



**Minutes of the SPELD New Zealand Annual General Meeting
held by zoom at 1pm on 19 August 2023**

Attendance: Professional Members & Life Members			
Surname/ First Name	LLG	Surname/ First Name:	LLG:
Alexander, Judith	Auckland North	MacMillan, Philippa	Auckland
Armstrong Bos, Jane	Wairarapa	McNish, Sharon	Canterbury
Baldacchino, Linda	Gisborne	Michell, Susan (life member)	Nelson
Baty, Paula	Auckland Central	Miller, Julia	Auckland Central
Bjarnesen, Cathryn	Wellington	Milliken, Lauren	Auckland North
Bosman, Carin	Franklin	Milne, Linda	Canterbury
Cary, Laura	Christchurch	Morgan, Kirstie	Wellington Central
Copland, Rose	C. Otago/ Uruuruwhenua	Morris, Kim	Bay of Islands
De Castro, Sharon	Waikato	Neumegen, Karen	Nelson
Den McKay, Caroline	Taranaki	Oliver, Odette	Hawkes Bay
Driver, Serena	Southland	Peck Aro, Dee	Taranaki
Earl, Aimee	Dunedin	Ralston, Susan	Auckland North
Edwards, Roz	Auckland Central	Simpson, Jane	Auckland North
Ellis, Julie	Auckland Central	Sleeman, Dr Mike	Canterbury
Gentle, Terry	Southland	Stroombergen, Julianne	Wellington Central
Giblin, Cath	Eastern Bay of Plenty	Tomalin, Deirdre	Gisborne
Herbert, Chris	Auckland West	Tyghe, Wendy	Gisborne
Katon, Shirley	Dunedin	Voges, Carina	Canterbury
King, Janet	Taranaki	Walther, Melissa	Western Bay of Plenty
Lapwood, Trudi	Dunedin	Wallace, Natalie	Taranaki
Linscott, Sue	Canterbury	Weller, Joanne	Auckland
Board:			
Bailey, Dale (Auckland) Board Chair		Hutchinson, Shona (Auckland) Deputy Chair	
Ostergren, Mandy (Hawkes Bay)		Scanlan, Peter (Hutt Valley)	
Ward, David (Hawkes Bay)		Wilson, Belinda (Mana)	
Attendance: Friends of SPELD NZ		Staff/guest in attendance	
		Pam Hutchinson (Life Member)	
		Davis, Lyn (Life Member)	
		Drummond, Jeremy	
		Wake, Andi	
		Jerome, Tina	
Apologies:			
Trask, Don (Hawkes Bay) Life member		Roulston, Jean (Dunedin) Life Member	
Thomson, Penny (Board, Canterbury)		O'Carroll, Jane (WBoP)	
Walthew, Anita (Taranaki)		Britton, Sally (Hutt Valley)	
Kennedy, Mary (Wellington Central)		Williamson, Eleanor (Canterbury)	
Eyre, Jan (Manawatu)		Sanders, Alexa (Canterbury)	
Fairbrass, Marion (Canterbury) life member		Conde, Saffron (Auckland West)	

1 Karakia Timatanga (Opening Karakia)

Welcome from the Chair of the meeting, Dale Bailey

1.1 Dale welcomed everyone to the 2023 AGM.

1.2 Approval of meeting rules: discussion about voting protocols.

Moved from the Chair that the rules of speaking and voting for the 2023 AGM be adopted. Carried

2 Quorum: The quorum has been met.

Apologies: Apologies were read

Moved that apologies be accepted.

Dale Bailey/Shona Hutchinson Carried

3 Previous Minutes

3.1 Minutes of Annual General Meeting held by Zoom on 24 September 2022 were circulated via website. Dale noted with sadness the passing of Mary Hogwood, appointed as Life member in 2022.

Moved that the Minutes be taken as read and approved. Dale Bailey/Shona Hutchinson Carried

3.2 Matters arising: There were no matter arising.

4 Annual reports (combined Chair, Executive Officer, PSC and Finance reports) highlights of activities were presented to the AGM by Board members, under our four strategic goals:

4.1 Strategic Goal 1 (Expertise and Leadership) celebrating a successful NZQA Evaluation, revision of The Guide,

4.2 Strategic Goal 2 (Awareness) Special mention of Record magazine, Facebook growth, increased media coverage

4.3 Strategic Goal 3 (Relationships with Stakeholders) interactions with other providers and developing a support package for families.

4.4 Strategic Goal 4 (Sustainability) Belinda commented on the improvement in interest on investments, and new funder.

Moved that the financial report and audited Accounts be adopted Belinda Wilson/ Peter Scanlan Carried.

