



Friends of Bendigo Botanic Gardens Inc.

Annual General Meeting 19.09. 2023

Meeting at the Samuel Gadd Centre, Bendigo Botanic Gardens, White Hills - commencing 2:00 pm

MINUTES

Present: Pam Sheean, Delene Commerford, Jan Bobin, Kirstie Paterson, Helen Page, Janet O'Hehir, Jane Cleary, Rod Orr, Annie Clark, Anne Aston, Margaret Kane, Jeanette Clark, Judy Milner, Deb Degenhardt, Anthony Sheean, Kevin Shanahan, Frank Musk, Anne McKarney, Helen Musk, Mandy Scott, Lindy Sloan, Lyn Winn, Helen Gardam, Judie O'Donnell, Cecily Wilkinson, Joy Clusker

Apologies: Carlene Tyler, Anne Bridley, Eric Wilkinson, Don Leversha, Caroline Byrne, Anna Bennett, Sue Malley

Minutes of previous Annual and General Meeting held 20.09.2022

Circulated prior to the meeting and accepted

Moved: Annie Clark Seconded: Joy Clusker Carried

Treasurer's Report - Jan Bobin, Treasurer

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1/07/2022 - 30/06/2023			
	<u>Opening Balance</u>		\$ 25,740.18
	<u>Receipts/Income</u>		
	Plant Sales	\$ 10,589.40	
	Membership	\$ 1,055.00	
	Botanical Illustration Group	\$ 1,405.50	
	Donations & Grants	\$ -	
	Guided Walks	\$ 284.00	
	Miscellaneous	\$ 34.31	
	<u>Total</u>		\$ 13,368.21
	<u>Expenditure</u>		
	Plant and Tool Purchases	\$ 2,936.79	
	Administration Costs	\$ 1,788.03	
	Botanical Illustrators Group	\$ 1,415.00	
	Dovyallis	\$ 43.99	
	Bank Charges - TYRO fees	\$ 97.90	
	<u>Total</u>		\$ 6,281.71
	Balance		\$ 32,826.68
	Less Transfer to Term Deposit		\$ 10,000.00
	Balance at Bank working account 30/6/2023		\$ 22,826.68
	Term Deposit		\$ 10,000.00
	Interest earned		\$ 69.92
	Balance of Term Deposit account 30/6/23		\$ 10,069.92
	TOTAL FUNDS AT BANK @ 30/6/2023		\$ 32,896.60
	CASH ON HAND @ 30/6/2022- FLOAT & SALES		\$146.60
	Prepared by Jan Bobin, Treasurer.12/7/2022		



Friends of Bendigo Botanic Gardens Inc.

Accounts and statement independently reviewed by Strategem. Accountants.

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted

Moved: Jan Bobin Seconded: Judy Milner Carried

Confirmation of fees

Motion: That the annual membership fee be Single \$15.00, Household \$ 25.00, due July 2024

Moved: Jane Cleary Seconded: Lyn Winn Carried

President's Report – Delene Commerford, President

The focus for the Friends for 2022-23 has been to seek a solution for the future use of the Samuel Gadd centre, following the change of management and access for the Larni Garingilang Function Centre. The Samuel Gadd Centre is in need of maintenance and refurbishment to make the centre more practical for the Garden Staff and FBBG to be able to work co-operatively and efficiently. A request in writing with a small representative group of the FBBG was made, seeking their support and guidance to resolve the issues regarding the facilities at the Samuel Gadd Centre and a meeting was held in November 2022 with the Whipstick Councillors who were able to attend and the Manager of Parks and Open Spaces and the Botanic Garden Manager.

A Budget Priority submission for a Scope Development for the Samuel Gadd Centre was submitted by the FBBG to Council. It was prepared in alignment with Council Plans – Healthy Liveable Spaces and Places, A Climate Resilience Built and Natural Environment and Welcoming and Fair Community. In May 2023 the FBBG received the very welcome news that an allocation had been made in the 2023-2024 Budget for scope and development of a plan for the Samuel Gadd Centre. The intention is for this work is to inform 2024-2025 budget considerations.

