

**Meeting of Council
12 December 2019
Dickson Room**



Minutes

Item	Topic	Information	Moved	Seconded	Council
1	Approval of Agenda Attendance and Apologies				
1.1	Agenda	Agenda for the meeting items 5.11 to 5.18 were renumbered to 5.10 to 5.17. Meeting opened by Chair at 2pm RESOLUTION: that the Agenda be adopted	Max Bourke	Linda Beveridge	Adopted
1.2	Attendance and Apologies	Present <u>Council</u> : Max Bourke (President, Chair), Linda Beveridge (Vice President), Helen Elliot (Treasurer), Wendy Antoniak, Peter Heaume, David More, Neville Page. <u>Ex officio</u> : Lesley Jackman, Peter Byron, Megan Menz. <u>Invited</u> : David Coutts, Lesley King <u>Apologies</u> : Lynden Ayliffe, Alan Henderson, Barbara Podger	Max Bourke		Noted
1.3	Vacant Council member position.	RESOLUTION: that Neville Page be appointed to the casual vacancy of Council Member in accordance with Section 6.6 of our Constitution. When the resolution was passed, Max warmly welcomed Neville Page as a new member of Council.	Max Bourke	Linda Beveridge	Passed
2	Minutes of Previous Meeting	RESOLUTION: that the minutes of the Council meeting of 14 November be approved.	Wendy Antoniak	Linda Beveridge	Passed
3	Matters arising from previous minutes				

3.1		Selection of new Patron: Max will close the offer to the proposed candidate. Max also requested that Council members send to him suggestions for a list of potential patrons for consideration at the meeting of February 2020	Max Bourke		Noted
4	General Business				
4.1	Botanic Gardens Biosecurity Network	A Plant Health workshop is proposed to be held at the ANBG in March 2020. Daniela Carnovale is the Project Officer for Public Health Australia. Max will obtain specific dates. RESOLUTION: that a. ANBG Friends participate in a workshop introducing basic biosecurity and surveillance principles coordinated by Plant Health Australia. b. invite Convenors of Guides, Plant Science Group, Growing Friends and Seedy Volunteers to nominate participants	Max Bourke Max Bourke Max Bourke	Peter Heaume Wendy Antoniak	Passed Passed
4.2	Fundraising	Notes of Fundraising work group meeting of Max Bourke, Barbara Podger, and Lesley Jackman was tabled. Neville Page will also be part of this small work group. It will liaise with Sarah Kimble to ensure no overlap with National Parks Trust. It was proposed that about 2000 – 3000 brochures be printed, that highlighted particular project(s). Lesley Jackman offered to draft the brochure. RESOLUTION: that funding up to \$4000 be provided for design and printing of fund-raising brochure	Max Bourke Max Bourke	Linda Beveridge	Passed
5	Reports				
5.1	ANBG Executive Director	In the absence of Judy West, Peter Byron reported for both the Executive Director and General Manager			
5.2	ANBG General Manager	Developments at the ANBG	Peter Byron		
5.2a	Conservatory.	Max Bourke and Peter Heaume will attend next meeting about Conservatory. Requests for Tender will be published in February 2020. Will not include digital visitor interface for conservatory.			Noted
5.2b	National Seed Bank	Tender for architect will be called in late January 2020			Noted
5.2c	Banksia Garden	On track, and report circulated.			Noted
5.2d	50 th Anniversary of	Launch planned for 19 January 2020. Councillors encouraged to come.			Noted