4.5 Peter Scanlan delivered the statistics for new members in 2022 and comparisons with previous years' data. Peter highlighted an increase in new members coming from health professionals and through our website, with a slight drop in school referrals.

Peter thanked Jean Roulston for her work in collating the statistics.

The PowerPoint presentation and Annual Report will be posted on our website after the meeting.

Moved that the combined Annual Reports be adopted: Mandy Ostergren/ Belinda Wilson Carried

5 Appointment of Auditors:

Moved that William Buck be reappointed as Auditor for the ensuing year:

Belinda Wilson/ Shona Hutchinson Carried.

6 Election of Board & Professional Standards Committee

6.1 Board: There being more vacancies than nominations received by the nominations closing date, Dr Mike Sleeman is automatically elected to the Board. Mike introduced himself to the meeting.

6.2 Board: in accordance with the Constitution, Peter Scanlan and Shona Hutchinson are nominated from the floor of the meeting, to fill vacancies in Board roles.

Moved: that Peter Scanlan and Shona Hutchinson are elected en bloc

Belinda Wilson/ David Ward Carried

(Shona Hutchinson and Peter Scanlan abstained from voting).

6.3 Professional Standards Committee: In accordance with the Constitution, Sharon de Castro and Natalie Wallace are nominated from the floor of the meeting to fill vacancies in Professional Standards Committee roles.

Moved: that Sharon de Castro and Natalie Wallace are elected en bloc
Shona Hutchinson/Peter Scanlan Carried
(Sharon de Castro and Natalie Wallace abstained from voting)

7 Remits: There are no remits for this meeting

8 General Business:

8.1 Questions raised: Cathryn Bjarnesen: ‘Regarding last year's annual report from the Board and Strategic Goal 1: Expertise and Leadership, what steps will the Board take to ensure that SPELD NZ professionals Become, and then remain, current with best practice to assess and support individuals with SLD? Some “professionals” still publicly profess support for Reading Recovery, others make report recommendations for behavioural optometry and APD. These comments reflect badly on SPELD NZ. ‘

Dale responded: We address it internally and externally.

Internally: SPELD NZ makes its position clear in the following ways:

- when we interview Level 5 and assessor trainees (especially those who have a RR background)
- during the training of teachers and assessors
- Through updates to the Guide used during training and registration
- following certification, through appraisals and peer reviews
- through compulsory Professional Development
- announcements in the Pānui and on the Assessor moodle forum
- have some PD for assessors on Recommendations, to make sure that everyone is up to date.
- Planned PD for assessors on appropriate Recommendations
- Triangulated feedback (or received complaints) from other SPELD NZ professionals, parents or others in the community. PSC then approaches the teacher or assessor, and appropriate steps are taken.

Externally: SPELD NZ has worked to improve the wider community’s awareness of our stance:

- Made at least 6 written submissions to government in the last 9 years as well as oral submissions in support.
- Attended numerous Working Groups with MoE, NZQA, and peer reviewed publications of MoE
- Held conferences and workshops open to all educators and general public
- Given numerous interviews each year to media
- Written press releases and papers to Government

Cathryn responded: ‘I applaud SPELD NZ's recent support for the DEB complaint to the Ombudsman about RR’

8.2 Announcement of Life Members: In recognition of the eminent services of Pam Hutchinson (Manukau LLG), the Board announced its award of life membership to Pam. A brief outline of Pam’s commitment and contribution to SPELD NZ is as follows: Pam trained as a SPELD NZ teacher in 1988 and received her full certificate in 1992. She retired in 2023 after 34 years as a SPELD NZ teacher.

During her time with SPELD NZ Pam:

- was deputy President of SPELD Manukau Association for several years. In 2010 she stepped up to the role of President/ LLG Convenor, until her retirement in 2023. Pam was also an appraiser and mentor, and an enthusiastic participant in the 2007 Auckland Regional Conference working group
- trained as an ISLD director in 2001 and retired in 2020. Pam had significant involvement in the ISLD course. She created the student booklet in Publisher giving it a professional look. Her husband Frank created the illustrations. Pam was also involved as a trainer of ISLD kaiārahi.

- Pam wrote the books Putting the Sparkle into Spelling, Right on with writing, The Dyslexic Child: A Guide for Parents, and The Dyslexic Child: a Guide for Teachers

Pam commented that she has taught over 200 students in her time with SPELD NZ.

Moved that Pam Hutchinson, being a worthy recipient, is awarded Life membership of SPELD NZ
Shona Hutchinson/Dale Bailey Carried

9 Location & date for 2024 AGM: The 2024 AGM will be held by zoom on Saturday 24 August 2024.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 1.55 pm with the Karakia Whakamutunga.