

Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens Council Meeting Minutes 2pm 11 May 2023 Celia Rosser Room				
Item	Topic	Information	Moved: Seconded:	Noted / Passed
1	Approval of Agenda, Attendance & Apologies			
1.1	Agenda	Neville Page opened the meeting at 2pm and welcomed attendees. He also welcomed the new Council Members Marg Nicholls and Sue Serjeantson. Congratulation were extended to Helen McHugh in her new position of Manager Visitor Experience		Noted
1.2	Attendance	Present <u>Council:</u> Neville Page (President, Chair), Linda Beveridge (Vice President), Anne Holmes (Treasurer), Marg Nicholls (Secretary), Christianna Cobbold, Alan Henderson, Masumi Robertson, Sue Serjeantson. <u>Ex-officio:</u> Anthony Whalen (ANBG Acting Executive Director), Peter Byron (ANBG General Manager), Helen McHugh (ANBG Friends Liaison Officer) <u>Invited:</u> Beth Tyerman IT Group representative, Barbara Podger Fronds representative <u>Apologies:</u> Kerry Moir		Noted
2	Minutes of Previous Meeting			
2.1		RESOLUTION: That the minutes of the Council meeting of 13 April 2023, as amended, be accepted.	M: L Beveridge S: C Cobbold	Passed

3	Matters arising from previous minutes			
		<p>Report from Linda on Aust Botanic interest of Friends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions and options being looked at for the paper to come to Council. • Anthony suggested Brendan Lepschi to talk about techniques and fundamentals of plant identification <p>Report from Linda on Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAFBG AGM 5th May 2023 – Linda Beveridge elected as President • 30th anniversary of the group; presented awards for Handbury Awards. • A fuller report is being placed on Council’s shared Google drive in relation to today’s meeting 		Noted
4	General Business			
4.1		<p>Appointment of Marg Nicholls as Council Secretary</p> <p>RESOLUTION: That out-of-session resolution 23 April 2023 be noted:</p> <p>That Marg Nicholls be appointed to the position of Council Secretary of the Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens, such appointment to be valid until the date of the 2023 Annual General Meeting, expected to be in October 2023.</p>	M: N Page S: M Robertson	Noted
4.2		<p>Appointment of Sue Serjeantson AO as Council Member</p> <p>RESOLUTION: That out-of-session resolution 22 April 2023 be noted:</p>	M: N Page	Noted

		That Sue Serjeantson AO be appointed to the position of Council Member of the Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens, such appointment to be valid until the date of the 2023 Annual General Meeting, expected to be in October 2023.	S: L Beveridge	
4.3	Review of Friends Manual A and Friends Manual B	Manuals A and B overdue for review since 2019 RESOLUTION: That the Secretary prepare a project plan for the review of Manual A (Policies) and Manual B (Procedures) for endorsement by Council.	M: C Cobbold S: L Beveridge	Passed
4.4	Revision of Friends email communications	Council@friendsanbg.org.au This email address can be used when material needs to be sent to voting members of Council only.		Noted
4.5	MegaFauna 2023 project – progress report	Neville discussed the background. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will take place in July 2023. Megan Donaldson will continue to manage the project. • Friends made funding application to ACT Govt Events. Friends received \$20,000. \$500 of which is committed to a speaker. 		Noted
5	Reports			
5.1	Acting Exec Director Anthony Whalen	Discussion about leadership and budget in relation to gardens. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive director to be advertised shortly with a merit based process. Expect filling of the role by the end of 2023. • Recruiting for an officer on 2- year contract for partnerships of the philanthropic trust. 		Noted

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget: \$260 million for National Parks Australia projects. New funding for ANBG is largely operation. Ongoing funding for Ian Potter Conservatory and Seed Bank. • Additional staff for horticulture, Seed Bank, and some contracts will become permanent salaried positions, e.g. in informatics, seed bank. 		
5.2	ANBG General Manager - Peter Byron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholarship program - guidelines were agreed. They will be put into Council shared drive. Promulgation by ANBG, and will be placed on Friends ANBG website. • Pollen café has new menu. The Friends Lawn enhanced value of lease. • Contractor started for extension of the Bushfire sprinkler system • Tree surgery about to happen in Brittle Gum Lawn, and Eucalypt Lawn. • Major ACTEW water main has sprung a leak opposite conservatory • Peter will send revised design and costing for the VC foyer display to Alan for the Project Committee consideration. <p>RESOLUTION: That the ANBG Scholarship Guidelines as circulated by the General Manager be adopted.</p>	M: A Henderson S: C Cobbold	Noted Passed
5.3	ANBG Friends Liaison Officer – Helen McHugh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good strong visitation numbers tracking slightly ahead of same month last year • Good education numbers – expecting over 3000 students in August 2023. More education staff will be recruited to meet demand • New rangers starting • Botanic Garden day is 28 May, but activities throughout the 		Noted