	the ANBG 2020				
5.2e	Video Wall	<p>Will be installed in January. It will be in two sections because of the width. ANBG staff will manage the content which is generally in video and PowerPoint formats. Suggestion for it to 'live stream' Thursday Talks on days when there are overflow audiences, but it was suggested that it may be better to live stream those talks into Dickson Room.</p> <p>Draft "Pollinators" video was shown and comments sought. Send them to Peter. Also, suggestions for additional topics were requested, e.g. projects, guides themed walks, botanic art. Program for Video Wall could be developed by staff and/or volunteers.</p>			Noted
5.2f	Government Structural changes	<p>The Prime Minister announced changes to government structure on 5 December, and they are being implemented and expect to be completed in February 2020. New Department of Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources, will include Parks Australia. Secretary to the Department is Mr David Fredericks (formerly Secretary to Department of Environment and Energy). James Findlay continues as Director of National Parks.</p>			Noted
5.2g	Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer of funds of \$0.5million for work on Banks Building has been received. • Heating in the glass houses and conservation areas is being upgraded. • "Tasmanian bridge" in the rainforest gully is being rebuilt • Living collection: Extra money has been provided for tree surgery. • Lake Burley Griffin water level has dropped and there will be 10% reduction in water allowance for ANBG. Nevertheless, will ensure that rainforest will have sufficient. • Anticipating more Total Fire Bans in January. • As part of the Department's IT update, Wi-Fi will be rolled out to all ANBG buildings in February. Guest code will be involved. 			Noted
5.3	ANBG Friends Liaison	<p>Megan's report included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several launches being organised, e.g. Launch of 50th Anniversary, official opening of Banksia Garden. Department's communication area looking after filming and media records of Anniversary activities. • Visitor numbers for the month: 44,007 visitors to gardens, 692 less than for same month last year, probably due to closures of gardens 	Megan Menz		Noted

		<p>because of hazardous conditions. Visitor Centre had 8,665, and Education had 8498, an increase of 635.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave being managed over Christmas period; Gardens open every day except Christmas Day. • Summer Sounds: will be on website soon. Sponsors' agreements and licences have been done. Friends only contract for sponsor is with ICON. ACT Government has provided a Grant of \$10,000. • Megan will send to Max the information, and other relevant information as it arrives. <p>Max also mentioned that he has invited Gordon Ramsay, MLA (Minister for Arts and Community Events), James Findlay, and David Fredericks to be at Summer Sounds on 1 February 2020.</p>			
5.4	President	Report was included in meeting papers on Google shared drive. Some members could not access it. Will be remedied.	Max Bourke		Noted
5.5	Treasurer	<p>Financial statements were circulated. Helen mentioned that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New members and renewals was much higher than monthly average. • Sales from Photographic Group's Exhibition, including those bought by the Friends for the ANBG, was about \$5,300. As a result of the exhibition the Friends received income of \$1,495 and the Treasurer thanked the Photographic Group for another successful event. • There will be a Friends preview of the Botanic Art Group's exhibition. Purchasers at this exhibition will be able to take the item at the time or before exhibition closes, because some purchases may be for Christmas presents. • Cheque for Summer Sounds float of \$1650 (i.e. 10 bags at \$165) is being arranged. • Term Deposit #0094, currently \$294,965, will mature before next Council meeting, and should be reinvested. <p>RESOLUTION: that Term Deposit #0094 be renewed for 3 months.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: that Treasurer's report be accepted</p>	<p>Helen Elliot</p> <p>Helen Elliot</p>	<p>Peter Heaume</p> <p>Linda Beveridge</p>	<p>Passed</p> <p>Passed</p>

5.6	IT Report including Administrative Database Evaluation Working Group	<p><u>New system:</u> Progress moving positively. Trial starting early in the new year. Will obtain information about other Australian users, with a view to arranging reference sites. Company is American, but Principal is Dan Ehrman, who is Australian and understands Australian context. Dan’s presentation about the system was good. However, the system is not set up for direct transfers because that is not needed in USA. Dan recognised that such a facility would be relevant for other Australian customers, too. He is coming to Australia in first few months of 2020, and is happy to meet with the group, if there is benefit for us.</p> <p>The Group will take a phased approach; core membership function, building on for fundraising, volunteers, and other.</p> <p>Website address will be the same, because people can already donate online. There will be ports of old site with links to new site. They will run side by side.</p> <p><u>Current system:</u> Access for Volunteer Recruitment for Summer Sounds has been re-opened. About 1/3 of positions filled; we need more.</p>	David More		Noted.
5.7	Public Fund	No report at this meeting	Barbara Podger		
5.8	Volunteer Guides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All new Guides, except one, have completed training. • Guides have received invitation to conference for botanic gardens’ friends and volunteers, 3 to 6 June 2020, at Edinburgh Botanic Gardens, Scotland, as part of its 350th Anniversary. Some guides interested. A poster about ANBG and Guides would be appropriate, and would require design and production. Lesley will bring proposal to next meeting, possibly including that Council pay conference a registration fee for Guide. • Engage the Public Work Group has drafted recommendations for Guides meeting and ANBG consideration. A more detailed report will be provided at the February meeting of Council. 	Lesley King		Noted
5.9	Major Events Work Group	Poster and other material about 50 th Anniversary were tabled. Entry fee for Summer Sounds will be less than last year. Entry fee can be paid online; or at the entry gate upon arrival.	Megan Menz		
5.10	30 th Anniversary Sub-committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A leaflet about a range of activities for Friends during 30th Anniversary has been distributed with the December issue of <i>Fronds</i>. • Sundial event confirmed for 3 April; 1:30pm at ANBG and 4:30pm at 	Peter Heaume		

