

# Friends of Bendigo Botanic Gardens Inc.

71 Napoleon Crescent, White Hills 3550

Samuel Gadd Centre, Bendigo Botanic Gardens

## Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> April                      Time 11:30 am

Location: Samuel Gadd Centre, Bendigo Botanic Gardens

Present: Pam Sheean, Jan Bobin, Judy Milner, Lyn Winn, Annie Clark, Joy Clusker, Mandy Scott, Kirstie Paterson, Anne Aston

Apologies:            Lindy Sloan, Helen Musk, Deb Degenhardt

Minutes of previous meeting held 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

That the minutes of the previous meeting are a true and accurate record:

Moved:                Lyn Winn                                      Seconded:            Judy Milner                                      Accepted

Business Arising:

**1. Membership of Garden History Group.** We need the Password for access to the Magazine. Jan to follow up as payment has been receipted.

**2. Bendigo Sustainability Festival Report** – Thank you to all who volunteered and helped on the day. A successful day – sales of artwork and plants totalled \$549.90. It was helpful to have the staff represented with their Electric Vehicles and to answer any questions regarding the gardens. We feel it is worth doing again.

**3. Induction of Guides** continuing                      - see Reports.

**4. Girgarre visit report** – 25 people plus 3 children enjoyed a visit to Gargarro Botanic Gardens at Girgarre last Wednesday. We were given a short history of the establishment of the gardens by ‘Doc’ McDonald and the president of the Friends of Gargarro. It was very interesting to hear how the development came about and that they are independent of any Council to date, being Community owned and run solely by Volunteers. Thank you, Annie, for organising the day. A motion to send a donation of \$100 for the friends was put forward.

Moved:                Pam Sheean                                      Seconded:            Annie Clark                                      Accepted

**5. Defibrillator** – successful application for funding – thank you Judy for your work on this. Funding has been approved and should be received in the next week or so. When this is received, we will purchase it from First Aid Distributions - Kirstie will arrange with the property department for the fitting and installation. Ongoing maintenance will then be taken care of by Council and will be included in Kirstie’s regular audit of First aid and equipment in the Samuel Gadd Centre. Update: Grant money of \$2000.received 17.04.24.

**6. Sales strategy-** how to progress signage through the gardens? Discussions regarding additional signs to be put at or near other entrances – i.e. Near the Arch & Bosquet Street. We could get quotes from Signarama to print some extras and maybe upgrade the existing ones, as they have our colours, Logo etc. Judy to complete a draft and Pam to follow up with a quote from Signarama.

**New Member:** Madeleine Bucciol                      (Payment received shortly after the meeting)

That Friends of Bendigo Botanic Gardens accept the above applicant to be member of the club.

Moved:                Jan Bobin                                      Seconded:            Annie Clark                                      Accepted