It has been a very busy year for the FBBG. The nursery group have had regular attendances and the Saturday sales of plants have been very successful. The weeding and pruning group, under the Head Gardener's guidance have been busy all year, especially in the Garden for the Future area.

The number of people involved in the Illustrator's group has increased and successful workshops have been undertaken to support new members. The Illustrators attended the APS Bendigo Native Flower Show on September 24th & 25th, 2022, where they successfully promoted The Friends. The Illustrators are busy planning an exhibition to display their work in the Larni Garingilang function centre in early 2024.

There have been several well received guided walks undertaken by the members involved in Guided Walks.

Role statements have been prepared for the members who lead each of these groups.

The FBBG primary focus of supporting and raising funds for the Bendigo Botanic Gardens, maintaining and promoting the gardens continues.

Many thanks to the membership and volunteers involved. It is greatly appreciated by the FBBG committee and the community.

Motion: That the President's Report be accepted

Moved: Jan Bobin Seconded: Margaret Kane Carried

Tabling of any other reports. No other reports

Executive positions declared vacant and nominations for the year June 2023 – June 2024 called for.

1. President

Nominee: **Pam Sheean.**

Nominator: Judy Milner Seconded: Jane Cleary

No other nominations received therefore Pam Sheean elected President

2. Vice President

Nominee: **Annie Clark**

Nominator: Judy Milner Seconded: Deb Degenhardt

No other nominations received therefore Annie Clark elected Vice President



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3. Secretary

Nominee: **Judy Milner.**

Nominator: Pam Sheean

Seconded: Kirstie Patterson

No other nominations received therefore Judy Milner elected Secretary with an assistant to be appointed from the Committee in the coming weeks.

4. Treasurer

Nominee: **Jan Bobin**

Nominator: Judy Milner

Seconded: Lorraine Castles

No other nominations received therefore Jan Bobin elected Treasurer.

New president Pam Sheean takes the chair and calls for nominations for committee members for the Next twelve months

1. **Joy Clusker**

Nominated: Pam Sheean

Seconded: Annie Clark

2. **Mandy Scott**

Nominated: Deb Degenhardt

Seconded: Pam Sheean

3. **Deb Degenhardt**

Nominated: Mandy Scott

Seconded: Judy Milner

4. **Helen Musk**

Nominated: Jan Bobin

Seconded: Judy Milner

5. **Lindy Sloan**

Nominated: Pam Sheean

Seconded: Judy Milner

6. **Anne Aston**

Nominated: Annie Clark

Seconded: Judy Milner

7. **Lyn Winn**

Nominated: Judy Milner

Seconded: Jan Bobin

That the committee for 2023-2024 be accepted

Moved: Pam Sheean

Seconded: Jan Bobin

Carried

General Business:

1. Annie Clark proposed a Motion that Judy Milner be made a **life member** in appreciation of her contribution to the Friends over many years. Judy is a founding member of the FBBG and has held several executive positions over the years.

Seconded: Margaret Kane This carried the support of all members present.

2. Jane Cleary spoke about the research she has been conducting over many months regarding plants mentioned by Shakespeare who believed that plants play an important role in everyone's life. Jane has identified 40 of these plants in our gardens and is in the process of mapping a walk to show them. One of these plants was a Mulberry Tree one of which was given to the gardens and planted in the early years of its development. It was recently removed due to the development of the Larni Garingilang precinct and some of the timber has been stored by council and a small section made into a goblet in the style of Shakespeare.

Meeting closed at.....2:35 pm ... Attendees enjoyed a short break for afternoon tea followed by our guest speaker Janet O'Hehir, Secretary of the Camperdown Botanic Gardens and Arboretum Trust who spoke of the historical and ongoing importance of Botanic Gardens in regional communities.