

<b>Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens Council Meeting 8 April 2021 Minutes</b>				
<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Information</b>	<b>Moved (M) Seconded (S)</b>	<b>Council</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Approval of Agenda, Attendance and Apologies</b>			
1.1	Agenda	<b>RESOLUTION: that the Agenda be adopted</b>	M: Neville Page S: Wanda Filsell	Adopted
1.2	Attendance and Apologies	Present <u>Council</u> : Neville Page (President, Chair), Helen Elliot (Treasurer), Lynden Ayliffe (Secretary), David More, Alan Henderson, Wanda Filsell <u>Ex officio</u> : Judy West, Peter Byron, Megan Menz <u>Invited</u> : Barbara Podger, Tricia Morton <u>Apologies</u> : Linda Beveridge, Wendy Antoniak, Lesley King, Max Bourke		Noted
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>	<b>RESOLUTION: that the minutes of the Council meeting of 11 March 2021 be accepted.</b>	M: Lynden Ayliffe S: Helen Elliot	Passed
<b>3</b>	<b>Matters arising from previous minutes</b>			
3.1	Future of Summer Sounds (SS)	Tricia Morton said the Social Events committee had met with ANBG staff to discuss the future of SS. A copy of notes from this meeting were provided on Google drive. After discussing the history and associated costs of SS, the group decided that although the event was popular, it requires a large contribution from ANBG staff and is no longer economically feasible, despite grant funding. Council accepted this recommendation, accepting that SS would no longer be held. It was agreed that Neville Page write to thank ICON Water for its past support and say that Friends would not be seeking further sponsorship. Peter		



		Byron was to write to previous sponsors on behalf of ANBG. <b>RESOLUTION: that Council will not seek sponsorship for Summer Sounds</b>  Ideas for alternative events were raised but require further development.	M: Lynden Ayliffe S: Helen Elliot	
3.2	Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens (AAFBG) - Handbury Award	Neville Page said that an application for this award had been made, nominating ANBG Growing Friends. He thanked Lynden Ayliffe for her efforts in finalising the nomination and indicated that it had been successful. The Growing Friends were among 13 awards this year: 6 to individuals and 7 to organisations like the Growing Friends. Arrangements had been made for Anne Campbell (a life member of the Friends) to collect the award in Adelaide and she will also attend the dinner. <b>RESOLUTION: that Council reimburse Anne Campbell for any expenses incurred.</b>	M: Helen Elliot S: Alan Henderson	Passed
<b>4</b>	<b>General Business</b>			
4.1	Video – <i>Flowers, Fruit and Foliage</i>	Neville Page said he undertook at the last meeting to do a trial video. His first 12 minute video was shown and well received. It took 2 hours to record, 3 to edit and additional hour for Ros and Ben Walcott to do the voice over. It was uploaded onto YouTube using his own account and not open to the general public as yet. He used a tripod for the second version that improved the quality, and also used a different opening page referencing the Friends and people involved in compiling the video.  There was discussion about making the video more widely available eg whether it could be accessed via the Friends website or the ANBG's or other routes. David More said that, since Google makes it money from advertising, consideration should be given as to what associated advertising we would accept and if possible not allow. Peter Byron thought the ANBG would have no problems with the video being put on YouTube as there was no offensive language or content.  Neville requested reimbursement for minor expenditure (\$121.02) on editing software and memory discs for his camera.  Neville also undertook to investigate the issues surrounding future videos for		Noted



		Council including seeking ANBG permission, advertising, media and resources needed. He indicated that he would come back with an implementation plan.		
<b>5</b>	<b>Reports</b>			
5.1	ANBG Executive Director	<p>In Judy West's absence at the time of this item, Peter Byron reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Minister will announce the new Seed Bank design on 13 May;</li> <li>• Judy West and the National Parks Conservation Trust will launch the Seed Bank fitout appeal (on-line auction) on 12 May;</li> <li>• contractual arrangements for the Conservatory are being finalised with works hopefully starting in June;</li> <li>• horticultural volunteers will be trialled for 3 months by ANBG starting with 5 and then ramping up if successful - Paul Carmen will coordinate and undertake training; and</li> <li>• David Taylor will be retiring at the end of next week after more than 10 years.</li> </ul> <p>Peter also sought either a separate session or an additional 0.5 hr before the next Council meeting to update Council on the development of the Management Plan. Neville Page undertook to take this into account when planning the May meeting.</p> <p>Later Judy West joined the meeting. At the December Council meeting she had undertaken to prepare a draft MOU between Friends and the National Parks Conservation Trust to ensure there was no conflict between the Friends' Public Fund and the Everlasting Circle bequest program. Judy gave relevant papers to Neville Page to consider.</p>		Noted
5.2	ANBG General Manager	See above		



