

Meeting of Council
14 November 2019
Dickson Room



Minutes

Item	Topic	Information	Moved	Seconded	Council
1	Approval of Agenda, Attendance and Apologies	<p>1.1 Meeting opened by the Chair at 2pm who welcomed Peter Heaume to the Council. Agenda agreed by following attendees: <u>Council</u>: Max Bourke (President and Chair), Linda Beveridge (Vice President), Helen Elliot (Treasurer), David More, Wendy Antoniak, Peter Heaume and Lynden Ayliffe <u>Ex officio</u>: Judy West, Peter Byron <u>Invited</u>: Megan Menz, David Coutts, Barbara Podger</p> <p>Apologies: Jann Ollerenshaw, Alan Henderson, Lesley Jackman</p> <p>1.2 a. <i>Secretary of the Friends</i> RESOLUTION: That Jann Ollerenshaw's resignation for health reasons be accepted and that Lynden Ayliffe be appointed as Secretary of the Friends of ANBG Council.</p> <p>b. <i>ANBG Staff Representative</i> – position still unfilled. ACTION: Peter Byron to call for nominations again.</p>			Noted
			Max Bourke	Wendy Antoniak	Passed
					Noted
2	Minutes of Council meeting	RESOLUTION: that the minutes of 10 October 2019 Council meeting be approved as tabled.	Linda Beveridge	David More	Passed
3	Business arising from previous Minutes				
3.1	Selection of a New patron	<p>Max Bourke advised that matter ongoing with no response from proposed candidate, despite meeting and formal request. ACTION: members to consider alternatives should current approach fail.</p>			Noted

3.2	History of the ANBG book	Lynden Ayliffe indicated that Don Beer's manuscript was now being edited by the publisher and was due for publication in the first half of 2020. Don's proposed foreword noted several friends' contributions to the work but Council agreed a more general form of words was more appropriate. ACTION: Lynden Ayliffe to refine reference to Friends contributions and follow up with Don re payment.			Noted
4	General Business				
4.1	ANBG Development matters:	<p>a. <i>Conservatory</i> – Peter Byron advised that a workshop with the engineers had been held and specifications are now being finalised. He tabled concept drawings and indicated that rain/fog events within the building were being programmed. A soundscape was also being considered. Tender process is expected to start in March with construction to start in May. Fencing footprint during construction not expected to exceed current fencing.</p> <p>b. <i>Seed Bank</i> – Peter Byron advised that tender documents are being finalised and should be out by end January 2020.</p> <p>c. <i>Banksia Garden</i> – report noted and Peter Bryon indicated that the sandstone walls are almost finished and lighting is underway. 28 April opening date. Banks impersonator Michael Connor was suggested for the opening. There was also a question about the music being commissioned for the opening and whether it could be used by Friends and at what cost.</p> <p>ACTION: Max Bourke to follow up Michael Connor, the Banks Impersonator. Barbara Podger to speak to Megan Donaldson about the commissioned music.</p> <p>d. <i>50th Anniversary</i> –A program of events was tabled and will be launched with Genevieve Jacobs on 16 January. Megafauna models are being purchased by the ANBG to replace the dinosaurs usually on display for 3 weeks in July.</p>			Noted
4.2	Administrative Database Evaluation Working Group	David More reported that there had been a working group teleconference with a potential provider, Club Express, with an online demonstration. While the company is based in Illinois, a representative will be in Melbourne in January and available for discussions. The "free trial" of 60 days will be set up and go ahead out of session.			Noted
4.3	Bees, Birds and Butterflies	<p>A suggested partnership for a Listening and Learning Workshop on 22 February 2020. Landcare ACT has asked ANBG Friends to absorb venue hire costs, publicise the event through usual media channels and contribute to a press statement including our logo. While agreeable to the partnership, Council noted that Landcare ACT had already booked the Banks Building but it was agreed that the Friends of the ANBG would reimburse the booking fee.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: That ANBG Friends Council partner with Landcare ACT on the initiative on the condition that Friends be given a 10% discount. In return the Council will reimburse the booking fee and participate in publicity.</p>	Max Bourke	Linda Beveridge	Passed

