

MINUTES FOR THE CAPE HOME EDUCATORS (CHE) EXECUTIVE MEETING
HELD ONLINE ON ZOOM PLATFORM, ON 29 AUGUST 2020 at 14:00.

1. WELCOMING

The Chairman, Marietjie Ueckermann, welcomed all members present.

2. ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Debbie van der Eems

Marietjie Ueckermann

Rian Ueckermann

Tess Simmonds

Adam Wesson

Nicky Wesson

Anelle Burger

Benita de Beer

Apologies received from: Lizelle Rademeyer, Marijke Crafford and Suzanne Hattingh

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes from the 2019 Executive meeting was proposed by Marietjie Ueckermann approved and seconded by everyone in attendance.

5. ASSOCIATION STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION: CHE CONSTITUTION

Presented by Marietjie Ueckermann.

The Cape Home Educators constitution clearly states our objectives:

ARTICLE 2: OBJECTIVES

2.1 The Association shall endeavour to obtain the recognition of society and the protection of the law for the obligation and concomitant right of the parents to be able to educate their children themselves.

2.2 The Association recognizes that the State has a constitutional obligation towards the child to provide education, in cases where the parents are unable or unwilling to educate their children themselves.

2.3 The Association shall recognize that the parents have the right to delegate the task of education to persons of their own choice.

2.4 The Association shall, insofar it is able to,

2.4.1 Provide advice, guidance, assistance and support to existing and potential Home Schooling groups and/or families;

2.4.2 Investigate and research Home Schooling developments both nationally and internationally.

This is the purpose of CHE and to promote this purpose. CHE purpose is not event co-ordinating.

Anelle asked for some clarity regarding article 2.4.2. Marietjie explained that research and development is ongoing and ties into participation with other organisations such as Liberty in Learning.

6. MEMBERSHIP/ SUBSCRIPTION

Looking at our constitution & membership: we can actually consider to allow any person who:

- resides in the Western Cape

- agrees with our constitution's objectives

- and agrees with our goals :

To (a) honour the responsibility of parents to serve the best interest of their children by promoting the freedom to tailor education to each child, and to (b) ensure that any laws governing education serve the best interest of the child and respect the role of family, community, and culture in education.

Our mailing list needs to be updated and all members need to receive CHE constitution and membership information to agree to and to ask if they wish to stay member or to unsubscribe.

Adam will update wording on CHE subscription.

Suggested looking into an sms or other options to reach out to CHE members.

Adam asked to be directly notified if any changes need to happen to the website.

7. LIL COALITION

CHE have chosen to partner with the LIL Coalition to unite Home Educators in that common goal. Members of the LIL coalition agree to support and uphold their goals, as well as the integrity of each individual and organization associated with Liberty in Learning.

We want to get as much reliable and factual information out to as many people as possible on all platforms. Joining Liberty in Learning strengthens our cause, and falls under CHE Constitution.

There is a new regulatory framework being created, which is very exciting, and advocates what CHE is working towards achieving in Home Education.

8. ONLINE HOMESCHOOL EXPO

Add to CHE website under "Events".

Online Expo will happen this year from 13th October 2020 to 17th October 2020, 24/7. To include online speakers, and curriculums.

SA Homeschoolers and Kragdag promoting the expo.

There will be virtual Booths and would CHE like to be included.

Before the Expo goes live you need to upload information to the booth.

Include:

- My School Card
- Home school lounge
- Athletics,
- CHE Constitution
- CHE Membership
- A list of specific FACEBOOK pages and organisations.

Online live chat function will be available, and it would require CHE presence. Have a few volunteers to rotate to help with the online live chat during certain time slots.

Notify via online regarding available CHE live chat time slots. Mention that there is an option to email.

Ask if Chirani and Nicky to help promote.

9. SPORTS DAY

Update sent from Lizelle via email to Marietjie Ueckermann:

"I've created a gmail email address dedicated to our sports (which in future can be transferred to whoever manages the sports side). The email address is athletics.che@gmail.com. I've also switched over event entries to google forms, which works well and reduces the workload considerably.

I have created a telegram channel to send out sports related info. The channel can be joined via the following link:

<https://t.me/joinchat/AAAAAFJRxGezkwSCkP-4OA>

Due to Covid the regional and provincial athletics were postponed. Hein Johnson from SACSSA still hopes to at least host a regional event this year, but all depends on what government regulations allow.

We closed regional registration once we realised that the event was unlikely. 101 athletes have entered by that time. 9 athletes have been refunded already. Some have indicated that they are happy to transfer their entry fee to next year's event. At the moment I try to keep those entered updated. Hein has booked dates for November, hoping that regulations will allow an event. We'll have to wait and see if it is possible.

In the meanwhile SACSSA has a number of virtual events available. These include a chess series, monthly cross country and fun run, archery and table tennis. There is also running

and cycling via Strava. SACSSA hopes to host an invitational athletics event in Sasolburg on 31 October (they will only meet again mid September regarding this event).

Event dates at present:

12-19 September - Virtual Archery

19 September - Virtual Cross Country and Fun Run

19 September - Online Chess

3 October - Online Chess

17 October - Table Tennis Wi Competition

24 October - National online Chess

31 October - Invitational Athletics, Sasolburg (to be confirmed)

I have noticed that homeschoolers are finding it harder to participate in provincial sports, even at club level. Baseball now also requires a CEMAS number (registration with Western Cape Education Department) to be included in the Provincial team (last year tug of war had to find a work around with the same issue).