5.3	ANBG Friends Liaison	<p>Megan Menz reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• March visitation was 42,201 –up from 32,095 in March 2020 but down from 50547 in March 2019;</li> <li>• work is proceeding on the Megafauna event;</li> <li>• ANBG is working on a collaborative marketing campaign with Getaboutable, Canberra; and</li> <li>• many Friends activities are scheduled.</li> </ul> <p>Megan also said she is going on leave for 3 weeks and Megan Donaldson will be acting.</p>		Noted
5.4	President	<p>The President’s report was uploaded on Google drive outlining his activities since the last meeting. Neville indicated that he had also placed an email from the Register of Environmental Organisations (REO) on Google Drive, showing that only parts of the East Core project would be eligible for funding by the Public Fund. The advice also confirmed that the Public Fund Trust does not have DGR status and asked that we ensure the public fund management committee is using the correct governing document ie the ANBG Friends’ constitution. It recommended dissolving the Trust.</p> <p>After some discussion about the contribution of Barbara Podger and David Taylor Neville Page moved:</p> <p><b>RESOLUTION: that the President write to Barbara Podger in appreciation of her contribution as Chair of the Public Fund</b></p> <p><b>RESOLUTION: that the President write to David Taylor thanking him for his generous contribution to the Guides and various Friends activities, and wishing him well in retirement.</b></p> <p>Neville Page then said that Wendy Antoniak does not wish to renominate as a representative for the Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens. There being no other candidates from within Council, he will nominate himself.</p>	<p>M: Neville Page S: David More M: Neville Page S: Lynden Ayliffe</p>	



5.5	Treasurer	<p>Financial statements for March 2021 were shared on Google drive before the meeting. They showed that membership fees were nearly \$100,000 for the year to date with 303 new members this financial year – the largest increase so far. Helen noted that the Botanic Art Group’s current exhibition had raised \$6245 so far. The following resolutions were then passed.</p> <p><b>RESOLUTION: That term deposit 1938 for \$210,478 maturing on 9 April 2021 be rolled over with the accrued interest of \$209.33 for 6 months.</b></p> <p><b>RESOLUTION: That Barbara Podger, who resigned from the Public Fund management committee effective 31 March 2021, be removed as a bank signatory. A ‘thank you’ to Barbara for her availability as bank signatory.</b></p> <p><b>RESOLUTION: That the Treasurer’s Report be accepted.</b></p>	<p>M: Helen Elliot S: Lynden Ayliffe</p> <p>M: Helen Elliot S: Alan Henderson</p> <p>M: Helen Elliot S: Alan Henderson</p>	<p>Passed</p> <p>Passed</p> <p>Passed</p>
5.6	IT Report including Administrative Database Evaluation Working Group	David More said that the TidyHQ membership system trial is showing problems and he is now preparing a paper that will reconsider the approach. In the meantime, the current system can be propped up.		Noted
5.7	Project Committee	<p>Alan Henderson suggested that a holding pattern may be necessary since the ANBG cannot spare staff to work on smaller projects and the East Core Precinct Stage 2 project estimate would require a fund raising effort by Friends of around \$30,000. Helen Elliot then asked Peter Bryon about scheduling of two projects currently included in the financial projections: Iconic Plants and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary book/website proposal. It was decided that savings in the order of \$43,500 were possible due to slippage or changes in direction. Helen Elliot undertook to prepare a paper with revised financial projections, including those for the Public Fund, for consideration at the next Council meeting.</p> <p>There was some discussion about possible Friends’ projects such as preparing a 30 year history of the Friends. It was agreed that Neville Page and Lynden Ayliffe would explore the idea further.</p>		Noted
5.8	Public Fund	Neville Page said the management committee had not met since he became the Chair but he will report at the next Council meeting on progress.		Noted



5.9	Friends Reports	<p><b>a. Photographic Group</b> - no report. David More said that the Photographic Group had decided that the system they had been considering for use at meetings was too expensive.</p> <p><b>b. Botanic Art Group</b> – Judy West indicated that two paintings had been chosen and that the catalogue of artworks given to the Gardens by the Friends will be updated to include the latest two works. Lynden Ayliffe said the two paintings were <i>Wahlenbergia</i> by Susan Spiller (\$295) and <i>Arid</i> by Marjorie Rother (\$400) – well under the budget of \$800.</p> <p><b>c. Plant Science Group</b> – no report</p> <p><b>d. Growing Friends</b> – The Group is holding another small plant sale for staff and Friends on 13 April.</p> <p><b>e. Thursday Talks (TT)</b> – Neville Page said the committee has spent some time discussing recording and broadcasting. Linda Beveridge was absent from the Council meeting as she was meeting with an ANU expert who was looking at the facilities in the Theatre. He also said that using the Education Rangers was not an option since their site fee and daily rate was higher than anticipated.</p> <p><b>f. Social Events</b>–Tricia Morton provided a report on Google drive before the meeting - see Item 3.1.</p> <p><b>g. Membership</b> – the report on Google drive showing new members and renewals for March 2021 was noted. Alan Henderson pointed out that over the last two years membership had increased about 12%. A report on the recent Meet and Greet was also provided on Google drive.</p>		Noted
5.10	Volunteer Guides	No report		
5.11	Communications	<p><i>Fronde</i> – April issue out. Contributions for 1 August edition are sought by mid June.</p> <p>Broadcast email – out at the end of next week and should include mention of the Everlasting Circle. Lynden Ayliffe said she is aiming to get a broadcast email out this week about the schools photographic exhibition.</p>		Noted  Noted
6	<b>Other Business</b>	Judy West asked whether Council would be prepared to contribute funding for one or two banksia sculptures, and for a metal plate on one recognising all the work that David Taylor had put into the Gardens. She thought each sculpture was worth about \$5000. It was generally thought that three would look better. Judy undertook to get back to Council with more details.		Noted



<b>7</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b>	2pm, Thursday 13 May 2021 - Celia Rosser Room		Noted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'N. R.', written in a cursive style.