

Nurture Group Network

AGM 17th September 2011 Minutes

Introduction and welcome given by Marian Evans Chair of the Board of Trustees.

The Marion Bennathan Lecture delivered by Marion Bennathan OBE herself.

Thanks and presentation of flowers given to Marion Bennathan OBE

Irene Grant National Director offers thanks to staff for their tremendous effort given to keep NGN afloat, and then gives the following preamble and invitation to form discussion groups.

Preamble

The NGN has existed for a number of years now, starting in Marion Bennathan's house and evolving gradually into a professional organisation with a small team of paid staff. As indicated in our publications and more recently in the cards produced for the House of Lords event, NGN exists to promote the development of nurture groups through:

- Effective practice
- Training
- Quality
- Research
- Publications
- Information exchange

NGN considers that there is an important role to fulfil, including raising the profile and importance of nurture, ensuring quality in particular is retained and leaving a legacy of what works for the future. The Board of Trustees, Marion Bennathan and the staff work tirelessly to achieve these aims which in turn we hope supports our members who deliver so successfully on the ground. Therefore what we would like to consult our members on is:-

1. Do you consider that a National Nurture Group Network is required? Y/N

Please list your reasons for yes or no?

2. If the above answer is yes, can the group brainstorm the actions which should be focussed on by NGN over the next year, as determined to be most useful to the members, then prioritise the top two.

3. Following on from the previous question and if not already covered, NGN is both a social business and a national charity. What do you consider the next steps should be for the social business i.e. publications, courses, resources e.g. nurture teddies, puppets etc?

What suggestions do you have to move the charity aspect forward?

4. It is also important that NGN retain in touch with our members, so we would love to have local initiatives listed, with the most interesting shared with the wider group, following these discussions. These can also be shared on our website and/ or used for our newsletter, with your permission.

Discussion groups are formed and members make their way to allocated areas. Groups return from discussions then break for lunch.

Formal AGM

Board Elections

Proposal made to members present to ratify the elected trustees.

All members present unanimously vote yes.

The newly co-opted trustees namely Kelly Freeman, Leo Barasi, Jacqueline Brooks, Charlotte Quince, Louise Boothby, and Jonathan Waterfield then proceed to introduce themselves to the members.

Proposal made to the members present to accept these as co-opted trustees.

All members present unanimously vote yes.

Motions for change

Jacqueline Brooks then proposes a resolution to change the wording of NGN's Articles and Memorandum slightly to enable us to gain charitable status with OSCR, the Scottish Charity Commission.

All members present unanimously vote yes to amendment.

Financial Report

Jonathan Waterfield gives a presentation on the NGN's financial position for the previous year and takes us up to date so far, indicating a much healthier position now than had been.

Question asked by Jacqueline Brooks – Is it fair to say that we have turned the corner.

Jonathan Waterfield answers – Yes it is.

Question asked by a member – What was the reason behind the red spike representing expenditure on the income and expenditure graph presentation slide?

Mark Turner answers – At that moment in time we had large reserves, it was decided to invest these reserves in extra staff and also in local co-ordinators to enable future growth.

Marian Evans gives feedback on the usage of the donations received.

Marian Evans announces the latest NGN conference to be held on the 14th October the first conference to be held at CAN Mezzanine in London. The conference will have four guest speakers, Irene Grant, Dave Colley, Tina Rae and Steve Watts. There will also be workshops held by Helen Stollery, Wendy Roden, Dave Colley and Dr Tina Rae with Katherine McKenna and Mrs Beth Hodgson.

Review of progress

Irene Grant provides a summary of activities undertaken over the past year.

Feedback from discussion groups

The four discussion groups then proceeded to give the feedback from their respective groups.

A summary of the feedback is available and will be distributed separately to all who attended and upon request.

An invitation made by Jenny Turner, Nurture Group Head Teacher of Kettlethorpe High School to conduct visits to show nurture groups in a secondary school setting.

AGM came to an end...until next year.