivron (Liaison Officer)

**Queenstown:** Beryle Ravenwood (Liaison Officer)

**Taranaki:** Jeanine Hull & Alfie

**Taupo:** Elisabeth Cato & Bracken, Lesley Cotterill & Lexi, Laura Dawson & Max, Debbie Forster & Sola

**Tauranga:** Linda Hughes & Indi, Viki Lester & Gypsy, Barbara Remihana and Gretha & Hanz

**Waikato:** Sandie Adams & Ziggy, Sally Felton & Tui, Christine Johnson & Billy Boy, Suzanne McGarvey & June, Christine Nielsen (Assessor), Barry Ridgway & Molly, Liz Scott (Assessor), Ann Walsham & Polly, Kevin Whittock & Zulu

**Wairarapa:** Barbara Lang & Jingo



**Wellington:** Gay Keast & Lola, Tim Richards & Otto McSlinky, Sheryn & David Shackleton and Striker & Vinnie

**Whanganui:** Margarette Marshall & Rocky, Marian Barclay & Bonnie

**Whitby to Johnsonville:** Janet Ayres & Milan, Graham & Ingrid Tyler, Jackie Wilson & Fyn

### **Welcome**

Our President Vicky Graham welcomed everyone to our third online Annual General Meeting of Canine Friends Pet Therapy and she acknowledged the apologies that had been received.

### **Tribute to our Founder Eileen Curry:**

Eileen passed away peacefully on 25 April ten days after her 96th birthday. She resided at Aroha Rest Home in Lower Hutt and sadly due to Covid was unable to celebrate her birthday with family and friends. In true fashion she didn't complain and looked forward to seeing them once Aroha was out of lockdown. This wasn't meant to be.

I recall saying to her some time ago she wasn't "allowed" to leave us during "my watch" but those of you who knew her personally would agree that she didn't always do as she was told!

Eileen established Canine Friends Pet Therapy with a group of like-minded friends in 1990. She was working with the SPCA when she witnessed a distressing incident that was the catalyst for Canine Friends. An elderly woman was going into care and could not take her beloved dog with her, nor had any family to take her dog. Eileen was very moved at witnessing the owner's despair at parting with her dog that she offered to visit this woman with one of her own Golden Retrievers. She quickly realised this could be a service that would bring comfort to many people... especially the elderly and those who feel isolated, stressed, and afraid.

Several years later Eileen was awarded a Hutt City Council Civic Award for her service to the community.

In a booklet titled "Canine Friends Pet Therapy – The First Ten Years... or so" produced by two of Eileen's grandchildren a paragraph reads:

"Watching Eileen work the room of a local retirement home with her dog Flare, it is difficult to imagine she is at least as old as many of the people she is visiting."

Eileen's reply was "Mentally I don't feel that old. I look at them and I see that they are elderly, but I don't see it in myself."

Not allowing age to be a barrier, she continued to visit into her eighties.

She was extremely proud of Canine Friends and has left a wonderful legacy – one which we will honour.

Finally, two of many tributes I received following Eileen's death:

"When I leave this world, I hope to leave it better than I found it, leave a rainbow of lasting memories, have helped at least one person's life, well done Eileen, you achieved it all."

And "She must have been an institution on her own starting this initiative at the age of 64".

And from all of us here – may you now walk freely with your beloved Golden Retrievers, Cairn Terriers and the Canine Friends dogs who have left us.

The Good Sorts Clip was then played. Here is the link to the YouTube clip:

[\(162\) Eileen Curry | Good Sorts TV1 | Canine Friends Pet Therapy - YouTube](#)

### **Minutes of the 2021 AGM**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 10 June 2021 were taken as read (as they had been emailed to all members and posted on our website) and were accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Helen Moriarty                      Seconded: Scott Mansfield    *Carried*

There was no business arising from the minutes.

### **20-year service award**

A 20-year service award was given to Jane Schuitema from Lower Hutt for her dedication and commitment to Canine Friends. Jane was unable to attend but sent these words.

*“Thank you for this amazing honour. Unfortunately, I am unable to make it today but will be there in spirit. I am both proud and privileged to be a member of Canine Friends Pet Therapy. I joined 20 years ago because Eileen Curry was a dear friend and mentor of mine, and because I truly believed in what this organization stood for and the joy it brings to so many. A wonderful legacy for a truly inspiring woman. I have attached a more recent photo of me and my new puppy Bobby who could potentially be my next therapy dog.”*

### **President’s Report**

Vicky Graham presented her report on the extensive achievements and highlights delivered by the Committee over 2020/21. This report is posted on our website at this link:

[Canine Friends Pet Therapy - 2022 AGM](#)

There were no questions arising from the report. The outgoing Treasurer, Dallas Hopkins asked for the AGM attendees to accept the President’s report.

Moved: Helen Moriarty                      Seconded: Carol Drew            *Carried*

### **Performance Report**

The 2021/22 Performance Report was taken as read as the link to it had been emailed to all members. This report is posted on our website:

[2022 PERFORMANCE REPORT DRAFT.pdf \(caninefriends.org.nz\)](#)

There were no questions regarding the Performance report. Vicky Graham asked the AGM attendees to accept the Performance Report for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

Moved: Julie Cowell                      Seconded: Helen Moriarty    *Carried*

### **Guests**

Vicky Graham invited Stephen Thompson, Secretary, DogsNZ to say a few words. He reiterated

DogsNZ's commitment to support Canine Friends, outlined the key goals for DogsNZ this year and finished up by saying that it is very important to continue to showcase the valuable role our pet dogs play in society.

### Tabled Reports

The Liaison Officers Report: There were no questions arising from the report.

The Funding & Sponsorship Report: There were no questions arising from the report.

The Membership Report: There were no questions arising from the report.

The Newsletter Report: There were no questions arising from the report.

Vicky Graham asked for the AGM attendees to accept the tabled reports.

Moved: Margaret Scaife      Seconded: Hannah Li *Carried*

### Election of Officers and Committee

The outgoing Treasurer (Dallas Hopkins) stated that 8 existing Committee members were willing to stand again and that there were 4 vacancies on the committee. The biographies were emailed to all members and were also available on the website. Dallas then formally conducted the election of officers and committee members.

Position	Member	Notes
President	Vicky Graham	Proposed by Helen Moriarty Seconded by Hannah Li Carried Elected
Secretary	Leanne Gibson	Proposed by Helen Moriarty Seconded by Carol Drew Carried Elected
Treasurer	Paulette Shearer	Proposed by Hannah Li Seconded by Carol Drew Carried Elected
Committee	Name Beverley Jocelyn Carol Drew Rachel Butler Hannah Li Sandy Fea Helen Moriarty Scott Mansfield Annette Sheridan	Proposed: Seconded Sue Clarke/Hannah Li Julie Cowell/Helen Moriarty Hannah Li/Scott Mansfield Sue Clarke/Helen Moriarty Scott Mansfield/ Carol Drew Hannah Li/Sue Clarke Carol Drew/Helen Moriarty Hannah Li/ Sue Clarke

There were 8 nominations and 9 spaces available on the General Committee, a poll was conducted using the online ZOOM tool. The elected General Committee for 2022/2023 are:

- Beverley Jocelyn
- Sandy Fea
- Helen Moriarty
- Rachel Butler
- Carol Drew
- Scott Mansfield



- Hannah Li

- Annette Sheridan

**General Business**

Vicky Graham asked if there was any general business.

There was no further business and Vicky Graham declared the AGM closed at 7:50pm.

Signed as a true record of this meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Graham".

VICTORIA GRAHAM.

Vicky Graham

President

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022