## Reports:

### 1. Correspondence: Helen Musk & Judy Milner

Received

| DATE     | FROM   | SUBJECT  |
|----------|--|--|
| 23.02.24 | Botanic Gardens Conservation   | Cultivate#125 Feb 2024                                       |
| 23.02.24 | <a href="mailto:gca_admin@gardenclubs.org.au">gca_admin@gardenclubs.org.au</a> | GCA Feb 2024 Bulletin  |
| 23.02.24 | BGANZ  | Welcome to our new Volunteers                                |
| 23.02.24 | Pam Sheean   | Meeting Minutes  |
| 23.02.24 | Pam Sheean   | Report approval for minutes                                  |
| 24.02.24 | Dianne Davis   | Re: Invitation to Exhibition of Illustrations with Ballarat  |
| 28.02.24 | Jareth Richardson  | Omari Bendigo update   |
| 29.02.24 | Jan Bobin  | Mins from Feb Meeting attached                               |
| 29.02.24 | Pam Sheean   | Re: Proposed Feb FBBG News page                              |
| 01.03.24 | Botanic Garden Conservation  | Join us for the 8 <sup>th</sup> Global Congress in Singapore |
| 01.03.24 | BGANZ  | North Coast Region Seed Bank launched                        |
| 01.03.24 | Bendigo Sustainability Group   | BSF Update 17/3/24   |
| 01.03.24 | Judy Milner  | FBBG News Page Feb Edition                                   |
| 04.03.23 | DEECA  | March Newsletter   |
| 05.03.24 | Judy Milner  | Permission to use photographs and revised News page          |
| 05.03.24 | Mark Hall  | Collaborating for Bird Conservation                          |
| 05.03.24 | Jan Bobin  | Re Meeting Minutes   |
| 07.03.24 | DEECA  | You're invited – new Growth Projects Webinar                 |
| 08.03.24 | BGANZ  | Photos of threatened plants needed                           |
| 08.03.24 | Pam Sheean   | FBBG assistance for Sustainability festival                  |
| 08.03.24 | Bendigo Copy Centre  | Re Copy work for FBBG  |
| 11.03.24 | BSG  | Re Festival Sunday March 17                                  |
| 13.03.24 | Pam Sheean   | Volunteering at the BSG Festival Roster                      |
| 14.03.24 | Judy Milner  | FW: Immij invoice # 128724 – BEDBOT                          |
| 15.03.24 | Environmental Protection Auth  | We need to know what's in your vacuum cleaner                |
| 15.03.24 | BGANZ  | Send us your threatened plants photos                        |
| 16.03.24 | Botanic Gardens Conservation   | 2023 Year in Review  |
| 17.03.24 | Peter Fountain   | An Article about my Moss House                               |
| 18.03.24 | BSG  | We want your feedback  |
| 19.03.24 | Simon Duthie   | Booking Samuel Gadd Centre and guided walk                   |
| 20.03.24 | BGANZ  | Biosecurity Form TODAY                                       |
| 21.03.24 | Botanic Gardens Conservation   | Cultivate #126 March Issue                                   |
| 22.03.24 | BGANZ  | Botanic Gardens Day 2024 Marketing Kit                       |
| 25.03.24 | Judy Milner  | Grant Funding Acceptance documentation                       |
| 25.03.24 | Pam Sheean   | Re: Booking Samuel Gadd Centre and guided walk               |
| 25.03.24 | Grants Shared Mailbox  | Re: Grant Funding Acceptance documentation                   |
| 26.03.24 | Ann Clark  | Fwd: Nature Journaling Workshops with Liz Duthrie            |
| 28.03.24 | BGANZ  | How is your garden more than a garden?                       |
| 31.03.24 | Judy Milner  | Edited article for Dovyalis/Newsletter                       |
| 04.03.24 | Madeleine Bucciol  | FBBG Membership Form Submission                              |
| 05.04.24 | BGANZ  | How will you celebrate Botanic Gardens Day?                  |
| 09.04.24 | Ann Clark  | Latest Membership  |
| 10.04.24 | Karin Harding  | Save the date and invitation to APS Bendigo Flower Show      |
| 12.04.24 | BGANZ  | Need inspiration on promoting Botanic Gardens Day?           |
| 12.04.24 | Pam Sheean   | Re: Draft Agenda for meeting Tuesday April                   |
| 15.04.24 | Jan Bobin  | RE: Amended Agenda for April meeting                         |

## Sent Mail

| DATE     | RECIPIENT           | SUBJECT   |
|----------|---------------------|---|
| 21.02.24 | Jan Bobin           | Fwd: Australian Garden History Account Created          |
| 21.02.24 | Jan Bobin           | Fwd: Your Australian Garden History Society Order       |
| 21.02.24 | Jan Bobin           | Fwd: Invoice 00000131: AAFBG Membership Renewal         |
| 21.02.24 | Pam Sheehan         | Fwd: "Inspired by Begonias" A Botanical art Exhibition  |
| 21.02.24 | Jan Bobin           | RE: Membership paid                                     |
| 23.02.24 | Pam Sheehan         | Re: GCA February 2024 Bulletin                          |
| 23.02.24 | Pam Sheehan         | Fwd: Meeting Minutes                                    |
| 23.02.24 | Pam Sheehan         | Fwd: Cultivate #125 Feb 2024                            |
| 23.02.24 | FBBG Members        | Invitation to Illustrators exhibition Ballarat          |
| 26.02.24 | Pam Sheehan         | Fwd: Invitation to Exhibition of Illustrations Ballarat |
| 29.02.24 | FBBG Committee      | Minutes of Feb Meeting Attached                         |
| 05.03.24 | Jan Bobin           | Minutes of Meeting                                      |
| 05.03.24 | FBBG Members        | Minutes of Feb Meeting plus Newsletter                  |
| 07.03.24 | Bendigo Copy Centre | Copy work for FBBG                                      |
| 10.03.24 | Bendigo Copy Centre | Re: Copy work for FBBG                                  |
| 10.03.24 | FBBG Members        | Help needed for Sustainability Festival March 17        |
| 12.03.24 | Pam Sheehan         | Fwd: Site Map and Info re Sustainability Festival       |
| 14.03.24 | FBBG Members        | Roster for Volunteers at BSG Festival                   |
| 16.03.24 | Jan Bobin           | Fwd: Immij Invoice 128724 – BEDBOT                      |
| 18.03.24 | Pam Sheehan         | Fwd: We'd love your feedback!                           |
| 22.03.24 | Anne Aston          | Fwd: Booking Samuel Gadd and guided walk                |
| 02.04.24 | Peter Fountain      | Fwd: Edited article for Dovyalis Newsletter             |
| 08.04.24 | Ann Clark           | Fwd: FBBG Membership Form Madeleine Buccioli            |
| 12.04.24 | Pam Sheehan         | Fwd: Save the date APS Bendigo Flower show              |