		<p>Stromlo. Will be limited to about 80 people. Fee is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. Costs will be shared by Friends ANBG and Garden History Society.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Bubbles and Banksia"; a special viewing for Friends of the Banksia Garden will be late afternoon 28 April 2020. Program at draft stage. • Ceramic vases will be a 30th Anniversary collectible memento. Small and large sizes will be available. Aim is to produce 50 of each size. Research, design and sample work has been done by the ceramicist, and work will start on first 20 to be delivered. Cost has been negotiated favourably for Friends ANBG, but is greater than initially estimated for first phase. Treasurer is comfortable with amending the amount required. 			
		<p>RESOLUTION: That funds for the vases project be amended to be up to \$2,000 for first 20 vases.</p>	Peter Heaume	Linda Beveridge	Passed
5.11	Project Committee	<p>A summary of projects being funded by the Friends Public Fund and the Friends Council was provided. A proposal between ANBG and ANU for Science Communicator is being considered and will be brought back to Council in February. Plans to update the information on the web about Friends support for projects, will also update the financial aspects of projects.</p>	David Coutts		Noted
5.12	Photographic Group	<p>A revised proposal for the Photographic Groups "<i>Reflections</i>" exhibition for 30th Anniversary year was circulated, which included exhibition being open to all Friends ANBG members and revised prize categories to accommodate range of participants from highly talented to novice. The total prize money would be \$3,000. Exhibition prizes will be as described for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant Portrait Wildlife Banksia Rare, Threatened or Endangered Plants. <p>Prize Awards: \$400 first prize and a second prize of \$200 in each of the four categories.</p> <p>Other Awards will be as described for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> President of Friends ANBG Award: \$200 Rangers' Award: \$200 People's Choice Award: \$200. 	Linda Beveridge		

		RESOLUTION: That revised proposal for the Photographic Group's "Reflections" exhibition be approved.	Linda Beveridge	Wendy Antoniak	Passed
5.13	Fronds Team	No report for this meeting	Barbara Podger		
5.14	Broadcast email	Please send information to Wendy by next Wednesday, 18 December.	Wendy Antoniak		Noted
5.15	Membership Report	The report was circulated. About 50% increase in memberships and renewals last month compared with November 2018. More are expected in the next few weeks because parking permits expire in January. Membership Team will take a break from the afternoon of Tuesday 17 th December until the morning of Tuesday 7 th January. Council was saddened to hear about the death of Denise Newman, one of our Life Members.	Lesley Harland		Noted
5.16	Thursday Talks	During 2019 the total audience of approximately 3,000, with average attendance of 68 for each of the 43 talks this year. Several talks reached 'full house' and people were turned away. About \$4,700 was received by donations. A written report will be provided.	Linda Beveridge		Noted
5.17	Growing Friends	Draft minutes of their last meeting were circulated. Successful Spring Sale raised \$7,942. As Ailsa George had been unable to attend the Volunteers Recognition event, Max Bourke presented a certificate of appreciation for her dedicated voluntary work to Ailsa at that meeting. Plant sales dates in 2020 will be Saturday 28 th March and Saturday 14 th November.	Linda Beveridge		Noted
6	Other Business	Weeding Work parties by Friends of the ANBG and Friends of Black Mountain are planned for 4 January and 1 February 2020.			
7	Next meeting	In closing this meeting, Max wished everyone a happy Christmas and New Year break and all the best for the coming year. The next meeting: 2pm, Thursday 13th February 2020. Venue will be confirmed closer to the date.			