

**Meeting of Council
13 February 2020
Crosbie Morrison Building**



Minutes

Item	Topic	Information	Moved	Second	Council
1	Approval of Agenda, Attendance and Apologies				
1.1	Agenda	RESOLUTION: that the Agenda be adopted	Max Bourke	Linda Beveridge	Adopted
1.2	Attendance and Apologies	Present <u>Council:</u> Max Bourke (President, Chair), Linda Beveridge (Vice President), Helen Elliot (Treasurer), Lynden Ayliffe (Secretary), David More, Alan Henderson, Neville Page. <u>Ex officio:</u> Lesley Jackman, Judy West, Peter Byron, Megan Menz. <u>Invited:</u> David Coutts, Barbara Podger, Tricia Morton <u>Apologies:</u> Wendy Antoniak, Peter Heaume, Lesley King			Noted
2	Minutes of Previous Meeting	RESOLUTION: that the minutes of the Council meeting of 12 December 2019 be approved.	Linda Beveridge	David More	Passed
3	Matters arising from previous minutes				
3.1	Selection of new Patron	A thank you letter sent to prospective patron advising Council will now seek another candidate. Council discussed idea of no patron and decided to wait for the "right person". Matter to be discussed again at next meeting.			Noted
3.2	Botanic Gardens Biosecurity Network	Max Bourke will attend 11 March meeting while interest is sought from guides to attend March workshop. Peter Byron to check who from ANBG attending.			Noted
3.3	Fundraising	Lesley Jackman indicated that at this stage a fundraising brochure could only feature one project that has been approved and funded. Public Fund	Lesley Jackman		Noted

		<p>requires proposal on conservatory interpretation and a more modest one for the permanent seed bank proposal.</p> <p>Rather than produce a brochure immediately, the Committee proposes an email from the Public Fund at the end of the financial year. This allows more time for projects to be approved and featured in a brochure to go out with annual membership renewals.</p> <p>Barbara Podger, Public Fund Chair, indicated that \$37,000 has been committed to 3 projects this year. Future projects are a research scholarship with an ANU PhD student and the fitout of the new Seed Bank (20,000).</p> <p>Judy West indicated that there has been discussions with the ANU about a science communications partnership whereby students would work on particular projects eg blue wrens, plants, and seed bank.</p>			
4	General Business				
4.1	Thursday Talks	<p>Council discussed the paper provided by Jan Finley and some questioned the need for multi-media publicity given the auditorium is occasionally filled to capacity. Linda Beveridge indicated that it would be targeted at the Anniversary talks which focus on the scientific work of the ANBG and its partners. The question of live streaming was also discussed and will be considered by ANBG.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: that Council approves a trial of multi-media publicity for Thursday Talks by Friends and ANBG</p> <p>RESOLUTION: that Council endorses the purchase of 12 book vouchers at \$50 each from the Botanical Bookshop for presentation to appropriate guest speakers at Thursday Talks as token of our appreciation.</p> <p>Note: For auditing purposes, The Treasurer is to be advised when a gift voucher is presented.</p>	<p>Linda Beveridge</p> <p>Linda Beveridge</p>	<p>Neville Page</p> <p>Neville Page</p>	<p>Passed</p> <p>Passed</p>
4.2	History of ANBG	<p>Lynden Ayliffe indicated that Don Beer’s book had been edited by his publisher and these edits were now being considered by him. When Don is happy with the result, a copy will be sent to Friends for approval. Once approved, the Friends will pay Don \$5,000 towards the cost of editing. Max Bourke, Neville Page and Lynden Ayliffe agreed to read the revised manuscript when it becomes available and before publishing.</p>			Noted

4.3	Norfolk Island Project	Council noted a report on the project that reflected the presentation given in November 2019. ANBG has also received a scientific paper on the work undertaken.			Noted
5	Reports				
5.1	ANBG Executive Director	<p>Judy West announced that its partnership with Kew Gardens on the seed bank received media attention and an expert workshop will be held soon to develop protocols. Judy also indicated that ANBG has bid for a number of other projects from National Parks, Threatened Species and Greening Australia.</p> <p>ANBG is also working on roundtables with Government, NGOs, land managers and scientists on regeneration efforts following bushfires. She stressed the need for a scientific approach to bushfire recovery.</p> <p>Machinery of Government changes are also being considered.</p>			Noted
5.2	ANBG General Manager	<p>a. Effects of recent hail damage – Council acknowledged the regular reports being circulated by ANBG and noted that the Gardens have been made safe and reopened. Although work is ongoing and may take 6 months, it will continue despite insurance claims taking possibly up to 12 months. It was agreed that the Friends could rebuild greenhouse used by Growing Friends and the ANBG would reimburse from insurance.</p> <p>ACTION: Peter to discuss with Maurice Hermann.</p> <p>The Banks Building needs extensive work and may not be open when the Banksia Garden opens. Council acknowledged that both Friends and ANBG staff have been affected by the damage and asked that a message of thanks be passed on to staff and Friends who assisted in the cleanup.</p> <p>b. Conservatory – Next month should see a 2 stage tender process initiated. Tenders will be sought from a wide group in March with a smaller cohort being selected in May to compete for final selection. Interpretation is underway with concepts and artwork expected in July.</p> <p>c. National Seed Bank – A tender is expected next week for an architect. ANBG has also engaged a landscape architect to develop a landscape renewal plan for the core precinct. Some capital works</p>			Noted

