



Friends of Grasslands - AGM papers

Supporting native grassy ecosystems

5 March 2021

Papers for FOG 2021 Annual General Meeting, 16 March 2021

Note: FOG Annual General Meeting will be held at the Conservation Council, Unit 14/26 Barry Drive, Ground Floor, Lena Karmel Lodge, Canberra ACT 2601. **Join us for wine and nibbled at 5pm.**

Dear Friends of Grasslands Members

Please find included: the agenda for our AGM, the president's report, a notice on election of members, and the draft minutes for 2020 AGM (held 22 April 2020). The draft annual report for 2020 and our annual audited accounts (2020) are circulated as a separate document.

Geoff Robertson

president@fog.org.au

6241 4065 or 0403 221 117

Agenda for FOG 2020 Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 16 March 5.30-7pm

Note: To attend, please register with: geoff.robertson@fog.org.au

Meeting agenda:

- Attendance and apologies
- Minutes of previous AGM, 22 April 2020 (see page 2) and matters arising.
- Acceptance of Annual Accounts and Auditor's report. (see separate document). If you have any queries please contact treasurer@fog.org.au.
- Acceptance of Annual Report (circulated separately) & President's Report (see this page).
- Election of office holders & committee members (for more information, see page 2)
- General business.

President's Report - Geoff Robertson

Despite 2020 being a highly challenging year, I think that FOG has emerged as a strong organisation. Its achievements are set out in our annual report. FOG's success rests on the shoulders of many people who have clear vision of our long term objectives, a strong commitment to our grassy ecosystems, a strong sense of self worth and a can-do attitude, honesty and courage, co-operative and friendly attitudes, and an openness to the knowledge of our first nation's people.

I wish to thank each person, who has and will continue to make this world a better place. While I am not re-standing for the committee, I will continue to play a role in FOG. I hope to hand over any formal functions by Christmas.

Annual elections of office holders or ordinary committee members

The AGM elects the FOG committee, including office holders (President, two vice-Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer) and up to eight ordinary committee members. Financial members may be nominated to any position. A nomination requires a nominator and seconder and agreement by the nominee (who also may be the nominator or seconder). Under our rules, nominations should be received by our returning officer, Ken.hodgkinson@fog.org.au by c.o.b. 11 March.

If at the AGM, there are insufficient nominations for positions, nominations may be called at the meeting.

Friends of Grasslands Annual General Meeting Wednesday 22 April 2020 Draft Minutes

The meeting was held on-line via Zoom with President Geoff Robertson in the chair, opening at 5:00pm. The following papers had previously been circulated: agenda, annual report and President's report, notice of motion to accept Jamie Pittock as an honorary life member and draft minutes of the 2019 AGM.

Attendance and apologies

Present

Alan Ford, Andrew Zelnik, Geoff Robertson, Janet Russell, Naarilla Hirsch, John Byrne, Cathy Robertson, Wal Whalley, Jamie Pittock, Linda Spinaze, Sarah Hnatiuk, Yvonne , Margaret Ning, John Fitz Gerald, Michael Bedingfield, William Willis, Sarah Sharp, Juliey Beckman, Ken Hodgkinson, Heather Sweet, Rainer Rehwinkel, Reto Zollinger, Maree Gilbert, Brian Everingham, Paul Archer (minute taker).

Apologies

Mike Peedom, Sue Archer, Isobel Crawford.

Minutes of 2019 AGM

The draft minutes were accepted without change. Moved Paul Archer, seconded Janet Russell.

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising from the 2019 AGM minutes.

President's report, annual accounts and auditor's report, and annual report

These reports circulated before the meeting were accepted.

Motions on notice

Motion: "This AGM accepts Jamie Pittock as a Friends of Grasslands Honorary Life Member". Moved John Fitz Gerald, seconded Geoff Robertson.

Election of office bearers

The President acknowledged those members who were standing down from the committee. Paul Archer agreed to act as Returning Officer. The outcome of the election follows.

President - Geoff Robertson had nominated prior to the meeting. There being no other nominations Geoff was appointed to the position of President.

Vice Presidents - There were no nominations for the two vice-President positions. These positions remained vacant.

Secretary - Sarah Sharp had nominated prior to the meeting. There being no other nominations Sarah was appointed to the position of Secretary.

Treasurer - Janet Russell had nominated prior to the meeting. There being no other nominations Janet was appointed to the position of Treasurer.

Committee - The following FOG members had been nominated prior to the meeting: Juliey Beckman, Maree Gilbert, Ken Hodgkinson, Margaret Ning and Andrew Zelnik. Linda Spinaze and Heather Sweet agreed to also accept nomination. All were appointed as committee members.

Round table discussion

Participants commented favourably on Zoom enabling faraway members to be involved. Many examples of using it for virtual tours of sites and on-line presentations, including linking up with overseas partners, were suggested.

Other matters discussed were briefing Brian Everingham on grassy ecosystems for his NSW NPA Advisory role, delaying our annual return to the ACT government, K2C activities, FOG's grassy ecosystem grants, FOG Blue Gum Point application, improving FOG approach in governance (membership, advocacy, events, newsletter, presentations to other groups, publicity and training volunteers), FOG acting as a watchdog (e.g. FOG raising examples of reserve and open space management) and encouraging submissions on the EPBC Act review.

Close - The meeting closed at 6:00pm

Published by Friends of Grasslands, PO Box 440, Jamison Centre, ACT 2614, Australia. For more information, contact info@fog.org.au