

Friends of Native Wildlife Inc.

Minutes

Committee Meeting

18 May 2015

Meeting started at 7:36pm

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

Confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting

Moved: Elizabeth, Seconded: Denis

Motion passed unanimously

Matters arising from previous minutes

List of tasks not completed

Tasks from March committee meeting not listed below have been completed satisfactorily.

Anne

Batica: The changes to Batica so it can be used as the official members register and assets register have commenced, but much work remains.

Action: Anne to update status of Batica changes next meeting

Denis:

Grants: No current or near future grant opportunities.

Action: Denis to watch for future opportunities.

Bunnings has not yet been contacted. Elizabeth and Geoffrey have almost completed their research into what is desired, and pricing it.

Action: Elizabeth and Geoffrey to forward list of hardware items to Denis

Geoffrey:

Bat box design document is now nearing completion. A draft of written instructions has been completed, but the accompanying diagrams are yet to be drafted.

Action: Geoffrey to continue.

Express Tags: The tags for the Anabat Expresses are almost completed.

Action: Geoffrey to complete manufacture.

Paul:

Most draft messages have been distributed for comment, but are not yet finalised.

Action: Paul to update messages based on feedback.

The website has not yet been assessed as to how it would look to a potential grantor.

Action: Paul to review the website

Other matters arising from previous minutes

Elizabeth supplied to Anne a list of contact details of those who have bat boxes. This information needs to be organised so we can efficiently monitor the boxes.

Action: Anne to computerise the records.

Thank you gift, deferred from previous meeting

All expressed in principle agreement with the idea of purchasing something such as chocolate bats that could be used as a thank you to those who help the group. Such items could also be sold at events to raise money.

Action: Paul to discover facts such as price, use by dates, size, quantity per pack, minimum purchase quantity, packaging, appearance.

Treasurer's Report

Current bank balance is \$5353.09. Already budgeted to be purchased from this are 2 Anabat Walkabouts and an endoscope. Prices of these items are currently unknown.

There is a possibility of obtaining an endoscope through Bayside Council. Elizabeth is following up on this.

Communications

Facebook

Permissions

The recent removal of all committee members as admins for the Facebook page, and subsequent correspondence, was discussed. It was agreed that Elizabeth would make one more final attempt to resolve the issue. Timely resolution would remove the need for the committee to lodge an official complaint with Facebook.

Action: Elizabeth to contact Michael Norris, describing which Facebook terms and conditions he appears to have breached, and requesting he remedy the situation immediately.

Sally's Role

All agreed Sally is doing an excellent job of managing the posts on the Facebook page. The committee expressed concern that Sally and some other helpers are not being given enough opportunity to have input into the way the group runs.

Further discussion resulted in a decision to hold an "ideas meeting", to which all helpers would be invited and where they can provide ideas and input into what the group should be doing, and how.

A tentative date of 3rd August was decided upon for this meeting. Further organisation of this meeting will take place by email over the next few weeks.

Action: All to prepare and organise for a meeting of helpers, probably on 3rd August.

Email

While overall Bornevia is working well, there are some problems with its configuration and how it can best be used. In addition, Mailchimp and EventBrite are unknown to some committee members.

Anne offered to run a "training evening" on these tools for committee meetings. A date of 15 June, at 6pm, was agreed by all.

Action: Anne to run a "training session" on Mailchimp, Bornevia and EventBrite.

Management of details of contacts and their categories

After discussion, everyone felt these concerns would be best addressed during the "training session" referred to previously

Batting4Bayside Project

Current Status

	Aim	Achieved
Community Engagement	100 people	450+ people
Open spaces surveyed	30%	21
Streetscapes surveyed	200	6 collated so far, but many more not yet processed
Bat roost boxes placed	50	29 plus 30 potential but as yet unconfirmed through Council for a potential total of 59

Endoscopes

Despite contacting several knowledgeable people, including the supplier, Elizabeth has not been able to solve the technical problems we have been experiencing with the current endoscope.

After discussion of many options, it was decided that Elizabeth would further test our current 'scope with Graham's assistance.

Anne will research possible USB-based 'scopes, because these are likely to be cheaper and more reliable. The concern is that the need for an attached computer may make the result unwieldy. Paul believes he may have an old netbook computer that could be donated to the cause, if it is suitable.

Action: Elizabeth to liaise with Graham to further test the current endoscope.

Action: Anne to research USB endoscopes

Action: Paul to locate his old netbook, and see if it might be suitable.

Bat Boxes

Elizabeth and Geoffrey have the making of more bat boxes in hand, and are involved in ongoing talks with Council about putting some up in public parks and open spaces.

Other Actions Required

As the weather warms up, monitoring the boxes will become a priority. We need to plan for volunteers to assist with the monitoring, and for managing the data gathered.

Action: All to progress plans for monitoring at next committee meeting.

The final report to Norman Wettenhall Foundation is due later this year. Denis agreed to be editor, organising input from others into a final report.

Action: Elizabeth to confirm due date of final report.

Volunteering

Procedures regarding volunteer handbook and forms

Council has requirements regarding those who choose to be a Council volunteer while assisting with FoNW events. There has been some confusion regarding what those requirements are, and how they apply. After review, it was found that:

- only members who are helping to organise events on public land are required to have registered formally with Council: this is needed primarily for insurance cover
- we should record which members have registered as Council volunteers
- where a member is introduced to us via Council, we should confirm with Council whether that member has registered as a volunteer
- where we determine a member requires Council Volunteer status, and has not registered, we should request that member fill in the appropriate Council form. The completed form is to be forwarded to Council, and the Handbook supplied to that member.

Future Events and Activities

Planning meeting inviting wider membership

Tentatively planned for 3rd August.

Invite all those who have expressed a desire to actively assist. Purpose is to gather ideas for future activities and projects.

Action: All, via email, to decide on the structure of this meeting.

Seminar style meeting perhaps start of August

Tentatively planned for 31 August.

Elizabeth announced that Rob Bender has agreed to be our guest speaker. His talk will be followed by a FoNW member (probably Paul) updating the attendees on the latest findings of the Batting4Bayside project.

Event will be at 7.15 for a 7.30 start, until approximately 9pm. Preferred venue at this stage is the Beaumaris Community Centre Hall. Elizabeth will ask Council about the available facilities, particularly chairs, cups/mugs and audio-visual equipment. Entry will be free to members, and with a gold coin donation from non-members. We will accept applications from new members on the night.

Other?

If the event on August 31 is well received, we will investigate having further such events, perhaps every two or three months.

Other Business

None.

Date of Next Meeting

27 July 2015.

Meeting closed 9.45pm