One of our swimmers could also not enter as usual with just a letter from the CHE for the swimming school league. They now require a school stamp on all documentation.

This is a concerning issue as it seems like there is a drive to require registration to be able to participate in sports.

I have started to compile a document for our website on sports (it hasn't been published), I'm hoping this will help homeschoolers to know which sports are available for provincial and national participation. I've requested that people send me a short description of the "how to" for sports their children have competed at provincial/national level.

I've received info for athletics, wrestling, cycling, swimming, gymnastics, climbing and horse riding. Any further info would be much appreciated."

Some homeschool families where effected and some children could not go further than regional due to needing CEMAS number. The only way to get this number is to register with the department.

We need to look into what the CEMAS number is and why it is needed to participated.

Benita will look into this number and to query why and what.

Suggest looking into getting a CHE stamp.

10. CHE AND MEDIA

Anelle is official CHE spokes person.

All media requests to go to Anelle for processing to be distributed to relevant groups, ie. Ambassadors group and other if additional support is needed.

10. MY SCHOOL CARD

As this is our biggest source of income, we need to actively promote the use of it.

We need a writeup explaining the need for members to join My School Card. CHE are a group of homeschool volunteers and we need the financial support.

Marietjie Ueckermann will do the writeup and let us know once it is done.

Marijke has been given access to our Facebook and website.

Update sent from Marijke Crafford via email to Marietjie Ueckermann

“Hi everyone and my sincerest apologies for not being able to attend today’s meeting! 2020 has been a stressful year to be the chairperson ACVV (Afrikaanse Christen Vroue Vereniging) of a non-profit and my body is fighting me to slow down.

The MySchool Card income for the past year:

August 2019: R1108.21

September 2019: R922.62

October 2019: R956.61

November 2019: R1160.15

December 2019: R1054.27

January 2020: R894.01

February 2020: R1086.65

March 2020: R1131.89

April 2020: R579.68

May 2020: R973.02

June 2020: R1057.46

July 2020: R875.81

The amount of families supporting CHE by using their MySchool Card averages between 70 – 80 per month. The lockdown did have a big impact on our earnings for April, but it seems to be stabilizing. I did attend a meeting with Lina Stevens from MySchool Card during 2019 which helped to clear up a lot of confusion. 2020 has been a difficult year for promotions and face to face meetings. A few of the biggest issues I feel that we are having with MySchool is that a lot of promotions are aimed at schools, so the marketing material received is usually worded in a way that it just doesn’t work on our Facebook Page. It would be wonderful to have more marketing material that included who the partners are where the card can be used but after a few attempts to get official material, we might need to make our own.

Also, the process of getting a MySchool Card is easier in person as we do yearly at the Expo (we usually sign up between 0 – 5 families) but people struggle to understand why they should support CHE in this way. More info graphics are needed as graphics get more views on Facebook than links to outside websites where all these things are explained. Although MySchool does have an app which can be used instead of having a physical card a lot of families still struggle with adding that much private detail to an app. I do have access to the Facebook Page and can post. We did have a recent influx of new Facebook Page members,

but we would need to decide how often and on which days would be the best to post about promotions or info on MySchool Cards as to not be too overwhelming.”

We have over 6000 members on our Western Cape Homeschool group but we only have between 70-80 members using their My School Card. We need to promote My School Card as this is our only source of finance to support the growth of CHE.

11. PODCASTS

Adam will add a My School card link above Podcasts.

12. SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We want to note a special thanks to Adam for all his efforts with our Cape Home Educators website. His time and efforts are valued and appreciated. Thank you Adam!

13. WORDING OF “NON PROFIT”

Tess will check that all wording to refer to “Homeschool families who volunteer” across all platforms, namely:

- Website
- CHE Facebook page

14. WEBSITE LINK

A link to Home Education Indaba www.ghex.africa has been added under the links TAB:

<https://www.capehomeed.co.za/links/>

Create a link to My school card information on:

<https://www.capehomeed.co.za/>

<https://www.capehomeed.co.za/general-info/>

15. SOCIAL MEDIA

15.1 Instagram

Carimah Fataar previously managed the CHE Instagram account. This account was linked to a private email address. I’ve emailed Thinus, Chirani replied and said she would also try and sort this out. We are going to be deleting the current CHE Instagram account and creating a new one using CHE email address and a password that will be saved under central file storage.

15.2 Sharing of CHE social media

When sharing posts and insights, could we try share directly from CHE facebook page. The reason we ask this is to create more traffic to CHE and awareness.

We would like to create a awareness regarding My School card. Maybe we could include a short writeup with the link on signing up to support CHE with My School card.

16. CHE CENTRAL FILE STORAGE

Please if you can install dropbox basic. It is a free file sharing system up to 2 GB.

We have been having some issues and just want to check if anyone else can access this folder and files.

Going forward, we would like to have all CHE files and access information stored in one central place. This will help when people leave so that there can be a smooth continuation.

17. CHE COSTS

CHE does not expect committee members to have overhead costs pertaining to their involvement with CHE. Any CHE related costs that are incurred can be submitted to Rian Ueckermann, and claimed back. This is the purpose of needing the money generated by CHE My School Card, and the reason we need to promote My School Card.

18. GENERAL AND CLOSING OF COMMITTEE MEETING

The Chairman thanked the committee for their contributions and for promoting the interests of homeschooling. All members contributions are appreciated and valued.

The meeting closed at 15:35