



Minutes

Monday 18 March 2019 – 7:00 – 8:30 pm
Manly Bowling Club, Raglan Street, Manly NSW 2095

1. **Acknowledgment to Country** – Sandy Hudspith
2. **Welcome new members.** Tom and Pat Hazell, Ron Mobbs, Max Paterson and BJ Cilia
2. **Attendance** – as per attendance sheet.
3. **Apologies** – Lois Clarke, Denise Keen, Judy Lambert, Leigh Costin, Christine Kinninmonth, Michael Jessett, Louise Jones
4. **Acceptance of Minutes of previous meeting** – read by Liz Howe, moved by Max Peterson, seconded by Toni Stevenson, accepted by show of hands.
5. **Update from President** – Lloyd Keen

- Summary of a report on Council's achievements and ongoing support of IPBG.

Achieved so far:

- A detailed survey of the site
- An arboriculture audit
- A site analysis
- Path network inventory and condition report
- Historical background research on the park for the purposes of design development and development of interpretive signage and/or a strategy
- Prepared an existing understorey/zone plant audit

In progress:

- Ascertaining the existing functionality of our irrigation system and any potential for modifications for future irrigation needs
- Working on some drainage matters that are currently being resolved which will also affect site conditions in the future
- April 28 Inaugural Garden Festival Update:
 - Our local member and Patron, Jams Griffin has confirmed that he will dedicate and plant a Wollemi Pine at our event.
 - The Mayor of Northern Beaches Council and several other councillors have also confirmed their involvement.

- We are hoping that 250-500 people will attend so we can, hopefully, fulfil our objective to get new members to join the Friends group.
 - There will be signage at the gates with a plan of the Park, also installed in time for April 28 event.
 - Signs of historic elements within the park going as far back as Henry Gilbert Smith, who envisioned Manly as a resort area, will also be installed.
 - We are partnered with Manly Bowling Club, the Scouts and for the Manly branch of the CWA.
- Tree labels are being printed at the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney and will be completed and installed prior to our Inaugural Garden Festival on April 28.
 - Unfortunately, the March 16 Working Bee was postponed and we apologize for this as the forecasted rain did not eventuate. It was agreed that we will move the work in the Sensory Garden and Australian Native Garden to Saturday, March 23 or Saturday, March 30, depending upon the weather but we will call all members to meet us on one or both of these dates anyway to discuss how members can be involved during the event. If weather is inclement, the meetings will begin at 10:00 a.m. at a dry location.

6. Update from Treasurer – Roger Dawson

The Financial Summary FY 2019 (March) was tabled. Roger explained that we have two accounts, a Working account (membership driven) and a State Government Grant account. The current balance is \$1,306.

Roger advised that a budget for the April 28 event is still be set.

Lloyd responded that he was working with Council on costs and that Northern Beaches Council will pay for some of this expenditure. Also, there is still \$1.75 million to be spent on new infrastructures and plants in the Garden.

7. Introduction of Guest Speaker – Sandy Hudspith

Libby Cameron, a garden tour leader, manager of the Speaker's List at the Royal Botanic Gardens, and the Chair of the Mosman Garden Club, spoke about the Royal Botanic Gardens – Past and Present and was entitled *202 Years and Still Growing*. Accompanied by brilliant photographs, Libby's presentation spanned the beginnings of the RBG to its now formidable status of being a scientific and educational living plant museum of worldwide significance.

8. Items for Discussion

- April 28 Inaugural Garden Festival Update
 - There will be a smoking ceremony at the beginning of the event
 - A didgeridoo player will be playing at various locations within the park
 - James Griffin and the Mayor will open the day

- The Scouts and Manly CWA will provide food and beverages
- Roger Dawson outlined the suggested tours to be run during the event. Roger has had considerable guiding experience at the Royal National Parks' Barrenjoey Lighthouse and currently at the Royal National Maritime Museum's Endeavour tour

He has suggested 5 stations and talks around the garden. (1) *All Aboard the Tram* about the history of trams in Manly; (2) *War and Peace* on the impact of our military history on Manly; (3) *The Sensory Garden: Smell This - Touch That* will focus on whether it is a plant or weed; (4) *Manly's Floriade* about the link between Ivanhoe Park Pavilion 1872 and the Intercolonial Exhibition Sydney 1870; and (5) *Our Aboriginal Heritage/Perspective* asks you to go back in time and imagine how the park looked 60,000 years ago. He envisages 3 talks before the official opening ceremony and then 5 talks from 12:30 p.m. until 2 p.m.

It was agreed by Executive Committee previously that we would set up a page on our website for people to register their interest in the tours beforehand. This will help us anticipate the level of attendance expected which will assist the CWA and Scouts with their catering. And if these tours prove successful, we will consider doing these tours in the garden in the future.

- A Save the Date flyer has been created and printed and members took some for distribution, not necessarily a letterbox drop this time, but to hand out to shops, libraries, information booths and other locations to display.
- Sandy Hudspith – monthly meeting speakers and trips to other Gardens
 - Speakers that are planned for future meetings will be Crosbie Lorimer (April 15) talking about development at Wollongong Botanic Gardens and Melissa Ellis (May 20) on the History of Friends of Botanic Gardens Sydney and their way forward. Later in the year in addition to speakers focusing on Botanic Gardens, we will hear about Manly Dam and the history of Manly's Tram.
 - The first trip would be to Wollongong Botanic Garden which will be scheduled for a Saturday after our event and to the Leura Gardens Festival will be on a weekday in October.
 - A request for suggestions and/or volunteers to step up as a substitute speaker was made. This will be an ongoing discussion.
- Call for additional meeting in preparation of Garden Festival

In addition to our next monthly meeting on April 15, we will send out a date for an additional members' meeting prior to the Garden Festival to update, confirm volunteers and hand out event flyers for distribution.

9. Other Business

- Gordon Wells suggested we fill the gaps cleared by our weeding in the Sensory Garden with plants. We will contact David Hummerston, NBC, who was involved in the original setup of the Sensory Garden, to suggest which plants.
- Gordon also suggested that instead of monthly, we should plan our Working Bees to be fortnightly. It was agreed that this would be considered and revisited after the April 28 event.
- Max Paterson suggested having a donation box available during the event to raise additional money. This was agreed upon as well of looking at other ways to collect private donations.

Meeting closed 8.40 PM