

Council Meeting 8 October 2020 ANBG Theatrette					
Minutes					
Item	Topic	Information	Moved	Seconded	Council
1	Approval of Agenda, Attendance and Apologies				
1.1	Agenda	RESOLUTION: that the Agenda be adopted.	Max Bourke	David More	Adopted
1.2	Attendance and Apologies	Present <u>Council:</u> Max Bourke (President, Chair), Linda Beveridge (Vice President), Helen Elliot (Treasurer), Alan Henderson, David More Neville Page, Wendy Antoniak. <u>Ex officio:</u> Lesley Jackman, Peter Byron, Megan Menz <u>Invited:</u> Barbara Podger, Lesley King. <u>Apologies:</u> Lynden Ayliffe, Judy West, Tricia Morton			Noted
2	Minutes of Previous Meeting	RESOLUTION: that the minutes of the Council meeting of 10 September 2020 be approved	Linda Beveridge	Wendy Antoniak	Passed
3	Matters arising from previous minutes	None were raised.			
4	General Business				
4.1	AGM Arrangements	Council agreed that the AGM be held at the Lecture Theatre of Shine Dome, Acton at 3:30pm Thursday 15 October 2020. The cost has been discounted for us at \$220 per hour, including a microphone. Car park boom gate will be open for us at 3:15pm. Entrance to Shine Dome via carpark stairs because of hoarding for repair and maintenance to roof. Assistance will be provided to people with mobility issues. Shine Dome management requested that acknowledgement to	Lynden Ayliffe	Linda Beveridge	Agreed

		<p>country be included in the agenda. It has been agreed that there will be no PowerPoint presentations. The art work selected from the Botanic Art Exhibition for the ANBG Collection will be presented to Judy West at the meeting. The painting is <i>Banksia solandri</i> by Sue Grieves.</p> <p>Council agreed to publish a reminder notice in the broadcast email</p>			
4.2	Life Membership	Four nominees for Life Membership have been agreed by Council out of session. They will be presented with their respective certificates of Life Membership at the AGM.			Noted
4.3	Volunteer Recognition	Nine nominations for volunteer recognition have been received from Friends ANBG special interest groups by the due date. Certificates will be presented at the ANBG and Friends ANBG shared Volunteer Recognition event in November (date to be confirmed).			Noted
5	Reports				
5.1 & 5.2	ANBG Executive Director, and ANBG General Manager	<p>Peter Byron reported for both Executive Director and General Manager:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Minister for Environment, Hon Sussan Ley MP, will officially open the Banksia Garden, at 8:30am Wednesday 21 October 2020. • Negotiations are underway with builder for the Conservatory. • Architects for the Seed Bank are active. • Audit of ANBG Management Plan is underway. Report is expected by the end of the year and will be made available. Stakeholder forums are expected to start in late January or February 2021. • Staff changes include Tamarin Marek has gone to Defence; Sarah Kimball has moved to Melbourne to be with family. No news yet on new Director, National Parks. 			Noted

5.3	ANBG Friends Liaison	<p>Megan Menz reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor numbers generally are good given COVID-19 impact. Number of visitors September (approx. 40,000) were slightly less than September last year (down approx. 5%pcp). • October long weekend was massively busy, with lots of visitors from NSW. • Exhibitions include Botanic Art until 25 October, and the Schools Photographic Competition Exhibition showcasing retrospective works of creativity and photographic skills is next, followed by <i>Reflections</i> Friends Photographic Group exhibition. • ACT Woodcraft Guild annual exhibition 2-5 October was very popular. • Wedding bookings are starting up again. • Tentative dates for <i>Sunset Cinema</i> are December 2020 to February 2021. Awaiting a grant from ACT government. • Current maximum number of participants in open areas is 200 people. • Summer Sounds sponsorship by ICON has been registered for 3 years. Concerns were expressed about such an event in COVID-19 context, with fewer active volunteers. It was requested that Megan make arrangements for deferral of Summer Sounds for 12 months. 			Noted
5.4	President	<p>Max Bourke gave oral report about dealing with emails and phone calls. He has done the President's Report for the AGM.</p>			Noted
5.5	Treasurer	<p>Financial statements for September, and signed Audited Financial Statements for Friends and Public Fund shared on Google drive before the meeting were noted. Helen also reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audited Financial Statements and will be printed for the AGM • The income from the Botanic Art exhibition so far is approximately \$12,000. • Growing Friends sale to staff and Friends ANBG raised \$2,222. • Their next Sales day open to the public may be 14 November with COVID-19 Safe plan. (Since cancelled.) 			

