

## ***MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING***

### **ANPS Canberra Region Inc.**

**5.00 pm, Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at ANBG**

#### **Attendees**

Lucinda Royston (Chair), Geoff Butler, John Carter, Greg Quinn, Ben Walcott, Bill Willis, Darren Boulton, Phillip Fradd, Naomi Boccola, Garth Chamberlain (Minutes).

#### **Apologies**

Nil

#### **Welcome**

The Chair welcomed those present and noted that Garth Chamberlain was now taking the role of Secretary.

#### **Minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018 Meeting**

***Amended and Moved: John Carter, 2nd: Ben Walcott: Carried.***

Council noted that the Minutes for this Council year were still to be uploaded to the ANPS Canberra website.

#### **Matters Arising from Minutes**

##### *Clarification of status of Weedswap*

Geoff Butler advised that he had contacted Phil Selmes of the ACT Community Engagement Unit and that Phil did not know whether Weed Swap would be conducted or not. Geoff B had a meeting with the ACT Biosecurity Officer who had indicated that there was money available to run Weedswap this financial year. However, Council agreed that Weedswap would not go ahead this financial year because of the lead time for the preparation of suitable plants.

*Action:* Geoff Butler to email Rosemary Blemings with confirmation that there will be no Weedswap this financial year but that one may be possible in October if the team can be organised.

##### *New Supper Organiser*

Murray Dadds has taken this role.

##### *Bulletin Editor*

Lucinda advised that Karen Brien has agreed to take over the role of Editor but as a trial operation initially.

##### *Secretary*

Garth Chamberlain has taken this role.

#### **Correspondence In**

1. Australian Network for Plant Conservation Inc. from Jo Lynch (Refer Agenda Item 5)
2. Establishing a native garden at Franklin ECS (Early Childhood School)

Ben Walcott noted that they were seeking advice on suitable native plants including on the site layout and suggested that we could donate some plants.

*Action:* Agreed that Ben Walcott would take the role of Team Leader in this exercise, assisted by Bill Willis and Darren Boulton and that Lucinda Royston would announce this at the next Members Meeting and advise that if people wish to volunteer assistance that they contact Ben Walcott.

3. PLDB update for Spring 2018 from Merren Sloane (Refer Agenda Item 4)

### **Correspondence Out**

1. To Anne Campbell re Life Membership nominations (Refer Agenda Item 6).
2. To Merren Sloane advising of a new PLDB Team member.
3. To ACT Parks and Conservation Service re PlantSure Program
4. To ACT Government - Submission on the Molonglo River Reserve Draft Management Plan. It was agreed that this document would be put up on the ANPS Website.
5. Emailed reply to Mathew Tonge (member of the public) about where to buy plants and to get advice on what to plant in a park near him in Franklin.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer noted that there was still \$2000 to pay for this FY as part of the \$6000 to the ANBG. Also we have to date paid to Giraffe 50% of the \$15,000 cost of the website development and \$2000 for rebranding.

Also he noted that only \$843 was the amount short of what should have been received at the Plant Sale which realised a profit of just under \$24,000.

Ben Walcott proposed that the travel cost and one night's accommodation cost for our next speaker, who is a recent graduate student, be reimbursed. Council agreed with this proposal.

*Treasurer's Report be accepted as circulated  
Moved Ben Walcott; 2<sup>nd</sup> John Carter. Carried.*

### **Presidents Report**

Lucinda Royston commented that we seem to be suffering from excessive email traffic. Bill Willis suggested that to reduce this we could have a Council Correspondence section on the website.

Lucinda confirmed that in her absence after May, the Vice-President, Bill Willis, would take over her duties as chairperson.

### **Agenda items**

#### *1. March Plant Sale*

John Carter distributed a document that presented feedback on the March Plant Sale and discussed the key features including:

- Overall the sale was successful but we could have benefited from having more volunteers.
- Extra advertising, including on Facebook, was considered to be beneficial.
- Some Standards Committee members were somewhat distracted as they were keen to buy plants.
- Growers need to ensure that labels are marked and well pushed in to pots.
- Extra tables at the checkout worked well.
- Growers should be encouraged not to change their list of proposed plants after they have submitted them. Such changes had complicated the compiling of sale plant lists.
- Need more small racks.
- Need an info-tent coordinator.
- Need tent size to be marked on tent containers so that the 4m x 4m tent for the info area can be easily identified.
- Need more people qualified to drive the ANBG electric vehicles. John & Ben to sort this out in future.

