

25th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

10TH October 2013, ANBG Crosbie Morrison Building

MINUTES

Item 1: Opening and Welcome

The President, David Coutts, opened the meeting at 5.35 pm and welcomed members present, 37 members signed the attendance sheet, attached to these minutes (Appendix A). He thanked Anne Campbell for taking the minutes *in lieu* of the Secretary who was overseas.

Item 2: Apologies

Apologies were received from: Dr Judy West, Executive Director, ANBG; Mr Peter Byron, General Manager, ANBG, Steve Speer, Friends Liaison and 15 members.

Item 3: Confirmation of minutes of 24th Annual General Meeting

Copies of the minutes had been circulated.

Motion: That the minutes of the 24th AGM held on 25th September 2012 be taken as read and accepted.

Proposed: Barbara Scott. Seconded: Dennis Ayliffe. Result: **Carried**

Item 4: President's Report

The President presented his report covering the period from the last AGM, a copy of which is at Appendix B. He noted particularly the outstanding contribution made over a number of years by Barbara Podger, who is retiring from the position of Vice-President.

Motion: That the President's Report for 2012-2013 be accepted.

Proposed: Alan Munns. Seconded: Louise Muir. Result: **Carried.**

Item 5: Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Marion Jones, in presenting her report (Appendix C), tabled the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 30th June 2013 (Appendix C1), noting an operating deficit of \$80,245 and an accumulated surplus of \$271,623. A key item of expenditure was the funding of the Red Centre Garden Art Work. Copies of the audited financial statements were available for members.

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Proposed: David Coutts. Seconded: Warwick Wright. Result: **Carried**

The Treasurer also advised the AGM that the financial statements for the Public Fund had been audited; there had been a net surplus of \$14,747 which contributed to an accumulated surplus of \$66,898.

Item 6: Report from the Executive Director of ANBG

Stephen Speer, Communications & Visitor Services Manager, presented the Report (as a Powerpoint presentation) on behalf of Dr Judy West, Executive Director. Key points are noted at Appendix D.

Item 7: Election of Office Bearers and Council members (for 2 years)

The President advised the AGM that four positions (two executive) and two council, were vacant; the term for these is two years. Nominations received for these positions were:

Vice-President:	Lesley Jackman
Treasurer:	Marion Jones
Councillors:	Dennis Ayliffe Jan Finley

As there was only one nomination for each of the vacant positions, no election was required and the President declared the candidates elected. The President noted that 7 positions would fall vacant next year (including those for President and Secretary) and urged people to consider nominating.

Item 8: Appointment of Auditor.

Motion: That the auditor GLR Accountants be reappointed for the 2013-2014 financial year. Proposed: Marion Jones. Seconded: David Coutts. Result: **Carried.**

Item 9: Award of Life Membership

This was awarded to Alan Munns in recognition of his service to the Friends, with Barbara Podger officiating. Alan joined the Guides in 1999 and has served as a Councillor, Secretary and President of the Friends (8 years) as well as Immediate Past President. He is now involved with the ongoing development and maintenance of the Friends new web site, with the Website team. In accepting the award, Alan said he felt honoured to join the other several recipients.

Item 10: General Business

Visitor Information Centre Volunteers.

Margaret Webber, Friend of ANBG and Volunteer Guide of 11 years, spoke to her paper (Appendix E) about her concerns for the instigation of the use of volunteers, *in lieu* of paid staff, in the Visitor Information Centre, in response to increasing budgetary pressures.

She suggested that individuals express their concern by writing, emailing or phoning the Federal Minister for the Environment (Hon Greg Hunt) as well as Zed Seselja, ACT Liberal Senator and that the Friends' Council do likewise.

The President noted that this had had to be set up quickly and there had been little time for broad consultation; it was planned to review it at the end of the year. He invited members to contact Councillors about this issue and said the Friends Council would be approaching the

Minister and his Parliamentary Secretary, Hon Simon Birmingham who has responsibility for the ANBG.

Item 11: Meeting closure:

The President closed the meeting at 6.55 pm and invited members to stay for a talk on:

“The role of genetics in conservation research – the use of genetics as a tool”

by Dr Linda Broadhurst from the Centre for Australian National Biodiversity Research

Acceptance of Minutes at 26th AGM.

President of Friends of ANBG