		ACTION: Max Bourke to reply to Landcare ACT.			
4.4	Photographic Group	<p>Council noted that there was now a new Committee with Rhonda Daniell elected as Convenor.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: that the newly elected Convenor of the Photographic Group be endorsed.</p> <p>ACTION: Linda Beveridge to advise Photographic Group.</p> <p>Council noted the Group's upcoming exhibition and its usual commitment to purchase prints for the Gardens.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: Up to \$350 be allocated to the purchase of photographic prints from the exhibition for gifting to ANBG.</p> <p>ACTION: Lynden Ayliffe to organise.</p> <p>Lynden Ayliffe congratulated the Photographic Group on the Schools' Photographic Competition, highlighting the feedback given by the Group to contestants.</p>	Linda Beveridge	Lynden Ayliffe	Passed
			Helen Elliot	Wendy Antoniak	Passed
					Noted
4.5	Video Wall	<p>Proposal circulated out of session and agreed by majority of Council members.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: That Council confirm the purchase of the video wall as outlined in the proposal, being an increase of \$2,142.38 to \$42,142.58.</p> <p>It was noted that the Pollinator film, a separate item, will be ready mid-late January 2020</p>	Helen Elliot	Linda Beveridge	Passed
4.6	Volunteer Worker Recognition	Linda Beveridge indicated that the awards ceremony held yesterday was a success and circulated a list of those recognised. Council thanked Linda for her efforts in organising the event with the Gardens. There was some acknowledgement that having 2 different sets of awards (ANBG and ANBG Friends) was not fully understood by volunteers.			Noted
4.7	Summer Sounds	<p>Two sponsors have been found – ICON Water and the ACT Government. Grant agreement with the ACT Government needs to be finalised but an invoice has already been sent to ICON Water. The Friends are also providing \$12,500. A promotional leaflet was tabled outlining the bands participating in the 3-week program. There will be activities for children and an Aussie BBQ provided by the Lions Club. Media support will be provided by Parks Australia. A call for Friend volunteers will be made shortly. Max Bourke sought and gained agreement from ANBG and Council to invite the relevant ACT Minister.</p> <p>ACTION: Max Bourke to invite ACT Government Minister to the Summer Concerts</p>			Noted
5	Reports				
5.1.	ANBG Executive Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judy West advised that a new Director of National Parks had been appointed – Dr James Findlay who is interested in "knowledge" and has asked for a tour of 			Noted

		<p>the Gardens. It was also suggested that he be invited to the Summer Concerts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APS Employee Census earlier this year found a positive response from staff at the Branch level and the results will be discussed with staff next week. • Judy to give a talk to the ACT National Parks Association on 21 November at 8pm about the activities of Parks Australia. • Launch of the National Parks Conservation Trust will be made on 27 November 2019 			
5.2	ANBG General Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital works funding to reconfigure the café lawn has been allocated and landscape architects have been asked to consider ways of minimising costs while other works on the conservatory are underway. • A meeting will be held next week to discuss new road access to the ANU with lights and a pedestrian crossing opposite the ANBG entrance. A question was raised about the need for another set of traffic lights and whether there was another solution to aid traffic flow. An ACT Emergency Services fire station will also be developed further down the road towards the corner with Parkes Way. 			Noted
5.3	ANBG Friends' Liaison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Megan Menz tabled a report tabled <i>Staff Awareness 13 November 2019</i> outlining visitors numbers (including education visits) and experiences (sunset cinemas, workshops, plant sale, exhibitions and 50th birthday celebrations). • She noted that as a result of the new ANBG Education strategy, project proposals would be forwarded to David Coutts for consideration by the Projects Committee. 			Noted
5.4	President's report	Max elaborated on his written report that included a report on BGANZ conference and approaches to potential donors. Max indicated that the Plant Health Australia Biosecurity project is likely to brief the FANBG and engage citizen science volunteers next year.			Noted
5.5	Treasurer's Report	<p>Membership renewals now falling off. Growing Friends raised \$7,942 with November sales the highest since 2012 particularly with younger people. Wake up with the Birds raised a similar amount to last year and Helen thanked Guide Andy Rawlinson for his efforts in organising this event with so many volunteers away at the Guides Perth conference. Costs for the Schools Photographic Competition were not as high as expected given not all prize money was awarded. NI Scholarship allowance of \$24,545.45 has been paid and the Art Group's suggestions for spending its donation are likely to be made in the new year.</p> <p>Term deposits maturing on 22 November valued at \$101,825. RESOLUTION: That the maturing term deposit be rolled over for 3 months ACTION: Treasurer to initiate</p> <p>Two confirmed Executive Members are to be signatories on the bank accounts:</p>	Helen Elliot	Linda Beveridge	Passed