(Copy of comments document attached).

*Ben Walcott proposed that 6 additional folding tables be purchased for use in the info tent to allow extra tables at checkout. Seconded by Phillip Fradd. Carried.*

*2. Seeking Legal advice on Plant Sales-instructions to law firm*

John Carter to follow up with Megan Dixon as to current state of play and then to email Council for a decision on draft instructions and firms.

*3. ANPS website update-proposed new flower logo*

Ben Walcott advised that he had sent about 15 suggested logo options based on Canberra plants to Giraffe, the new website developers, who are developing a stylised logo. He will provide feedback when available.

Lucinda Royston expressed concern at the current out of date website and proposed that it either be shut down or updated to at least include Council member names and the Bulletin. Ben Walcott said that new website would be 6 months to a year away.

Extensive discussion followed on the practicability of and process for an interim upgrade of the current website.

***Moved: Lucinda Royston, 2<sup>nd</sup>: John Carter: That Ben Walcott discuss with Giraffe what they can do with the current website to incorporate information on conservation, Bulletins, speakers and Council meetings until the new site is developed and what would it cost. Carried***

*4. PLDB Team – draft guidelines provided by Merren Sloane and forwarded to new PLDB members prior to Council endorsement*

Lucinda Royston stated that since being President she had wanted to resolve discord between certain members and the PLDB team. She and Geoff Butler had reviewed the operations of the Standards Committee and the PLDB and the review's report had been endorsed by Council and had been in place since November 2017.

Geoff Butler stated that there were two aspects to this matter:

- the draft guidelines for the PLDB had been developed by Merren et al as a result of the review that he and Lucinda had undertaken, the report and recommendations of which had been approved by Council, and
- the fact that people newly added to the PLDB team had not had the opportunity to review the draft guidelines.

Geoff Butler added that if new PLDB members wanted to discuss the PLDB draft guidelines they should do so and he would be happy to attend the upcoming PLDB meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> May to assist in this process. The meeting needs to keep in mind that the review recommendations were approved by Council for a trial period though further consideration of any proposed changes would be taken into and examined by Council if any aspects were clearly shown not to be working.

Bill Willis stated that as the Standards Committee and PLDB review outcome had been approved by Council, PLDB members need to conform to them.

Greg Quinn noted that Merren Sloane was planning to have a PLDB meeting in late April early May.

John Carter reminded the meeting that at the previous Council meeting it had been decided that new members of the PLDB team would have the opportunity to provide input into the draft guidelines for the PLDB before they were endorsed by Council.

Lucinda Royston noted that as President she is a member of all committees and was therefore a PLDB member and that she will nominate Geoff Butler to attend this meeting on her behalf.

*5. Sponsorship for 12th Australasian Plant Conservation Conference*

Geoff Butler stated that we would be better placed by assisting local groups or projects than by contributing to this Australia wide organisation.

It was agreed that we would not provide sponsorship to this group and that there is no requirement for us to respond to their general request.

*6. Life Membership nominations for ANPS Canberra Region Inc.*

Lucinda Royston noted that one life membership nomination had already been received and that the April Bulletin advises that such nominations can be submitted up to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

*7. Council Member absences*

Lucinda Royston requested members to advise Council of any significant periods that they plan to be away. Lucinda advised that she intended to be away overseas for several months after the May Council meeting.

Garth Chamberlain advised that he will be away overseas for three weeks from 9<sup>th</sup> May.

Geoff Butler would be unavailable from 24<sup>th</sup> May to 29<sup>th</sup> June.

**Other Business**

*ANPSA Teleconference*

Lucinda Royston noted that Geoff Butler would represent the Council on the next ANPSA teleconference on 26<sup>th</sup> July.

**Closure**

At 7.00pm, the President closed the meeting.

**Next Council Meeting**

Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 5.00 pm Dixon Room, ANBG.