



26th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

21st October 2014,

ANBG Theatrette

MINUTES

Item 1: Opening and Welcome

The President, David Coutts, opened the meeting at 5.35 pm and welcomed members present, 35 members signed the attendance sheet, attached to these minutes (Appendix A).

Also present were:- Dr Judy West, Executive Director, ANBG. Mr Peter Byron, General Manager, ANBG and Steve Speer, Friends Liaison

Item 2: Apologies

Apologies were received from:-

Agnes McHugh, Beth Heyde, Linda Beveridge, Rita Maclachlan, Susan White, Ann Milligan, Rosemary Purdie, John Wanless, Pat Wright, Warwick Wright and Tessa Pollack.

Item 3: Confirmation of minutes of 25th Annual General Meeting

Copies of the minutes had been circulated.

Motion: That the minutes of the 25th AGM held on 10th October 2013 be taken as read and accepted.

Proposed: Cedric Bryant. Seconded: Anne Campbell. Result: **Carried**

Item 9 of the agenda was brought forward

Item 9: Award of Life Membership

This was awarded to Denise Newman in recognition of her dedicated service to the Friends and the ANBG.

John Turnbull spoke in support outlining Denise's involvement from training as a volunteer guide in 1999, subsequently becoming an Explainer and volunteering for many of the Booked Walks and other Guides activities. She used contacts at ANBG, including Bernard Fennessy and Murray Fagg to broaden her expertise and was an excellent communicator. The ANBG was poorer for her having to withdraw in 2012 because of ill health.

Barbara Podger presented Denise with the Certificate and a native floral collection

Item 4: President's Report

The President presented his report and addressed the meeting outlining the more notable activities and achievements of the past year, his report covering the period from the last AGM.

Some points covered included

- The Membership increase from 1600 to 2000 over the past four years.
- The broadening of Friends volunteering efforts at ANBG:-
 - Visitors Centre Volunteers
 - Alpine Project
 - Plant Stocktake
 - Seedy Volunteers.
- Major Project Support
 - Red Centre Garden pavement Artwork.
 - Underwriting the 2014 Summer Sounds concert series
 - Asteraceae Garden
 - Seedbank equipment
- Changes to the Friends parking arrangements at ANBG

A copy of the report is at Appendix B. .

Motion: That the President's Report for 2013-2014 be accepted.

Proposed:- John Connolly. Seconded: Marion Jones. Result: **Carried**.

Item 5: Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Marion Jones, in presenting her report (Appendix C), tabled the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 30th June 2014 (Appendix C1. Copies of the audited financial statements were tabled.

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Proposed:- David Coutts, Seconded: John Connolly. Result: **Carried**

The Treasurer also advised the AGM that the financial statements for the Public Fund had been audited and copies of the report were available

Item 6: Report from the Executive Director of ANBG

Judy West, Executive Director, ANBG, presented the Report (as a Powerpoint presentation)

Some points covered included

- Budget constraints are placing greater demands on staff and resource allocation priorities.
- The new Director of Parks Australia, Sally Barnes, has been most supportive of ANBG as well as the rest of National Parks under her direction.
- Capital works completed include the reconstruction of the lower rainforest board walk. The choice of materials for this drew on experience from Christmas Island National Park.

- The Asteraceae Garden is proceeding with the opening scheduled for late November.
- The extension of the lighting from the Rainforest to the Red Centre Garden should be finished in early in 2015 and will enhance the “After Dark” functions in the Gardens.
- Judy also said she was aware of the necessity of maintaining the current collection and not embarking on new projects without adequate resources being available
- The collection of rainforest material by Toby Gulson in Queensland and Northern NSW had been beneficial in maintaining linkages with the various botanic gardens visited as well as providing a great many cuttings for propagation.
- Various pieces of equipment supplied to the seed bank largely with Friends funding are proving a great boon to its operation.
- Ways of financing the proposed Seed bank facility are being investigated.
- The contractor for the development of the ANBG Masterplan, TCL Ltd had begun work. A community consultation day will be held in December and the plan should be in place around April 2015
- The vacated Franklin building had been leased to a local Day Spa operation and would open in January 2015.
- Judy stated that relations between the Friends and ANBG, both management and staff, continue to enhance ANBG.

The Executive Director’s report was received with acclamation

Item 7: Election of Office Bearers and Council members (for 2 years)

The President reported that seven Council positions, President, Vice-President, Secretary and four Councillors, were vacant.

The nominations and personal profiles received for these positions by the date set out in the meeting notice were tabled. A further nomination and profile for the remaining unfilled Councillor position was accepted under Guideline No. 002 “Procedure to be followed in support of the AGM”

Those nominated were

President	Lesley Jackman
Vice-President:	Jan Finley
Secretary	Rita Maclachlan
Councillors:	Sue Serjeantson
	Barbara Tyler
	Christianna Cobbold
	Ian Primrose

As there was only one nomination for each of the vacant positions, no election was required and the President moved that they be confirmed in these positions by the meeting. This was seconded by John Connolly and carried.

The President thanked those Councillors who had not renominated for Council positions and acknowledged their service over a number of years.

Item 8: Appointment of Auditor.

Motion: That the auditor GLR Accountants be reappointed for the 2014-2015 financial year. Proposed, Marion Jones, Seconded: David Coutts. Result: **Carried.**

Item 10: General Business

- **Alpine Project**
 - The Alpine Project report was tabled and copies were made available members.

Item 11: Meeting closure:

The President closed the meeting at 6.55 pm and invited members to stay for a talk by Associate Professor Adrienne Nicotra on

“The Outcome of the Alpine Seeds Research Project”

which was supported by the Friends financially and with volunteers

Acceptance of Minutes at 27th AGM.

President of Friends of ANBG