		<p>Linda Beveridge who was elected Vice President at the 17 October AGM and current Council member, Lynden Ayliffe who was appointed Secretary in the wake of Jann Ollerenshaw resigning from Council. Jann to be removed as signatory.</p> <p>Financial projections were noted. RESOLUTION: that the Treasurer's Report be accepted.</p>	Helen Elliot	Linda Beveridge	Passed
5.6	IT Report	Covered in Item 4.2			
5.7	Public Fund	<p>Barbara Podger brought forward a proposal for an ongoing scholarship program indicating it would attract more prestige than the current ad hoc approach. As indicated in her paper, the cost would be shared between the PF and ANBG Friends and more in line with others offered on ANU website. The Public Fund is prepared to cover every third year on the proviso that ANBG Friends fund years 1 and 2. This proposal would start once the current scholarship on Norfolk Island is completed. Judy West has agreed to supervise the ongoing program.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: That Friends support an annual scholarship program of \$7,500 p.a. where Friends fund years 1 and 2, and the Public Fund fund year 3.</p>	Helen Elliot	Linda Beveridge	Passed
5.8	Guides	No report			
5.9	Major Events Working Group	<p>Terms of Reference for this Group were provided by the ANBG and require updating annually.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: That the terms of Reference be supported.</p>	Helen Elliot	Wendy Antoniak	Passed
5.10	Social Events and Activities	See Item 4.7 re Summer Sounds.			
5.11	30 th Anniversary Subcommittee	<p>Barbara Podger reported that the Subcommittee had met this morning and agreed a number of events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banksia festival – Friends will hold a “bubbles and banksia” event on the opening night with music hopefully featuring the ANBG commissioned work. It will be a ticketed event with some invited guests eg Kevin Collins, a key adviser on the Banksia Garden. • The AGM will be held on our actual birthday (14 October) after a party with cake and champagne. Costs being developed. • Planning well underway for a 3 April 2020 sundial event with the Australian Garden History Society. Two sundials to be visited – one in the ANBG and one at Mount Stromlo. • Calendar of events will be inserted in the December issue of Fronds. • RESOLUTION: that Council fund the costs of printing and insertion up to \$1,200. 	Lynden Ayliffe	Linda Beveridge	Passed

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The subcommittee proposal for a limited edition vase to celebrate our 30th anniversary is progressing and two samples were presented to Council. These were discussed and it was suggested that 50 small and 50 large be commissioned from the artist for sale to members and interested parties. RESOLUTION: that Council release \$2,500 for the first run of 50 vases. 	Lynden Ayliffe	Wendy Antoniak	Passed
5.12	SOS/ARC linkage grant report	Council considered John Fitzgerald's report on the progress of the research project on the thermal tolerance of plants.			Noted
5.13	Projects Committee	Report noted and the Conservatory interpretation funding discussed. Peter Byron confirmed that Friends' funding was not anticipated before Dec 2021. RESOLUTION: That Council endorse funding of \$150,000 to the Conservatory interpretation project due about December 2021	Helen Elliot	David More	Passed
5.14	Fronds Committee	Next edition has gone to the printer and will have two bookmarks inserted - one for the wildlife exhibition (tabled) and one for the photographic exhibition. A Friends 30 th anniversary celebration program will also be inserted.			Noted
5.15	Broadcast Email	Wendy Antoniak called for contributions by Wednesday next week- 20 November. Email will include call for volunteers for Summer concerts.			Noted
5.16	Membership	Report noted.			Noted
6	Other Business				
6.1	Council membership	Council discussed the vacancy now left on Council with Jann Ollerenshaw's resignation and proposed that Neville Page be approached. Neville is a recent Treasurer of the Australian Plant Society and experienced in financial matters. ACTION: Max Bourke to approach Neville Page.			Noted
6.2	Badges	David Coutts asked if any members needed new badges to contact him.			Noted
6.3	Director National Parks	Council discussed inviting the new Director of National Parks, James Finlay, to a future Council meeting. ACTION: Max Bourke to organise.			Noted
7	Next Meeting	2pm, Thursday, 12 December 2019, Dickson Room			