

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 Rosalie Hampshire and Alan Munns

Attendance was

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

Invited Friends: David Coutts, Barbara Podger,, Tricia Morton and Glenys Bishop

Gardens : Judy West and Stephen Speer

2.0 Minutes of Council meeting 14 November 2017 for approval

RESOLUTION

Moved Jonette McDonnell **Seconded** Helen Elliot - that the minutes of the 14 November 2017 Council meeting be approved as tabled.

Carried

3 Matters Arising from Minutes of 14 November 2017

3.1 Photographic Group 2019 calendar

The President had met with the Photographic Group on this proposal and indicated that they are enthusiastic to be involved with the bookshop. Lesley will send a note to Tom Butt to firm up the agreement.

3.2 Change of public officer

Wendy Antoniak informed Council that the necessary steps have been taken to advise ACCESS Canberra that she is now the Public Officer.

3.3 Banners

The President informed Council that Cool Country Natives have a Friends banner now and they are very pleased with it. There are high hopes to continue to build the relationship.

4. General Business

4.1 Paperbark Treehouse

Council noted that the launch on 29 November went very well and there was a lot of interest and publicity. A sign marking the Friends role in the project will be prepared for installation fairly early in the New Year.

It was noted that the Friends contribution of \$150000 has been paid and there is a commitment for a further \$130000, including for landscaping. The Public Fund will give further consideration to the amount the Fund can contribute to the cost of the treehouse. Interpretation was agreed to be an important component of the project and there will be a cost of \$20000 coming for that, which will be met by a sponsor. There may also be a need for a fence near the boundary road and that will be considered in the near future.

Council was informed that the construction and landscaping will be finished by Christmas.

4.2 50th Anniversary

Two projects are the priority of ANBG for the anniversary.

- Conservatory
 - The final design is anticipated by early in 2018
 - A brief is being prepared for a consultancy to prepare the interpretation and this should be ready to put out for tenders early in 2018
 - It is expected the consultancy will cost about \$15000 and the Friends may well be asked to cover

- this cost, as well as the bulk of the actual cost of the interpretation.
- Council was receptive to consideration of meeting at least part of the cost of interpretation, which is seen as a vital component of the conservatory. Discussion touched on having a process similar to that conducted at the Treehouse, with Friends involvement.
- It was underlined that a Council nominee should be represented on the group charged with assessing and approving the interpretation plans.
- Banksia Garden
 - Council noted that this project had already received in principle support, subject to final details and costings. It looked forward to more final details of the plans etc, while noting that a figure of \$100000 had been mentioned earlier.

4.3 IT matters

David More indicated that he had nothing specific to report on IT at this meeting.

4.4 Guides Conference Report

Glenys Bishop tabled her detailed report on the conference. In particular it was noted that there had been extensive feedback from participants and that was heavily positive, with only a few comments in any way negative. Glenys underlined thanks to the Gardens and staff members for their support.

Council recorded its thanks to Glenys and the other volunteers who worked very hard to make the conference a success.

4.5 Friends DVD and Australia's Garden

Council noted that the bookshop had requested 40 additional copies of Australia's Garden and 10 copies of the DVD, and these had been supplied in early December.

In relation to the DVD it was felt that the Photographic Group might wish to consider making an updated version and it was understood the group was interested to give this consideration. Only about 10 copies remain in stock.

In relation to Australia's Garden it was noted that the book is now out of date and there are a large number of copies remaining. It was also noted that the Gardens are contemplating some sort of commemorative publication for the 50th anniversary. It was agreed that the Friends would invoice the bookshop as usual for the latest supplies but further consideration needs to be given to how to handle the remaining copies and any future update, noting that some of the existing copies will be used as gifts when appropriate.

4.6 Broadcast email

It was felt that a further broadcast email may be needed no later than mid January. As David Coutts will be away until 16 January, Lesley Jackman agreed to follow up on this matter.

4.7 ANPC

Council noted that John Fitzgerald had attended the ANPC AGM in November on behalf of the Friends. A report was circulated with the meeting papers for this Council meeting.

4.9 AAFBG

RESOLUTION

Moved – Linda Beveridge Seconded – David More - that the Friends should re-join the AAFBG for 2018.
Carried

5. Reports

5.1 ANBG Executive Director

5.2 ANBG General Manager

Judy West gave both reports. Key points were

- ANBG management thanked the Friends for funding the Paperbark treehouse.
- The arrangements for the summer concerts are well in hand. The bands have been locked in and the information is on the Gardens website.
 - Lesley Jackman will be interviewed on 2xx in January and will enquire about any ABC interest in an interview on the concerts.

- Enlighten is called **Aglow at ANBG** this year and the dates are settled as 2/3 March, 8/9/10 March and 14/15 March. Information will appear on the website in the New Year

5.3 ANBG Friends' Liaison

Steve Speer gave the report from Visitor Experience. Key points were:

- The Volunteer recognition ceremony has taken place with awards going to volunteers under Schedule 1 of the MOU.
- The Gardens Christmas party will be on 6 December and Council members were invited to drop in.
- The Governor General had presented a Wollemi pine to Canada (supplied by the gardens) and there will be a video of the ceremony
- Geotech work is starting on the conservatory, partly to settle the exact site.
- Snakes Alive will be on again in January
- There will be guided after dark tours as part of Enlighten.

5.4 Major Events Working group (MEWG)

The group is concentrating on the Summer Concerts, which are summarised under Item 5.1

5.5 Social Events and Activities Committee (SEAC)

There was nothing additional to report over and above the matters mentioned above.

5.6 Treasurer's report

Council noted the monthly reports tabled by the Treasurer.

Barbara Podger indicated some concern about the way the Public Fund information is presented in the consolidated monthly reports. It was agreed this should be clarified by inclusion of relevant footnotes.

It was noted that a cash cheque for \$1650 would be drawn as the float for the summer concerts.

It was proposed that the term deposit maturing on 30 December be rolled over for a further 3 months.

RESOLUTION

Moved – Helen Elliot Seconded – Christianna Cobbold that the term deposit maturing on 30 December be rolled over for 3 months and the monthly statements be accepted as tabled for the meeting

Carried

5.7 Projects

Council noted that the Project Committee will be meeting on 14 December and will report to the February Council meeting and out of session as necessary.

Judy West updated Council on the Norfolk Island research project, approved for \$45000 funding some time ago. The appropriate PhD person is still being sought and Judy will send the Projects Committee an update for their forthcoming meeting. Friends will have the opportunity to be involved in this project in due course.

5.8 Schools Photographic Competition

Council noted the Report provided by Cecilia Melano- and thanked her for her work on this competition.

The report made recommendations for the 2018 competition and Council supported this proposed approach

- prize monies remain the same as 2017
- the "People's Choice" box not be put out until late in the day or the day after the presentation ceremony
- the category "Altered Images" be renamed "Altered Reality" to better reflect the requirements for this section
- the education section of the ANBG provide competition details to interstate high schools booking tours/workshops at the Gardens
- competition details be emailed to schools within a 100-150km radius of Canberra
- competition is expanded to ACT Home Schooling Associations listed on the ACT Government Education Directorate

5.9 Membership

The Membership Report to end November was noted, especially the good takeup of new memberships.

6. Next meeting

1pm on Tuesday 6 February 2018 in the Dickson Room

Lesley Jackman
President