That the correspondence as circulated be accepted:

Moved: Annie Clark                      Seconded: Mandy Scott                      Accepted

**2. Treasurers Report: Jan Bobin**

FBBG Finance report for period 1/2/24- 31/3/2024

Opening Balance

\$16,087.56

Income:

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Plant Sales                              | \$ 1,475.90      |
| Donation                                 | \$ 15.00         |
| Botanical Illustrators- Paper, Art sales | <u>\$ 237.50</u> |
|  | \$ 1,728.40      |

Expenses:

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Materials - Pots, Labels, Hats           | \$ 570.00        |
| Admin: Bank Charges (Tyro Fees) Jan, Feb | \$ 10.81         |
| Admin: M'ship Aust Garden Hist Soc       | <u>\$ 121.00</u> |
|  | \$ 701.81        |

Closing Balance at Bank working account

\$ 17,114.15

Term Deposit No.1 Account Balance

\$ 10,344.08

|                                       |              |              |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Term Deposit No. 2 - 12 Months @4.75% | \$ 10,000.00 |              |
| Total Balance at Bank                 |              | \$ 37,458.23 |

|                           |           |  |
|---------------------------|-----------|--|
| Illustrators Account      | \$ 470.38 |  |
| (less reimbursements due) |           |  |

That the Treasurers report be accepted:

|        |           |           |             |          |
|--------|-----------|-----------|-------------|----------|
| Moved: | Jan Bobin | Seconded: | Judy Milner | Accepted |
|--------|-----------|-----------|-------------|----------|

Accounts to Pay: Jan apologizes for missing some payments approved last meeting.

|   |    |        |
|---|----|--------|
| Bendigo Bank - Tyro fees March                | \$ | 12.71  |
| Bunnings - Fertiliser, Storage cupboard, tubs | \$ | 245.50 |
| AAFBG - Membership Renewal                    | \$ | 50.00  |
| Bendigo Copy Centre - Printing                | \$ | 48.60  |
| Garden City Plastics                          | \$ | 176.94 |
| Bush's Produce - Perlite, Vermiculite         | \$ | 136.95 |
| Donation to Friends of Gargarro               | \$ | 100.00 |

Reimbursements:

|  |    |       |
|--|----|-------|
| Lindy Sloan - Velcro Dots                  | \$ | 5.80  |
| Frank Musk - Fertiliser                    | \$ | 31.44 |
| Judy Milner - Postage, Document Folders    | \$ | 33.45 |
| Judy Milner - Postage                      | \$ | 12.00 |
| Jan Bobin - Disinfectant, Mag File, Folder | \$ | 10.32 |

Artists Reimbursement for Festival Sales

|                                     |    |       |
|-------------------------------------|----|-------|
| Native Plant Group - Orchid booklet | \$ | 5.00  |
| Pam Sheean                          | \$ | 65.25 |
| Don Leversha                        | \$ | 18.00 |
| Rod Orr                             | \$ | 27.00 |
| Joy Clusker                         | \$ | 75.25 |

|  |    |          |
|--|----|----------|
|  | \$ | 1,054.21 |
|--|----|----------|

That the accounts for payment be accepted

|        |             |           |             |          |
|--------|-------------|-----------|-------------|----------|
| Moved: | Mandy Scott | Seconded: | Joy Clusker | Accepted |
|--------|-------------|-----------|-------------|----------|

**3. Gardens Staff Report:** Kirstie Paterson – things are working smoothly in the gardens at the moment. Staff have commenced pruning of the perennial beds starting at the Arch and will progressively work their way through over the coming weeks.

