**Balint Society of Australia and New Zealand**

**Board Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Date: Tuesday 4th June 2019**

**8.30am AWST, 10.30am AEDT, 12.30pm NZT by Zoom for 1.5 hours.**

**1.Present:** Chel Quinn, Chair, Hilary Ash, Prue Bonifant, Ruth Dunn, Judy Griffiths, Frank Meumann, Di Nash

**2. Apologies:** Kerrie Collings-Silvey

**3. Conflict of Interest:** none

**4. Minutes of Board Meeting on 7 May 2019:** No corrections. Proposed as accurate and true by RD, seconded by HA. U/C

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

**5.1** Discussion on final draft of the letter to the 2018 WOC, including KCS’ pertinent comments. Now urgent for DN to send. CQ and JG to send final comments to DN, including KCS’s thoughts from recent email.

**5.2** Well-written fee increase letter went out to Members from President. As only 24 members have currently paid up, there was agreement that a reminder letter be sent to Members reminding them of the earlybird fee in June.

**Action: CQ to AM.**

All agreed that a second letter to go to all on the email list, other than Members

**Action: DN to separate out email list into Members and “interested others” and send to AM**.

All agreed the letter encouraging new membership should also go to Accredited Leaders asking for it to be passed to their group members, to encourage membership

**Action:** **CQ**

**5.3** CQ reported she had contacted AG-O and HW to let them know that due recognition of A G-O as the donor of the essay prize is to go in the President’s Report and the Newsletter. Photo if possible.. See more in President’s Report below.

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**6. Correspondence, with action, during the month:**

13 May - Dr Sebastian Theilhaber - BG Nth West Tas - Frank to follow up

15 May – BSANZ vote for IBF - vice president - Albert Lichtenstein (USA), and Jean-Daniel Gradeler (France)

23 May - Dr Sharyn Esteves - GP, NZ application for membership - circulated

30 May - Tony Gleeson -Aus- application for membership - circulated

31 May - Adele Heaton nurse looking for BG in Albany WA – Judy to follow up

31 May - Faye Gorman - currently in Iran - not able to be a member until she returns in Oct. Chel to follow up

31 May - Lyn Preston - not able to be part of BG  - not renewing her membership -Chel followed with Hilary

RD added her correspondence with Dr Tim Dewhurst re groups in Melbourne, and Dr Inas Lel Kady, looking for a group in Vic which she sent to relevant leader Ethel Tillinger.

**7. Reports from Office Bearers**

* **President:** CQ reported 75 **student essays** have been received. 12 people are reading them and HW requested more. PB already recruited by HW. DN is also a reader. JG and HA reported having previously offered to help but never been contacted. Both still willing to do so.

**Action: CQ to email HW reoffering JG’s and HA’s interest.**

CQ reported recent contact with AG-O who talked of the training she and Judy Maloney have just delivered in Bristol UK, a day workshop for psychiatric trainees in the Bristol Hospital under the auspices of the Head of Surgery and Medicine. Board members expressed interest in knowing more about the Bristol model to see if it can be of relevance to our Medical Schools. RD drew attention to IBS Metz 2015 Conference papers, where there is a paper by Judy Maloney about this training model.

**Action: CQ to scan and send this article round.**

**Action: CQ to write to AG-O expressing our interest in further details.**

* **Secretary: not available as KCS on leave**
* **Treasurer:** see 2 financial reports filed by PB. PB reported 9 new members in Australia, 15 new members in NZ. Other membership fees are slow to come in, hence the reported loss this month, but it is still early and the earlybird has only recently gone out.

RD asked if we are still fully insured, the premium having reduced by c.$80.

**Action: PB to check on this**.

FM asked whether the increase in Anne Malecki’s wages had been budgeted. PB affirmed this and also clarified that this month had AM’s claim for a 4/12 payment, which will henceforth be invoiced monthly. HA reminded the Board of the Intensive Workshop use of AM, which is budgeted to be paid from the Intensive budget. DN also recognised that AM is collating the essay competition entries.

