

Minutes

1.0 Approval of Agenda, Attendance and Apologies

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 1 pm. The agenda was approved as circulated.

Apologies were received from: Judy West, Megan Donaldson and Christianna Cobbold.

Attendance:

Council: Lesley Jackman (Chair), Helen Elliot, David More, Wendy Antoniak, Jonette McDonnell, Linda Beveridge and Jann Ollerenshaw.

Ex Officio: Sebastian Lang, Rosella Hampshire, Barbara Podger, David Coutts and Tricia Morton

2.0 Minutes of Council meeting 3 July for approval

RESOLUTION

Moved: Wendy Antoniak, **Seconded** David More - that the minutes of the 3 July Council meeting be approved.

Carried

3 Matters Arising from Minutes

3.1 2018 Schools Photograph Competition

The President clarified that there were no outstanding approvals for the 2018 Schools Photographic Competition.

3.2 National Seed Bank Brochure mailout

The President advised that arrangements were in hand for including the fundraising brochure for the National Seed Bank in the October membership renewal mailout. Council members were invited to assist with 'stuffing' envelopes.

4. General Business

4.1 Development Matters

The President spoke to the report that she had prepared on observations about the 2017-18 Public Fund fundraising drive. \$35,000 was raised by the Public Fund during the financial year 2017-18, an increase on the previous financial year by \$11,000, and more than twice the average of most recent years. The paper captures, for future consideration, some of the lessons learnt during the fundraising. Council considered the report a valuable documentation of the process and there followed a general discussion on a further focused campaign in April 2019.

RESOLUTION

Moved: David More, **Seconded** Linda Beveridge - that the Observations on Fundraising paper be accepted.

Carried

4.2 IT Report

David More advised that work on the membership database was continuing and that he had nothing further to report.

4.3 50th Anniversary of the ANBG 2020

The President advised that, of the various projects that had been discussed so far for the Friends' contribution to the 50th Anniversary of the Gardens in 2020, a commitment had been made to the banksia garden. Support for the welcome drinks for the Seedbank Forum had been canvassed with the conference organiser, who was very happy with this suggestion. The Friends had funded the consultant's report on the interpretive strategy for the new conservatory and are awaiting further information on the cost of the strategy. A formal submission would be put to Council as these proposals were further developed.

Sebastian Lang advised that the Gardens would be shortly be seeking tenders to construct the conservatory.

4.4 30th Anniversary of the Friends 2020

Linda Beveridge and Barbara Podger put forward a proposal that they form a subcommittee to consider suggestions for celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Friends in 2020 and bring a consolidated list to Council. Some ideas canvassed were a dinner, retrospective photographic displays, a display of artworks purchased for the Gardens, tour of projects funded by the Friends, a Special Edition of Fronds, etc.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Jann Ollerenshaw, **Seconded** Jonette McDonnell - that a subcommittee be formed as proposed.

Carried

4.5 AGM 2018

The President commented that plans for the AGM were underway and nomination forms for vacant positions were now available.

4.6 AAFBG trip to Singapore

Information about the AAFBG trip to Singapore trip in 2019 will be circulated to members through a link to the AAFBG website in a broadcast email, with the caveat that the trip is not an activity of the Friends of the ANBG. The planned trip is a fundraiser for the AAFBG; the Friends of the ANBG are a member of the organisation.

5. Reports

5.1 ANBG Executive Director

5.2 ANBG General Manager

5.3 ANBG Friends' Liaison

In Judy West's and Megan Donaldson's absences Sebastian Lang spoke on behalf of the Gardens and made the following points:

- 2020 was looking to be a big year with the transformation of the Banksia Garden,
- Conservation Partnership to save threatened species, led by David Taylor, was producing some exciting results
- Formation of a living collections co-ordination committee to prioritise work.
- Science Week – ANBG and Bush Blitz would be at the Bus Depot Market
- New signage was being installed for the front gate and banners as well as for the Black Mountain trail.
- The Gardens was talking to the ANU about the inappropriate use of the ANU overflow carpark.
- Upcoming VIP visits to Gardens would include the Costa Rican Ambassador, the Swedish Ambassador and the PNG High Commissioner.

5.4 Treasurer's report

The Treasurer noted:

- That the Public Fund had committed \$25,000 to new seed bank equipment,
- With the Friends membership year starting on 1 November, processing of new memberships had been placed on hold until August, thereby giving new members an extended initial membership year,
- \$2,000 was raised from booked walks, an increase of \$80 from last financial year,
- The Friends had contributed \$1.2m to the Gardens since 2001.

RESOLUTION

Moved – Helen Elliot **Seconded** Linda Beveridge: that the monthly financial statements be accepted.

Carried

5.5 Major Events Working Group

The President noted the heavy forward commitments of the Friends as set out in the projections of income and expenditure for the Friends to 2020 as prepared by the Treasurer. She invited the ANBG to reflect on the priority to be accorded to Friends' funding for the 2019 summer concerts over other expected commitments.

5.6 Social Events and Activities

Tricia Morton advised that the organised walks were very popular, the members' eucalypt walk was fully subscribed as was the pollinators-at-work walk. Bookings for Wake up with Birds were available on the Friends website. Tricia was also seeking a couple of volunteers to serve drinks and nibbles at the AGM.

5.7 Project Committee

David Coutts reported that a draft template for proposals for consideration by the Projects Committee was with the Gardens for approval; he considered it would be a valuable tool for the Gardens and the Committee. The Plant Finder App had been trialled – some issues were identified and suggestions made to refine the app.

The PhD student lined up for the Norfolk Island PhD project has been awarded an Australian postgraduate scholarship and the Norfolk Island research project would therefore proceed. The President would shortly meet with Dr Lydia Guja to finalise the framework for involvement of Friends with relevant skillsets as project volunteers.

5.8 Broadcast email

The President advised that Wendy Antoniak had offered to assist with the production of the Broadcast emails. A draft broadcast email will shortly be sent Council Members.

**5.9 Membership
RESOLUTION**

Moved – Helen Elliot, **Seconded** Jonette McDonnell: that the Membership report be noted.

Carried

6. Next meeting

1pm on Tuesday 4 September 2018 in the Dickson Room.

Lesley Jackman
President