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Term deposit #3119 matures on 12 November. Interest rates for rollover are low at 0.6%. <p>RESOLUTIONS: that</p> <p>a. That the Term Deposit maturing on 12 November be rolled over, including principal and interest.</p> <p>b. That the Treasurer’s Report be accepted.</p>	Helen Elliot	Wendy Antoniak	Passed
			Helen Elliot	David More	Passed
5.6	IT Report including Administrative Database Evaluation Working Group	Report shared on Google drive was noted and David More indicated that the team was now evaluating the system used by the Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne (RBGM). It’s provided by TidyHQ. Conversations with users at the RBGM have been positive. At this stage it appears that Friends may need to review the current 14 membership categories in order to reduce the number of categories.			Noted
5.7	Project Committee	Report shared on Google drive prior to meeting was discussed; particularly the major project for Redevelopment of the East Core Precinct landscape (\$500,000), and the request for Education Students Microscopes and Digital Microscopes. Several pros and cons were made about the major landscape project, including that it required more than forecasted funds would be available. It would need a well-designed fund-raising strategy and program for the current times. It was agreed that decision on this project would be deferred to the incoming Council. Max will work on strategy and program for fund-raising. RESOLUTION: that Council commit up to \$10,000 for 21 student microscopes and one digital presenter microscope for use in Banksia Centre education programs.	Alan Henderson	Linda Beveridge	Passed
5.8	Public Fund (PF)	Next Public Fund meeting is planned for 23 rd November			Noted
5.9	Friends reports	a. Photographic Group - no report			
		b. Botanic Art Group - Exhibition and sales going very well.			Noted

		<p>The early sale of more than 30 art works was a pleasant surprise.</p> <p>The Art Groups sessions at the Banksia Centre re-started today. Banksia Centre is very good.</p> <p>The art work purchased by Friends for the ANBG collection will be displayed in the Banksia Centre.</p>			
		<p>c. Plant Science Group – no report</p> <p>d. Growing Friends – no report, other than report by Treasurer about funds raised by recent sales to staff and Friends.</p>			
		<p>e. Thursday Talks: the team will meet the week after next. Will advertise in Friends e-broadcast for someone with technical ability to assist with the Thursday Talks going online.</p> <p>This facility for talks would be of benefit to both Thursday Talks and the Plant Science Group.</p>			Noted
		<p>f. Social Events including 30th Anniversary celebrations. Banksia and Bubbles event will be held 4:30 to 6:30pm Wednesday 18 November 2020. An outdoor event on Crosbie Morrison Lawn.</p> <p>If rain it will be cancelled.</p> <p>Invitations will be sent to all Friends, especially to foundation members, who joined in 1990 and are still members, and Life Members; unlikely that all 60 will attend. Crosbie Morrison Lawn has capacity for 200 guests. Unlikely that there will be that many acceptances from Friends; usually about 80 to 100.</p> <p>Event will comply with COVID-19 requirements.</p> <p>Catering will be pre-packaged on plate and wine will be served.</p> <p>Cost will be \$35 per person.</p> <p>A photograph of foundation members and Life Members will be arranged.</p> <p>Certificates of appreciation will be given to all foundation members.</p>			

		<p>RESOLUTIONS:</p> <p>a. That Council subsidise the cost of the Banksias & Bubbles event by \$1000 to cover the tickets for our special guests (3 Gardens staff): costs such as printing and displaying photos; and the purchase of birthday cake/s.</p> <p>b. That Council to agree to underwrite this event in case we need to cancel and provide refunds (maximum \$3,508.00).</p>	Linda Beveridge	Neville Page	Passed
			Linda Beveridge	Neville Page	Passed
		<p>g. Membership report on Google drive showing 46 new members in September. Membership team were thanked for doing the renewal mail-out, as the usual working-bee not easy with COVID-19 issues, such as being unable to access some rooms and limit on numbers in others. Max will write to them.</p> <p>h. New members Meet and Greet – Linda Beveridge indicated that event has been deferred to March.</p>			Noted
5.10	Volunteer Guides	<p>a. A number of Guides have been involved in the <i>Wow Banksia Walks</i> developed for the new Banksia Garden.</p> <p>b. Zoom meetings still being used. Zoom meetings also being used for Professional Development sessions.</p> <p>c. The 2021 national conference for Volunteer Guides in Botanic Gardens will be held in Melbourne in September or October. A survey has been sent to stakeholders and interest groups to ascertain degree of support for virtual or mix of virtual and site conference.</p> <p>d. 2pm walks have been approved, however, insufficient active guides for them at the moment.</p> <p>e. Given the level of interest in guided walks on weekends and the problems with refusing people, approval for back-up guides is needed to cater for the greater number of visitors.</p>			Noted
5.11	Communications	<p><i>FronDS</i> – Barbara indicated that deadline for next issue is 24 October.</p> <p>Broadcast email – will include information for AGM. Other copy</p>			Noted

		needed asap			Noted
6	Other Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Wattle Day Association wrote seeking Friends sponsorship for use of meeting rooms. Max will talk to them about making arrangements with the ANBG. b. Friends of ANBG is a member of the Australian Native Plant Conservation Association. Council was invited to send a delegate to their AGM on 11 November, but no Councillor was available. c. Wendy will be Friends ANBG delegate at the Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens (AAFBG) committee meeting. d. Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens is gradually opening up. Friends ANBG have written to them offering help with their hosting of the AAFBG Conference in 2021. 			Noted Noted Noted
		Meeting closed at 3:50pm			
7	Next Meeting	2pm, Thursday 12 November 2020 (venue to be advised)			Noted