



29th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

31 October 2017 ANBG Theatre

MINUTES

1.0 Opening and Confirmation of Agenda

The meeting was opened by the President, Lesley Jackman, at 5.30 pm. The agenda was confirmed.

2.0 Attendance

Present: Forty-nine members of the Friends signed the attendance sheet

Invited: Steve Speer for ANBG Executive Director (Judy West), Peter Byron (ANBG General Manager)

Apologies:

Friends: Lynden Ayliffe, Linda Beveridge, Pam Cooke, David Young, Fran Johnson, Mike Johnson, Marion Jones, Penny Sharp, Barbara Tyler.

3.0 Minutes of 28th AGM held on 19 October 2016.

No amendments were made to the circulated draft minutes.

RESOLUTION

Moved Christianna Cobbold **Seconded** David More that the Minutes of the 28th AGM of the Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens Inc held on 19 October 2016 be accepted as circulated (Attachment A)

CARRIED

4.0 President's Report

The President's Report for 2016/17 (Attachment B) covered the Friends' activities and future challenges.

RESOLUTION

Moved Glenys Bishop, **Seconded** Max Bourke that the President's Report for 2016-17 tabled at the annual general meeting be accepted.

CARRIED

5.0 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for the year ended 30 June 2017 included the audited financial statements for the Friends and the Friends' Public Fund (Attachment C). The Treasurer noted that the financial statements are now combined. She also noted that voluntary contributions were good and there were ample funds to consider new projects once the Treehouse funding is finalised in the near future. Thanks were recorded to Kim Liston and other supporters.

RESOLUTION

Moved Rita Maclachlan, **Seconded** Christianna Cobbold that the Treasurer's Report, including the financial statements for the Friends and the Friends' Public Fund, for the financial year ended 30 June 2017 be accepted.

CARRIED

6.0 Report by Executive Director

Steve Speer conveyed the apology of the Executive Director, Judy West, who had been unavoidably delayed on her return to Canberra. Steve gave Judy's report on her behalf. The report is at Attachment D.

Key points included

- Increase in visitor numbers and school visits

- Progress on implementation of the Master Plan

- The Bushland Nature Walk on the other side of Black Mountain Drive
- The pending completion of the paperbark treehouse
- Progress on the Ian Potter National conservatory with construction due to commence in late 2018 and open for the anniversary in 2020
- Garden developments, including the Pomaderris garden and a Research and Conservation garden to open in early summer
- Developments at the Australian National Herbarium
- New and expanded collections at the National Seed Bank
- Developments in the Visitor Experience area

7.0 Election of Office Bearers and Council members (for 2 years in each case).

- The election for Vice President, Secretary and two Council members was chaired by the General Manager, Peter Byron
- A nomination was received for each of the positions of Secretary and two Council members. No nomination was received for the Vice President position. Personal profiles for nominees were included in the agenda papers.
- Peter Byron declared the following positions filled:
 - Secretary – Jann Ollerenshaw
 - Council – Linda Beveridge and Wendy Antoniak
- The President indicated that Council would give consideration to filling the Vice President position in the near future.

8.0 Appointment of Auditor for 2017-18

RESOLUTION

Moved Helen Elliot, **Seconded** Christianna Cobbold that the appointment of Mr Jeff Brewer, Partner at MGI/Joyce Dickson, as the auditor for the Friends for 2017-18 be accepted.

CARRIED

9.0 Award of Life Membership

The President awarded life membership of the Friends to John and Maureen Connolly in recognition of their long and dedicated service to the Friends and the ANBG.

David Coutts spoke in support of the award outlining John and Maureen's long involvement with the Friends and the ANBG. He noted in particular that Maureen became a guide in 2005 and has been active ever since, including playing a key role in guide training courses. She has also acted for some years as the Friends liaison person with the ANBG library. John became a member of Council in 2006 and served as Secretary for 4 years. Since leaving Council John has played a key role with the Growing Friends.

10.0 Other business

No additional business was raised.

11.0 Meeting closure

The meeting was closed at 6.30pm. It was followed by a talk by Peter Byron on his visit to BCGIs 6th Global Gardens Conference in Geneva and to Kew Gardens.

Attachments available from the Friends Website: <https://www.friendsanbg.org.au/aboutus>