

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

ANPS Canberra Region Inc.

5.00 pm, Tuesday, 6 February 2018 at ANBG

Attendees

Lucinda Royston (Chair), Naomi Boccola, Darren Boulton, John Carter (Minutes), Megan Dixon, Philip Fradd, Greg Quinn, Ben Walcott

Apologies

Geoff Butler, Bill Willis

Minutes of 12th December 2017 meeting

Amended and Moved: John Carter, 2nd: Darren Boulton: Carried.

Council noted that the Minutes would be uploaded to the ANPS Canberra website.

Matters Arising from Minutes

Changes to Weedswap

Council noted that the response from the ACT Chief Minister did not specifically advise whether or not Weedswap would be supported. The President would seek information from Rosemary Blemings as to whether money had been allocated for a March 2018 Weedswap.

ANPS's "Where to Buy" brochure

Council deferred this item because Bill Willis was an apology for the meeting.

New Gatekeeper and Supper Organiser

Council noted that a number of members had indicated willingness to undertake this task. The President would create a roster.

Bulletin Editor and Secretary

Council noted these positions were vacant.

Canberra Nature Map

An article about the Canberra Nature Map and ANPS Canberra's contribution would appear in the Journal.

Plant Label Database

The President advised that six people had indicated they wished to join the Plant Label Database Team: John Carter; Megan Dixon; Annabel Greenup; Anthony O'Halloran; Ben Walcott; and Ros Walcott.

Moved: Lucinda Royston, 2nd: Philip Fradd: *that the six people listed above be accepted as members of the Plant Label Database Team.* Carried.

The President would write to the convener of the Plant Label Database Team, Merren Sloane advising that six people had been added to the team, and requesting a 'meet and greet' meeting be called at her earliest convenience.

Further nominations for the Plant Label Database Team would be sought through advertising in the ANPS Bulletin.

Correspondence In

ACT Chief Minister, re response to letter from ANPS Canberra regarding possible changes to Weedswap.

This item has been discussed above under *Matters Arising from Minutes*.

Plant Label Database Team, re authorisation of a response to Grower Member's request for a large number of taxons to be added to the database.

Council resolved to send an amended response advising the Grower Member of the maximum numbers of requests for additions which could be submitted each year and the need to provide appropriate information enabling identification.

The Acting Secretary would send the amended response.

Correspondence Out

No correspondence out.

Treasurer's Report:

Use of old Westpac account

The Treasurer noted the account was still active, but had been cleared, because some organisations persisted in paying into that account despite repeated advice to use a different bank account.

The Treasurer intended to open a Bendigo Term deposit for 12 months in the amount of \$55,000.

Canberra Nature Maps had been paid their \$ 2,000 and ANPSA dues had been paid.

Membership renewals were still arriving.

Council noted that ANPS had a large amount of money in its bank accounts (almost \$142,000) and that while some major expenses were predicted, balanced by upcoming income from the ANBG plant sale, there remained the opportunity to donate money to worthy causes.

Council briefly discussed whether previous grants could be repeated. For example, to the Australia Flora Foundation; Canberra Nature Maps; Land Keepers Trust; STEP; and the Terra Australis Garden. Council noted that the ANBG received a \$6000 donation per annum in recognition of the use of the facilities for meetings and the Southern Car Park for plant sales.

The President would call for suggestions for donations at the Monthly Meeting. This would inform Council discussions during a Future Planning Meeting.

Treasurer's Report be accepted as circulated

Moved: Ben Walcott, 2nd: John Carter: Carried.

Council noted that the Treasurer's Report would be attached to the minutes.

Agenda items

Out of session request from Anne Campbell for money to replace lost advertising signs.

Council noted its decision to provide money to purchase replacement road signs.

Report from the ANPSA Biennial Conference

Ben Walcott reported that 175 people had attended the conference. Most of the sessions were on conservation matters and that none were on gardening except for a small amount of time allocated for study groups.

A very informative planning session had been included with a range of issues canvassed for increasing membership and moving the various societies forward. This included a suggestion from the Queensland Region President that regions could do away with membership fees but conduct all their activities electronically.

The Biennial Meeting of ANPSA Council had resolved to withdraw ANPSA's representatives on the Australian Cultivar Registration Authority Board. In response, one of the two representatives had asked his ANPS Region to nominate him for the ACRA Board. Ben noted that ANPS Canberra Region had no authority to nominate one of its members to serve on the ACRA Board.

Ben advised that the next ANPSA Conference would be in Albany, Western Australia, in November 2019. John Carter added that the pre-conference tour would start in Perth and end in Albany; and the post-conference tour would start from Albany and end in Perth.

ANPS Website Update

In the absence of Bill Willis, Council conducted a brief discussion.

Megan Dixon advised that she and Bill had talked to Giraffe which had been invited to come and talk to Council on the Society's communication strategy. Giraffe had suggested redesigning the website as a component of a communication strategy, but several issues needed to be clarified before this might proceed. Council responded by suggesting Giraffe needed to indicate the issues which needed to be clarified in advance of any meeting. This would allow Council to formulate a considered and collective response. This would allow a face-to-face discussion with Giraffe to be more effective.

Darren Boulton cautioned that Council needed to consider how much financial commitment it was prepared to make in progressing a communication strategy and website update.

Greg Quinn noted that any website needed to be managed over the longer term which entailed a cost.

Megan Dixon would talk to Bill Willis about this issue and advise the President.

Issue Paper

A confidential issue paper was discussed.

Council decided to seek legal advice on the matters raised.

Moved: Megan Dixon, 2nd: John Carter: *That Megan Dixon draft an instruction to a law firm and circulate it to Council for discussion. She should identify a suitable legal firm and provide indicative quotes for its advice.*

Closure

At 6.47pm, the President closed the meeting.

Next Council Meeting

Tuesday, 6 March 2018 at 5.00 pm Dixon Room, ANBG.