		<p>month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-guided trail picking out inspirational plants • Thanks to Friends for support for Mega Fauna new design Diprotodon - lots of media out • ANBG Website is being migrated over next couple of months to improve functionality • Greater publicity for schools to visit ANBG • 2 to 3 page report on plant science education hub to come to June 2023 meeting 		
5.4	President's Report – Neville Page	<p>Presidents Report on Google Drive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreshadowing issue to next Council meeting requiring certain tasks to be undertaken – setting of subscription for next year. • In June 2022 year a report was presented on proposed changes to membership arrangement. The report suggested that the membership fees go up. • The President and Treasurer will present a report on membership to the June 2023 meeting. 		Noted
5.5	Treasurer's Report - Anne Holmes	<p>Treasurers Financial Report for March 2023 on Google Drive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasurer discussed the Donations Policy • Income and Balance Sheet located on the Google Drive <p>RESOLUTION: That the Friends Council Term Deposit #72 902 3119 for \$131,676.25 (plus accrued interest \$649.37) plus an additional amount of \$5,000 (debited from the Operating account BSB: 082 902 Account 176544896) be reinvested for a new of three (3) months =.</p>	M: A Holmes S. L Beveridge	Noted

		<p>RESOLUTION: That the Public Fund Term Deposit #88 034 0395 for \$113,013.63 (plus accrued interest \$557.33) plus an additional amount of \$5,500 (debited from the Public Fund account BSB: 082 902 Account: 55 578 7847) be reinvested for a new term of 3 months.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted</p>	<p>M: A Holmes S: N page</p> <p>M: A Holmes S. L Beveridge</p>	<p>Passed (by Public Fund Management Committee members only)</p> <p>Passed</p>
5.6	Project Committee - Alan Henderson	Plans to bring forward a proposal for the foyer exhibition. Maximum budget is up to \$100,000. Funds are available to accept design for foyer in the visitor centre. Any overflow will be managed by ANBG.		Noted
5.7	Public Fund	<p>RESOLUTION: That the resignation of Louise Maher 5 April 2023 as a Public Fund Management Committee Member be accepted.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: That Sue Serjeantson be appointed a Public Fund Management Committee Member.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: That the Don Beer Memorial Fund be renamed the Don Beer Memorial Scholarship.</p>	<p>Moved: N Page Seconded: C Cobbold</p> <p>M: N Page S: A Henderson</p> <p>M: N Page S: A Henderson</p>	<p>Passed</p> <p>Passed</p> <p>Passed</p>
5.8	IT strategy – Christianna Cobbold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christianna gave a presentation on the Style Manual Web development is ongoing 		Noted

		Council thanked Christianna for the work that she has done in developing the Style Manual and the work of redeveloping the Web		
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6	Friends Groups			
6.1	Photographic Group (Steven Playford)	Neville provided some information	N Page	
6.2	Botanic Art Group (Wendy Antoniak)	Exhibition is successful. Linda will arrange presentation of purchased artwork to ANBG.	N Page	
6.3	Flowers, Fruit and Foliage (Ben Walcott)	Nothing reported		
6.4	Growing Friends (Maurice Hermann)	It was discovered that the Wollemi pines sold to the Friends were not in fact Wollemi pines. No refunds requested from Friends Treasurer	N Page	
6.5	Plant Science Group) (John Busby)	Continue to have meetings	L Beveridge	
6.6	Thursday Talks (Linda Beveridge)	Continue to have meetings	L Beveridge	
6.7	Social Events and Activities Christianna Cobbold)	Had "Fungi Walk" Saturday 6 th May 2023 "with 9 people in attendance. Small charge of \$5 each.	C Cobbold	
6.8	Nature Journaling (Lesley Page)	On 1 st May 2023. 10 people in attendance.	N Page	
6.9	Membership (Lesley Harland)	Current membership is 2024 with approximately 2794 members. Less (approx. 2%) than this time last year, but income from membership is greater (approx. 5%).	L Harland	
6.10	Volunteer Guides	No report by Kerry Moir to this 11 May 2023 meeting. A report will be presented to the 8 June 2023 FANBG Council meeting.		

		Guides did themed walk for Tree Week. Extra guides were needed for the weekends.	C Cobbold	
6.11	Communications – Barbara Podger	Communications <i>Fronds</i> – August issue of <i>Fronds</i> is underway. Articles required by 19 th June 2023. Timing is important to get new articles and to advise <i>Fronds</i> in a timely manner. Will publish next issue using new Style Guide.	B Podger	
	Neville Page	Broadcast email to be done during week commencing 15 May 2023. Information required by 16 th May 2023 Brochure for the Don Beer Scholarship will be drafted and update of the Public Fund brochure will be coordinated by Neville.	N Page	
7	Other Business	Nil		
8	Next Meeting			
8.1		8 June 2023	N Page	Noted

