

Birding NSW

Annual General Meeting

4 December 2018

held at the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street Sydney 2000

Draft Minutes

The meeting commenced at 7.35 pm

Attendance: T Karplus (in the Chair), J Robertson, S Howard, D Dallimore, A Richards, J Rasmussen, P Sattin, L Jones, L Hall, M Hall, A Rasmussen, A Brophy, J Brophy, E Karplus, R Mason, C King, J Katelaris, J Rawson, T Wilson, H Maccionetti, J Clark, K Vernon, D Rawson, G Robinson, Y Chiwata, J Hunt, W Bye, C Bye, N Ikin, T Nixon, A Niewenhuisen, C de Gregorio, J Christie, D Thomson, A Schulte, H Heyer-Schutle, C Schutle, A Pidgeon, R Pidgeon, J & J Coffey, C Tomlinson, W Cope, G Duane, R Crates

Apologies: M Edwards, A Morris, B Ayres

T Karplus noted that B Ayres was in hospital, but that it was anticipated that he would be home soon.

Draft Minutes of the 2017 AGM meeting:

The draft minutes of the 2017 AGM meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record on the voices.

Business arising from the minutes:

There was no business arising from the minutes.

President's Report:

T Karplus said that he was grateful for the many volunteers who had done work for the club over the last year.

He listed the members who had contributed in roles as committee members over the last year. He said that the club could not function without the committee.

T Karplus listed the many volunteers who contributed to the activities of the club in various roles. He noted that A van Roekel had taken over as Membership Secretary in 2018, and had done a great job in this position, with lots of new ideas. He said that the membership list was now on a relational database, and that membership applications were now approved by the committee on-line rather than only at club committee meetings.

He mentioned that E Karplus had taken over as Email Co-ordinator in the last year. He said that he had co-ordinated the speakers in 2018. He said that Lindy Jones had assumed the role of club meeting table supervisor, and had performed this task very well. He commented that since the move of C Andrews overseas, D Dallimore had co-ordinated the Annual Photographic Competition this year, with assistance by M Edwards. He also said that there had been only two judges this year, but that the club would ensure that there were three judges for the 2019 competition.

He outlined the club's activities over the last year. He mentioned the regular club meetings, outings, campouts and caravan weekends. He thanked all those who participated in the club's various surveys, and those who led the club's field outings.

T Karplus emphasised the importance of the website, the newsletter and the Birding Bulletin in maintaining contact with the membership. He noted that most new members joined from the website, and that most membership renewals were now done by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). He encouraged members to take the newsletter in the electronic form, but said that the paper form would be available to those that preferred that format, but at an added cost.

He commented that the Annual Photographic Competition this year had been opened to members of other clubs for the first time. He commented that the standard of photography in the competition had been very high, with 20 entrants and 151 images.

T Karplus said that the club had performed regular surveys in 3 Key Biodiversity Areas, viz. South-west Slopes, Brisbane Water and Tuggerah Lakes), as well surveys in Centennial Park and in the Capertee Valley as part of the Regent Honeyeater Recovery Program. He noted that the Regent Honeyeater survey in the Capertee Valley would be done by professionals from next year onwards.

He said that the club continued its close involvement with BIGnet, and its productive relationship with BirdLife Australia and other bird clubs.

T Karplus mentioned that there had been four Birding NSW teams in the 2018 Twitchathon, which he said was an increase of 100% over the number of Birding NSW teams in the 2017 Twitchathon.

T Karplus then paid a special tribute to A Morris, who he said was resigning from the committee as he was moving to Port Macquarie. He said that A Morris had given great service to the club, having been on the committee since 1971. He listed the various positions that A Morris had held on the committee, including that of President, Vice-President, Journal Editor, Conservation Officer and Records Officer.

T Karplus said that A Morris had founded the Central Coast branch of the club in 1995, and that he had run it ever since. He said that A Morris had been the club's representative on the national Regent Honeyeater Recovery Project from 1990 to 2018, and that A Benson was taking over that role.

T Karplus said that in recognition of his contribution to the club, A Morris had been made a Life Member in 2012. He said that A Morris had generously agreed to continue to compile the unusual sightings for the club in 2019.

There was a round of applause for A Morris.

Treasurer's report:

L Hall tabled the report. He said that copies of the financial report were available on the desk for perusal, and that the report was also available on the website.

He said that the club was solvent, with about \$ 63k in the bank.

He asked if there were any questions about the financial statements. There were no questions.

The draft motion "That the Treasurer's report be accepted" was passed on the voices.

The draft motion "That L Hall (Treasurer) and D Dallimore (Public Officer) be authorised to sign the accounts and to send the annual return to the NSW Office of Fair Trading on the club's behalf" was passed on the voices.

Business arising from the Treasurer's Report:

There was no business arising from the Treasurer's Report.

Election of office-bearers and committee members:

T Karplus stood down from the Chair. L Hall assumed the Chair.

L Hall said that there was only one nomination for President. In the absence of other nominations, he said that T Karplus was elected for a further year.

L Hall then stood down, and T Karplus re-assumed the chair.

T Karplus said that there had been only one nomination for each of the other committee positions.

He said that in the absence of other nominations, he declared that these candidates were elected for another year.

New Business:

There was no new business.

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence.

Other Business:

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm