

# **FRIENDS OF THE FITZGERALD RIVER NATIONAL PARK Inc.**

PO Box 199 Ravensthorpe 6346.

## **MINUTES OF THE A.G.M. HELD AT QUAALUP**

**SATURDAY MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> 2010.**

**Meeting commenced at 1-40pm.**

**Members and guests welcomed by Gillian Craig.**

### **Present:-**

Alison Lullfitz; Rob Wright; Kevin Giles; Delia Youngman; Anne Sparrow; Janet Newell; Sarah Comer; Barbara Miller-Hornsey; Priscilla Broadbent; Sue and Ron Wooller; Jenny Taylor; Karen Roberts; Leonie McMahon; Geoff Young; Mieke Bourne; Tony Friend; John Scheepers; Stephen Fryc; Stuart Gray; Sue Hill; Ron Glencross; Therese Bell; Brenda Newbey; Raana Scott; Tracey Ross; Paul Cory; Helen Taylor; Robyn Cail; Gillian Craig; Anne Gadsby.

### **Apologies**

Susanne Dennings; Allan Dennings; Merle Bennett; Geraldine Janicke; Steve Janicke; Andy Chapman; Bill Lullfitz; Ken Broadbent; Annabelle Bushell; Dylan Gleave; Richard Pepper; Angela Sanders; Ellen Hickman; Paul Harrison; Natasha Moore; Mark Moore; Ron Richards; Rosemary Jasper; Nathan McQuoid; Vicki Bilney; Shirl Sutherland; Graeme Sutherland; Peter van Schoubroeck; Giles West; Rick Farrell, Rodger Walker.

### **President's report:-**

Gillian reviewed the year's activities. Two walks were held this year. Nature Activities included a search at Cocanarup for nesting Carnaby's Cockatoo's. Nutbats were released near Ravensthorpe with some Friends assisting with tracking. Market days to raise Friends profile. Merchandise discussed Checklist of Plants now available in CD and hardcopy.

The "Wilderness Road" has become road upgrades to Hamersley Inlet and Pt. Anne, and a potential "Bibbulman Track" type walk trail through the core wilderness area. Neil Worrell (Walk Trail Project Manager) was unable to attend due to illness so the opportunity to be informed at the AGM was missed.

Great progress has been made with the Twertup Restoration Project. Grant from Great Southern Development Commission for \$4000 to have the building plans drafted and specified. Bruce Pope drafted the plans and donated his time to the Friends. DEC are now supporting the project based on demolition and full reconstruction from footings up, and seeking budget funding for Twertup. Royalties for Regions (Great Southern) \$7000 grant to fund the Master Development Plan by Landscape Architect. FaHCSIA grant to pay for volunteers fuel costs. Lottery West are interested in funding a documentation of the restoration.

Final point keep, please continue the wonderful volunteer work, from working bees to support tasks like volunteer time sheets. *"Don't Suggest – Volunteer"*

A full report is filed.

### **Treasurer's report.**

Robyn Cail, the treasurer presented her report. An auditor's report from Watts, Symes and Associates was provided. The Audit report was tabled and is filed.

Robyn **moved** That the treasurer's report be accepted   Seconded, Raana Scott.   Carried

**Motion:** Robyn Cail, as the Treasurer, is to be listed with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) as the key Authorised Contact and an office bearer for the Friends of Fitzgerald River National Park. The following people are also to be listed with the ATO as office bearers and authorised users: Gillian Craig, Andrew Chapman, and Raana Scott.

Moved: Anne Gadsby      Seconded: Tracey Ross      Carried

**Motion:** The following FFRNP committee members are approved as signatories for the FFRNP Bankwest Cheque Account, and both of the Bank West Telenet Accounts: Gillian Craig, Robyn Cail, Andrew Chapman, Raana Scott.

Moved: Tracey Ross   Seconded: Anne Gadsby   Carried

### **Acting Senior Ranger's report.**

Paul Cory, acting Senior Ranger, gave a comprehensive report of his activities and changes in FRNP. Staffing changes are noted. Peter Van Schoubroeck commenced at Gairdner Ranger Station in May 2009. Colin Hawker: Rangers assistant commenced on a fixed term contract from March 2010 to June 2010. Jacup Snr Ranger still vacant and unfunded. DEC Senior Operations Officer; interviews week ending 19/3/2010.

Other items discussed included works, roads, visitors, fires, prescribed burning, weather events, funding, compliance, research and the FRNP Improvement plan. Of note are weather events and the FRNP Improvement plan; On the Jan 6 when 115 dead Carnabys were recovered from Hopetoun Golf Course killed by heat stress, and works have commenced in the East of the Park with the installation of a works depot (Transportable buildings and yards).

The Rangers report was tabled and is filed.

### **Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members for 2009/ 2010**

Priscilla Broadbent took the chair. All positions were declared vacant. The following members were elected.

<u><b>Position</b></u>		<u><b>Nominated</b></u>	<u><b>Seconded.</b></u>
<b>President</b>	Gillian Craig	Anne Gadsby	Helen Taylor
<b>Vice President</b>	Anne Gadsby	Helen Taylor	Sarah Comer
<b>Treasurer.</b>	Robyn Cail	Anne Gadsby	Tracey Ross
<b>Secretary.</b>	Rob Wright	Robyn Cail	Barbara Miller-Hornsey
<b>News Editor</b>	Andy Chapman	Mieke Bourne	Tony Friend
<b>Buildings</b>	Ric Pepper	Robyn Cail	Barbara Miller-Hornsey
<b>Committee</b>	Raana Scott	Robyn Cail	Mieke Bourne
	Tracey Ross	Brenda Newbey	Gil Craig
	Geoff Young	Brenda Newbey	Anne Gadsby

**Building assistants** Kevin Giles; Mark Moore; Peter van Schoubroeck.

**Merchandise.** Tracey Ross.

**Website** Rodger Walker; Raana Scott

**Fund raising** Leonie McMahon; Annabelle Bushell; Alison Lullfitz

Gil Craig resumed the chair and thanked the past committee, especially Anne for her 10 years as Secretary.

**Minutes of the AGM at Fitzgerald 28-03-09 were circulated.**

**Confirmation of minutes:-**

**Motion** That the minutes be accepted. Moved Tracey Ross, seconded Priscilla Broadbent. Carried.

**Business arising from minutes**

Jenny Taylor Pt. 3 d) “Merle suggested that we seek information on whether the construction of this road and walk trail would compromise the Biosphere status of FRNP”

**Action:-** Friends Committee to confirm status of Biosphere reserve given current concept for delineated walk trail through wilderness area.

**Correspondence.** A list has been circulated, and correspondence tabled

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**1 Roads and Walk Tracks** Hopetoun- Hammersly and Bremer to Pt. and the bits in-between.

Robyn Cail raised concerns (detailed in a letter by Andy Chapman) that the all weather road to Hamersley inlet would act as a vector to spread dieback from the heavily infected Springdale and Masons Bay unsealed roads into the Eastern side of the park.

**Action:-** Friends Committee to write a letter to DEC to raise concerns regarding this issue

General discussion regarding known status of the FRNP Improvement plan. Friends to attend consultation meeting in Bremer Bay on the 24<sup>th</sup> March.

- A show of hands affirmed that FFRNP support the concept of a low maintenance Wilderness Walk rather than a high maintenance “Bibbulman Track” style trail.
- Sarah Comer stated that the walk will be required to operate within EPBC Act.
- Helen commented that wilderness experiences are becoming rare.
- Stuart Gray (a Bibbulman Track Volunteer) reminded us that tracks such as this need maintenance and that volunteers are scarce
- Geoff Young commented that a section from Pt Ann to Fitzgerald could be developed as an easy access section. Geoff also mentioned DEC are determined to put a highly developed walk trail in, this could be done on the sections from Point Ann to Fitzgerald Inlet, and from Quoin Head to

Hamersley Inlet. There is vehicle access available to each end of these sections under dry soil conditions, so people could be dropped off and picked up. The remainder of the walk trail should have a low level of development.

## **2. Twertup**

Twertup matters were covered by the President's report. (Filed)

## **3. Appointment of Auditor.**

**Moved** Robyn, seconded Anne Gadsby That Watts and Symes be appointed auditors. Carried.

## **4. Accounts for payment**

## **5. Annual membership fees.**

**Moved** Gil Craig, seconded Anne Gadsby That annual membership fees be increased to reflect our GST-registered status, ie \$27-50 for families, \$16-50 for individuals and \$11-00 concession (inc GST). Carried.

## **6. Storage of maps.**

Priscilla would like someone to give the stored maps a home! Tracey offered to re-house them. Distribution and sale will be discussed at the Committee Meeting.

## **7. Interpretive Centre.**

Jenny Taylor enquired about forward planning for an interpretive Centre, and if it would be useful to liaise with the Fitzgerald Biosphere Marketing Association.

## **8. Fund Raising.**

Leonie Mc Mahon and Alison Lullfitz expressed an interest in doing this.

Gillian thanked Karen and Carsten Richelman for the use of Quaalup Homestead for the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at **15:30**.