

**Meeting of Council  
4 July 2017  
Dickson Room**

**Minutes**

**1.0 Opening and Confirmation of Agenda**

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 1 pm. The agenda was confirmed.

**Apologies:** Peter Byron, Steve Speer, David More, Glenys Bishop, Barbara Podger, Rosalie Hampshire,

**Attendance** Council – Lesley Jackman (Chair), Jonette McDonnell, David Coutts, David Cox, Rita Maclachlan, Helen Elliot, Christianna Cobbold, Jan Finley

ANBG - Judy West, David Taylor, Kate Adams

**2.0 Minutes of Council meeting 6 June 2017**

The date of the meeting was corrected to 6 June. The second sentence of Item 5.7 was amended to read *Council noted that Geoff Hay, Marion Jones and Sue Serjeantson have resigned.*

**RESOLUTION**

**Moved** Christianna Cobbold **Seconded** Jonette McDonnell - that with the above minor amendments the minutes of the 6 June Council meeting be approved as tabled.

**Carried**

**3 Matters Arising from Minutes of 6 June 2017**

**3.1 New members walk 18 June**

Council was informed that this was very successful with 21 new members attending.

**3.2 Charitable Collection Licence**

Rita Maclachlan informed Council that this has been arranged for the current year. It was noted that with the recent agreement between the ACT Government and the ACNC this licence will not be needed.

**4. General Business**

**4.1 Public Art Project**

Council was informed that there is no news yet about NCA approval but it is hoped that will not take much longer.

There was some discussion about the best name for this public art work and Council felt that it should be kept simple as 'Treehouse'.

**4.2 AGM**

Council was informed that the date of 31 October (agreed at the June meeting) has been locked in. Peter Byron has agreed to be guest speaker and will talk about the BCGI meeting in Geneva in June/July. The candidates for life membership are very happy to accept the nomination.

The possible vacancies on Council were noted as President, Vice President, Secretary and 2 Council positions. Some possibilities were discussed and this will be further considered in coming months.

Council noted that the Public Officer would need to ensure that the appropriate responsible person checks are carried out for Council and Public Fund members.

**4.3 IT matters**

Council noted the report provided by David More on IT matters.

**RESOLUTION**

**Moved** Christianna Cobbold **Seconded** Jan Finley that

- the Friends establish an online payment facility with either NAB or PIN Payments to enable website

visitors to make secure online card payments when donating to the Public Fund, with the final selection of provider to be agreed by the President and Treasurer

- the Friends upgrade website security by purchasing an SSL certificate and installing it on the Friends domain through the existing internet service provider, Crazy Domains, at a cost of \$103.25 for 2 years. This will bring the website into line with the minimum acceptable standard for online transactions.
- the Friends Council endorse the website privacy and payments policy and conditions of use, for inclusion on the Friends website, as tabled at the meeting, noting this is a condition of NAB and other online service providers.

**Carried**

#### **4.4 Cool Country Natives**

Council endorsed relationship proposed between the Friends and Cool Country Natives, as discussed at this and the previous Council meeting. The President was asked to formalise the arrangements through an exchange of letters.

#### **4.6 Banks Florilegium prints**

##### **RESOLUTION**

Council agreed that it would pay for the restoration and framing of the prints at an estimated cost of \$1300. The President will confirm this with the librarian, who will make the arrangements. Once this is completed some consideration may need to be given to acknowledgements and where the prints will be kept.

**Moved David Coutts Seconded Jonette McDonnell**

**CARRIED**

### **5 Reports**

#### **5.1 ANBG Executive Director**

Judy West informed Council that

- The campaign to raise funds for the new seedbank is making some progress
- Hotel partners are being sought for support including Summer Sounds sponsorship and benefits to Friends members and visitors to Canberra through discounts.
  - More information could be available at the August Council meeting
- More funding for tree surgery is being allocated in the capital budget
- The final report on the Threatened species project is nearing completion

#### **5.2 ANBG General Manager**

David Taylor informed Council that

- A careful assessment of the trees for removal is being carried out
  - David will be informed of the dates of the guides conference so special walks will not be interrupted if at all possible by this program
  - Information could be provided to Friends in the next broadcast email
- Work is going on to build up the stock of plants for the new conservatory. A number of themes are being developed and Friends funding for interpretation and display will be firmed up once the details are clearer
- Plans are in place to develop Section 189 (near the Sydney Basin) as an area for a collection of plants to increase the genetic base of Gardens holdings
  - Funding is not being sought from the Friends at this stage but possibly for signage etc in due course
- There are some drainage issues to be addressed in the Red Centre garden
  - It was noted by Council that the artwork may need some cleaning and restoration and it was suggested that some further consideration might be given to enhancing the interest for children in this area

#### **5.3 ANBG Friends' Liaison**

Kate Adams verbal report was noted. Key points were

- Changes to staffing were noted
- School holiday activities are proving very popular, due largely to the dinosaurs and the evening special walks are almost sold out

- Interpretation for the Treehouse is being developed, including possible play areas under the Treehouse
- The stereo microscope in the VIC is installed and proving very popular
- Improvements are being implemented for the BRC, including new signage

#### 5.4 **Treasurer's Report**

Helen Elliot presented the June P&L and Balance Sheet.

##### **RESOLUTION**

**Moved** Helen Elliot **Seconded** Rita Maclachlan that the Treasurer's report for June be accepted

**CARRIED**

#### 5.5 **Projects Committee**

Council noted the report from the Projects committee following their meeting on 28 June. There were two items for decision

##### Norfolk Island Plant Conservation Research Proposal

##### **RESOLUTION**

The Committee recommended that this proposal be supported with the following comments

- The PhD researcher should have appropriate supervisor/mentor support from the Gardens, especially the seed bank
- Part of the project should be involvement and training of Norfolk Island volunteers to manage this type of activity in the future
- The possible funding for Friends volunteers should be left for a specific decision once it is better known what is involved and what costs might be sought
- It may be useful for a Friends liaison person to be nominated, as for the threatened species project and the Asteraceae garden
- A regular report to Council on progress would be appreciated

**Moved** David Coutts **Seconded** Christianna Cobbold

**CARRIED**

##### Updating of Eucalypt Discovery walk

The Committee was assured that Gardens management fully supports this proposal and that it does not conflict with any proposed development of the areas covered by the by trail. The Committee felt that it would be worth considering a relatively low-key brochure or information page that could be revised easily when changes occur, as can happen with this type of walk, instead of a glossy relatively expensive brochure.

##### **RESOLUTION**

With these comments the Committee recommends that Council support the proposal up to a limit of \$2500

**Moved** Jan Finley **Seconded** Christianna Cobbold

**CARRIED**

#### 5.6 **Guides conference**

Council noted that arrangements are essentially all in place and that there are currently 154 registrations, including 39 from the ANBG guides.

#### 5.7 **Public Fund**

Council discussed a first draft of a response to the Treasury Discussion paper on the status of Deductible Gift Recipients. It was felt that the Friends should make a submission, which is due by 14 July. David Cox was asked to take the lead on putting this submission together.

#### 5.8 **Membership**

The Membership Report for June 2017 was noted.

#### 5.9 **Thursday Talks**

It was noted that Sue Serjeantson has resigned from this Committee and Doug Laing is coordinating for the time being.

#### 5.10 **Growing Friends**

Council was informed that the Growing Friends would like to have a banner for their sales and other events. Council supported this idea in principle and asked David Cox to liaise with the Growing Friends to firm up what is required and the cost.

**6. Next meeting**

1pm on Tuesday 1 August 2017 in the Dickson Room.

Lesley Jackman  
President