**Balint Society of Australia and New Zealand**

**Board Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Date: Tuesday 7th May 2019**

**10.30am AEDT, 12.30pm NZT by Zoom for 1.5 hours.**

**1. Present: Chel Quinn, Chair, Hilary Ash, Ruth Dunn, Prue Bonifant, Kerrie Collings-Silvey, Judy Griffiths**

**2. Apologies: Frank Meumann, Di Nash**

**3. Conflict of Interest: None**

**4. Minutes of Board Meeting on 2nd April 2019: No corrections. Proposed as accurate and true by RD, seconded PB. U/C**

**5. Matters arising from the previous Minutes:**

**5.1 Feedback from the 2018 WOC regarding ABGW 2018 Leaders Group Decision to exclude a person from participating.** CQ spoke to this. She had discussed the draft letter with DN and this action is in motion. To be completed when DN returns from leave on 3rd June.

**Action:** The final draft will be circulated prior to the June Board meeting.

**6. Correspondence – 2 membership applications**

* Dr Fiona Bernard – GP, Narrebeen NSW.
* Dr Tejraj Tawde – Psychiatrist, Shepparton, Vic

**7. Professional Conduct Matter -** CQ & KCS reported on how this was addressed.

All in agreement that this matter is now closed.

**8. Annual Membership Fee:** PB reported on the financial situation (reports tabled) which shows that the Society is not getting ahead, i.e. it’s running in the negative. Our main source of income for operating costs is ‘membership fees’. Currently the fees draw $8000 approx. In 2018 $1687 operating surplus but projected loss of $3000.

Current annual membership fees are, Au $150, NZ$160 full fee. Early bird is $30 less. Last fee increase was 2017 when fee was $100 and $110 and these were increased by $20 with the introduction of the early bird fee and by $50 if full fee paid.

PB is proposing putting up the fee in both countries by $50 to sufficiently cover running costs and as a more accurate representation of the membership of a professional organisation.

Considered discussion ensued about having only one fee in Au$ and using Trybooking so NZ exchange rate at the time is used, however a NZ representation in the fee is considered as important. The current xchange rate is 6 cents in a dollar. A $10 difference between the Au and NZ fee is realistic and appropriate. Those present discussed what members get for their fee.

* Belonging to a reputable professional society.
* News of groups and activities locally and internationally
* Access to a training in leadership.
* Access to participate in the Intensive and ALW (if an accredited leader and BSANZ member).
* See Letter to new members that DN wrote detailing quite a lot about what BSANZ offers.

From JG -

* Regular Board and Society communications via newsletter and bulletin keeping members in touch with news and events, in our Society in Australia and New Zealand, and in the wider Balint world, including the IBF
* A professional website hosting information about Balint work generally: access to contactable groups Australia and NZ wide:  Balint work initiatives of the Society eg the Intensive workshop and the Leaders’ Weekend workshop: any other meetings like AGM etc:  news of, and discussion about (??) on line groups: a guide for relevant reading etc etc
* Access to affordable good leadership training
* Access to a current list of leader trainers and supervisors
* Being a member of a professional society held in high esteem by both the Medical and the Psychotherapy world

**Motion: Fee rise proposed** **by PB that Annual Membership fee be increased to Au$200, NZ$210 (Full fee) With Early Bird fee rise to Au$170, NZ$180. Students are free. Early Bird to 30th June. Seconded RD. U/C**

**Actions:**

* JG will send to KCS for the minutes some further articulated details of our discussion on what is offered in the Society.
* The fee increase is to go out in a letter to include such contents as the new member letter outlining the value of the membership. To be sent from the President on behalf of the Board.

**10. Role of ‘Chair’ (of the Intensive and Leaders Group) RD & CQ**

**Motion: RD proposed that the TOR for the Chair of Workshop and the Chair of Leaders Group be accepted by the Board, seconded JG. U/C**

**11. Accreditation Committee Report - RD**

* Raised for future consideration an increase in initial pathway training fee and yearly fee. These not increased since 2016. Perhaps ‘observations’ costs at the Intensive need to be met by the training budget.
* Amanda Garland and Rutger De Ridder have almost completed the training.
* The discussion on ‘Process by which decisions are made regarding entry to leader trainer pathway’ still not done in the AC due to time constraints.
* The pathway spreadsheets are being revised.
* Four people have accepted offers of observationand KCS will be the Observer this year.

**12. Website Development**

HA spoke about the images from Unsplash Website (free) or Getty ($50).

It is important that we get agreement on an image by next Board meeting.

A lot of time and consideration has been put into the shortlist of images provided by HA and DN. We need to come to an agreement. Discussion on the meaning of the image for the Society. Vitality, people discussing, reflection, also energy.

**Action: Send suggested images to Hilary.**

Communication with members: DN to send out a request to leaders to update information regarding their group notices. Done.

DN to write a letter to all our AL and ALT to ask who is running online groups, details about the groups and vacancies. Done.

**13. AGM – Proposed to be in Brisbane, possibly in October.**

**Action:** CQ and KCS to discuss.

**14. Balint Group Intensive 2019 Organising Committee. HA reported -**

* Fee $1300 via Trybooking. 2 tier registration for members and non-members.
* 33 expressions of interest have been received and registration for these is opening on 22nd May.
* Second payment for Intensive due.
* Discussion ensued regarding the strong numbers and can a fourth group be considered.

**Action:** HA will send the invoice for second payment to PB.

**15. 2020 Conference**

* The need to get a conference organising committee together. Presently CQ, KCS and JG.

**Action:** Please send recommendations of members to CQ. JG will send a report on the first meeting.

**16.** **Board Meeting Attendance:**

* KCS will be on leave for next Board meeting. JG offered to take the Minutes.
* JG will be an apology for the July Board meeting.

**17. Meeting closed at 12pm AEST.**

**Next Board meeting date is 4th June at 10.30am AEST. 12.30PM NZT**

**For Next Meeting Agenda**

**Reports from Office Bearers**

* **President**
* **Secretary**
* **Treasurer**

**1. Ethics Policy**

**2. Medical Student Essay Prize CQ**

**ACTION:** Due recognition of A G-O as the donor will go in the President’s Report and in the Newsletter. Photo if possible.

CQ will contact HW and AG-O.

**3. Balint in Medical Schools AUS/NZ ‘hub’ FM & JG**

**4. 2020 Balint Conference/Study Days CQ & KCS & JG**

**5. Newsletter** Bulletin/Newsletter to include a note on online groups as an exciting development.

**6. Bulletin from the Board – last edition in April.**

**7. Online Groups**

ACTION: FM and DN will put out the call- Who is interested in running online groups? And provide a hub for establishing and supporting the development of online groups.

**8. Date of AGM and Changes to Constitution mooted and to be discussed and draft motions sent out with AGM notice:**

* Honorary members have voting rights
* *PURPOSE* to be inclusive of *psychotherapists* and possibly adding *fostering the growth of the Balint community*
* Financial Year to change from July 1 – 30 June to January 1 – December 31

**Kerrie Collings-Silvey, Secretary**