Omari update: The Café has been fully stripped, ceilings and internal walls all pulled out. Damage to the Sitalation in the roof potentially means that the roof may need to be replaced. Power has been trenched to the area ready for connection when the rebuild is completed. The insurance company controls the project, they have their own project manager. There is also a project manager from Council. Kirstie anticipates damage to plantings during the reconstruction phase and is making an insurance claim to cover replacement. Completion is still some time away. She was also very happy to receive a great email from the CEO of BGANZ making sure that all staff and everyone at the gardens is okay following the fire.

The CMA (Catchment Management Authority) and DECA (Dept. of Environment and Climate Change) are progressing with the planned release of some native fish (Olive Perchlet, also known as Agassiz's Glassfish) into the ponds surrounding the buildings despite some reservations by Kirstie with the rebuild in progress.

There is to be an interview by The CGB Community Wellbeing unit on 2nd May at 10.00am which will feature Jane Cleary. Friends are invited to attend for background to a photo opportunity.

Some more research has been done on a Labeller – with \$15,000 being touted as the possible cost. Ballarat gardens have one and Kirstie would like to take a member of the Committee with her to look at it in operation. Suggestions that other gardens in the region such as Castlemaine, Macedon or Kyneton may be interested in sharing or hiring from us when the purchase is made and could assist with costs.

There will be a 'Memory Walk' or Jog through the gardens with Dementia Australia on Saturday April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**4. Growing Friends report:** Judy advises that we have had a steady attendance of late. We need to move more plants as sales seem to fluctuate somewhat. We had an enjoyable visit to Tara Clarnette's garden last month, it was lovely to see one of our youngest members' gardens. Mandy has kindly donated a hot water urn for use on such occasions.

Staff have used quite a lot of our plants, mainly Correa, Westringia, Eremophila, etc in the newly developed area replacing the Aviary which has given us some space in the nursery. Eliza is doing a good job of keeping the board of jobs updated for the gardening group. The staff are not putting out a receptacle for weeds yet. Some weeding under the tables in the nursery is needed.

**5. Botanical Illustrators Report:** Pam Sheean – We were successful at selling quite a few cards at the Sustainability festival. Pam is investigating a grant through Council for an exhibition at Dudley House with current applications closed for this round. There is a specific Project Manager for Dudley house so hopefully such grants will be available next year so that an exhibition could coincide with the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Friends and the 20<sup>th</sup> year of the Illustrators group being established. It could be great publicity for the organisation. The group were preparing works for the Omari exhibition that was cancelled, due to the damage at the Function Centre and café. No new members lately – Pam will speak to Kirstie again re the possibility of working Wednesday afternoons, the illustrators are happy to take a lunch break to coincide with Staff lunches then continue afterwards.

Emily has advised that she has a friend with a studio in Ascot and that she has offered use of it when (and if) the Samuel Gadd redevelopment begins. Something to keep in mind.

**6. Walks and Talks Report:** Anne Aston – has held 5 sessions of training. Recently there were two days of tours with local schoolchildren & adults, with 15 to 20 each day. It resulted in a great front page in the Bendigo Advertiser and accompanying article on 6<sup>th</sup> April. We are now advertising walks every Saturday at 10:30 am – 1<sup>st</sup> walk last week had 1 participant – a member of FBBG who works at the information centre, but still a good practice run for new guides. Hopefully more people will come in future, we will see how it goes. It would be helpful to have a flyer prepared for the Visitors Centre, maybe Signarama or the Copy Centre could do these for us.

Now working on a roster. A record also needs to be developed to note times and numbers etc. Simone will be asked to put something together.

**7. Dovyalis Report:** Judy Milner – next one is almost ready for editing. Front page will be the article on the Guides. Judy has articles from Pam on the sustainability festival; Anne Bridley on plant ID's; Peter Fountain on his Moss House and the Friends trip to Gargarro. It should be a good edition.