**Action: PB to check on how AM’s hours can be attributed to different budgets.**

**Action: HA to send PB a copy of the current Intensive budget, as requested.**

CQ thanked PB for a clear report.

* **Accreditation Committee**

RD reported one new application to join the Pathway. Been busy with emails updating everything. DN and RD to meet shortly, with DN now back from leave.

CQ commented on the success of the Training program. BSANZ now has 30 Leaders (including 18 Leader Trainers), with 2 LTs and 13 Leaders on Pathways. Of the 13, 5 are close to finishing and 5 are currently “inactive”.

**8. Balint Group Intensive 2019 Organising Committee report**

See circulated Intensive Committee minutes for update.

HA reported to date12 members and 2 non-members have applied to register and some Expressions of Interest people have now cancelled. Recognition that we all need to promote the Intensive to our groups, and on the website.

CQ spoke about seeing the fantastic Melbourne Intensive venue. RD reported that the dinner can now be in the Arabesque Room at no extra rental charge; room decorated, with an ante room for the bar and in the hope of musicians. All congratulated HA on this great find.

CQ (as Chair of Intensive) reported that Leaders met on 4 May with next meeting planned for 29 June. Also reported that one of the registrants is a well-known leader, so we will need to use the clearly revisited, revised and documented process from last year for each leader to consider any conflict of interest in having this member in their group. It was recognised that although this does not guarantee a desired speedy process of possible rejection, it is essential for the leadership team to be able to decide on each individual position and hence to wait to see if a place in a group can comfortably be accommodated.

**Action: CQ to discuss with Leaders before the registration is accepted**

**9. 2020 Balint new venture Conference/Congress**

The notes on the initial scoping meeting by Board sub-committee for a congress had not yet been sent to the rest of the Board for review. JG apologised for this misunderstanding. It was therefore difficult to make clear decisions on what needs to happen next, despite the pressure of a timeline set by the move to make the next Intensive in 2021, and the desire for a Society event in 2020, to include the AGM. The idea is to offer in 2020 a different kind of meeting: a discursive, more conceptual event open to **all** Balint members and interested others to meet in stimulating, engaged and committed company around a program of selected papers/work sessions, as well as having the opportunity of experiencing being part of a Balint group over the weekend.

CQ outlined the need for a Management Committee to be swiftly appointed to start working on the design and process of creating such a forum. Three of the original scoping group, CQ, KCS and JG, are all keen to be part of the working committee, but CQ offered to step away if necessary. CQ had hoped to achieve the appointment of all the management committee, given the shortage of time to create a vibrant event, but it became clear on discussion that the Board needs to read the scoping notes first before making decisions on their potential contribution and availability to work on this project.

**ACTION: CQ requested an interim meeting after scoping notes are circulated by JG and read by all, on either next Tuesday 12 June or 19 June or 24 June at 10.30am AEST, to get this sub committee formed and starting its work.**

**ACTION: (1) JG has now circulated notes. (2) Board to reply to CQ re their availability for extra meeting.**

**10. Website development**

DN reported that after 7 months in development the website is now ready to launch, held up only by Board indecision on the internet banner photo. As the photo choice can be changed on the finding of a more suitable (and low-cost) image embracing the values of the Society, DN requests that we launch the site, making available to all the important Society information and Balint Group news in an accessible and easily managed way. In this period DN and the consulting webmaster have been running both sites (ie double workload) in readiness for the changeover. The Board expressed its thanks to DN for her invaluable contribution in this endeavour.

The question arose: what would a Website Launch entail? Might it increase the profile of the Society and the forthcoming Intensive?

Meeting closed at 12.03 AEST, leaving other agenda items below to be carried over to the next Board meeting.

**Next Regular Board Meeting: 2 July 2019 10.30am AEST, 12.30pm NZT, 8.30am AWST**

**Outstanding agenda items:**

**11. Date of AGM and Changes to Constitution**

* 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

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

**12. Ethics Policy**

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

**14. Newsletter and Bulletin from the Board**

**15. 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.

Judy Griffiths, Minutes Taker