

Friends of Native Wildlife Inc.

Minutes

Committee Meeting

15 September 2015

Meeting started at 7:40pm

Present: Elizabeth Walsh, Paul Foxworthy, Denis Young, Anne Jessel, Geoffrey Daniel

Confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting

Moved: Denis, Seconded: Elizabeth

Motion passed unanimously

Matters arising from previous minutes

List of tasks not completed

Investigation of applicability of ABN not completed.

Action: Denis

Waterbowls: details were sent, but they require updating.

Action: Denis and Elizabeth

Brochure: discussion deferred again.

Chocolate Bats: not yet investigated.

Action: Paul

Facebook: action not yet taken.

Action: Paul

Other matters arising from previous minutes

Fulham prison building of bat boxes

Geoffrey has contacted them, with positive feedback. More planning is required.

Action: Geoffrey

Acceptance of New Member Applications

All new membership applications are accepted.

Moved: Elizabeth. Seconded: Geoffrey.

Motion passed unanimously.

Wild in Bayside: Bats

Lessons

All agreed the evening was a success. We gained 19 new members, and feedback was positive.

The most successful publicity sources were

- posters put up mostly by Elizabeth and Geoffrey
- EventBrite and website

The Leader newspaper did not publish the event, for reasons unknown. We need to investigate how to best address this. We also need to be better organised with timing and placement of posters.

Future Plans

It was decided to follow a similar format for the AGM, late February or early March 2015, at the same venue. Perhaps ask Tania Ireton if she would speak on birds in Bayside, followed by an update on the Batting4Baside project from Paul Foxworthy.

Action: **Paul** to check whether and when Tania might be available. **Elizabeth** to check if hall likely to be available.

Treasurer's Report

Current bank balance is \$428.90, once the two ordered Anabat Walkabouts are paid for.
Petty cash balance: \$160.50.

Ongoing expenses are:

ABS subscription (currently paid until Dec 2018)

domain name renewal (**Action: Anne** to confirm cost)

anti-virus subscription for new laptop, approx \$50 per year

Discussion about the pros and cons of purchasing an SSL certificate for the website resulted in a decision to proceed, at a cost of approximately USD13 per year.

Action: Anne to purchase and configure

Equipment

Audit and Monitoring

Current asset management is not satisfactory. The decision was to create a Google Sheet for entry of assets in the short term, with all committee having access. Longer term, an asset register will be included in Batica.

Action: Anne to create basic asset register sheet, and share with committee members.

Insurance of equipment was also discussed.

Action: Elizabeth to contact groups such as MESAC and Council to see what solutions they know of.

Batting4Bayside

New laptop management

The need for virus scanning, clearing of unwanted files, application of security updates and so on was described by Paul. There was no decision as to how this would be managed, other than a statement that the responsibility might need to belong to a committee member.

Bat box monitoring

It was agreed that Angela Warner would be a good fit for coordinating this task.

Action: Elizabeth to ask Angela if she is interested in coordinating the bat box monitoring program.

We need volunteers to monitor the bat boxes, starting November or December. A request for assistance will be included in the next email newsletter.

Action: Anne or Paul

Community Engagement

After discussion around multiple options, it was decided to hold two Bat Walks during October, while we have access to borrowed Anabats.

Action: Paul and Denis each to organise and lead a walk.

Geoffrey also offered to be on call for individual bat walks on request on Tuesdays and Thursdays during October.

These walks to be advertised in the next email newsletter.

Survey Plans

Our findings on microbats in Bayside during the last 12+ months have raised many questions that the group would like to research. After discussion of the possibilities it was decided to concentrate on three areas:

Survey Aim 1

Myotis macropus numbers are low. Is this because we have not surveyed enough over water, or are the numbers actually low?

We will concentrate on using at least one Express over water long term, with another being placed near water when available. The wetland area in Sandringham Golf Course is an ideal location for this, so an Express will be installed there over this spring and summer.

Action: Elizabeth to manage this Express

Survey Aim 2

Dr Lindy Lumsden expressed surprise at the low numbers of *Nyctophilus geoffroyi* detected so far. Are the low numbers related to our surveying technique? Are we checking the wrong places or times?

Action: Anne to analyse our existing data to identify places where an Express might be placed for a full moon cycle, with the intent to better understand what is happening.

Survey Aim 3

The borrowed SD Anabats, plus our Walkabouts when they arrive, will continue to be used to perform manual surveys of areas around Bayside. Some of these surveys will be a side effect of Bat Walks aimed at community education and involvement. The aim is to gather basic data on microbats at many locations in Bayside, as a base for future research.

Bowerbird

Elizabeth stated she had been in touch with Ken Walker regarding the possibility of FoNW using the Bowerbird to assist with gathering and publicising wildlife sightings in Bayside.

Action: Elizabeth to send details to Paul

Action: Paul to investigate, and recommend our next step

Rare Plants

Due to the late hour, the committee decided to leave this until the next meeting.

Liaison with Other Groups

Due to the late hour, the committee decided to leave this until the next meeting.

Other Business

Elizabeth has commenced planning for a regular Bronzewing Count event, as a followup to the Bronzewing planting project. The date for this will be decided via email during the next day or two, and an announcement included in the next email newsletter.

Action: all decide on a date

Date of Next Meeting

16 November 2015.

Meeting closed 10:25pm