		<p>funding has been secured but more is being sought. Concepts and drawings expected in a few months.</p> <p>d. Banksia Garden – Development of the Garden is on track and no plants were harmed in the recent storm.</p> <p>e. 50th anniversary of ANBG 2020 – launch 5 March with summer concerts to follow.</p> <p>f. Video Wall – installed and not fully operational. Council asked whether streaming to the wall from the auditorium when it is filled to capacity (or elsewhere) might be possible. ACTION: ANBG to consider.</p> <p>g. Other - Peter Byron also indicated that while the ANBG’s water allocation had been cut, watering had decreased, resulting in minimal change. There was also discussion and mixed reaction to the idea of a super plant sale at the Gardens with commercial growers being brought in to create a carnival atmosphere.</p>			
5.3	ANBG Friends Liaison	Megan Menz reported: decreased visitation in January due to smoke and hail damage; overall increase in education activities during 2019; finalisation of an education strategy in the next few months; and the coming list of visitor experiences - exhibitions, flora tours and summer concerts.			Noted
5.4	President	Report was included in meeting papers on Google shared drive. Max reiterated his invitation to Council members to join him in entertaining the Director of National Parks at Summer Concerts. He also drew attention to paragraph 5 where it was agreed to write and thank donors who give more than \$500 not the current policy of thanking those who donate over \$200. He also indicated that he would not be renominating as President when his term finishes and sought any expressions of interest in the position.			Noted
5.5	Treasurer	Financial statements were shared on Google drive before the meeting. Helen Elliot indicated that most of the monies in the Public Fund were committed and acknowledged the money raised by the recent exhibitions by the Photographic Group (\$1800) and the Botanic Art Group (\$3100). Helen also indicated that she had received an email from Julie Armstrong, <i>Birds, Bees and Butterflies</i> coordinator, thanking Council for its support and indicating that the workshop was booked out in 4 days. A professional will video the talks as they have proven so popular.			

		<p>RESOLUTION: that Council support the <i>Seeds from the Bank</i> launch with refreshments up to \$300.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: that Term Deposit #8491 for \$102,261 be rolled over for a further 3 months.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: that the Treasurer’s Report be accepted.</p>	Helen Elliot	Lynden Ayliffe	Passed
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5.6	IT Report including Administrative Database Evaluation Working Group	David More indicated that work is progressing well on new systems and a major report is expected in March.			Noted.
5.7	Project Committee	Council acknowledged the Committee’s report from the 4 Feb but there was insufficient time to discuss the report and its recommendations before some Council members were obliged to leave. The Committee’s recommendations will be discussed at the next meeting. David Coutts (Convenor of the Projects Committee) did, however, raise the nature play garden as a project for future fundraising focus. He also indicated that a new Convenor would be needed shortly as he had taken on new commitments.			Noted
5.8	Public Fund	<p>Barbara Podger indicated that while there appeared to be a healthy balance in the Fund, it was largely committed. Next week, Public Fund trustees will discuss a revised budget for the science communications project given discussions between ANBG and ANU (see Agenda Item 3.3).</p> <p>Council noted that Barbara’s term as Chair was finishing this year but she was willing to continue for a further 12 months. Alan Henderson indicated that he wished to retire as a trustee as his term was expiring on 1 March 2020. Council agreed to undertake the task of finding a new member, independent of Council. Council thanked Alan Henderson for his work on the Public Fund.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: that Barbara Podger be reappointed for one year commencing 1 March 2020.</p>	Alan Henderson	Linda Beveridge	Passed
5.9	Friends reports for noting	<p>Papers noted but 3 issues arose–</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is it possible to hire outside caterers if the café is not used? • volunteers are still required for the Summer concerts and sign up sheets are on the website. • how many anniversary vases should be reserved as gifts? 			Noted

5.10	Volunteer Guides	Council noted report and discussed sponsorship of the Wrights' participation in the 350 th Anniversary celebrations of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE) where they will speak at its conference in June. Resolution: Council support the participation of Pat and Warwick Wright at the RBGE conference by meeting the cost of their registration fees.	Linda Beveridge	Lynden Ayliffe	Passed
5.11	Communications	Fronds – next issue April with closing date 24 February. Broadcast email – Wednesday next week deadline.			Noted
6	Other Business				
	Canberra Electorate – Volunteer Grants	Max Bourke indicated that these grants were available for up to \$5,000 but applications were closing tomorrow. Some suggestions were made but no firm conclusions were made.			Noted
7	Next meeting	2pm, Thursday 12 March 2020 Dickson Room			