



MINUTES

Friends of Edgars Creek Annual General Meeting 2021

Sunday 21 March 2021 10:00 am – 11:15 am
Kodak Hill, Edgars Creek, Coburg North

Attendees: David Pavone, Robert Urquhart, Lisa Davis, Robert Burnett, Stephen Northey, Ben Davis, Paul Gleeson, Scott Fry, Kate Jost, Malcolm Wrest, Angie Pötsch, Peter Saniolco, Harris Scholz-Mitchell, Irene Baker, Sophie Clarke.

Correspondence: Apologies were received from Barbara Baker and Margaret Golder.

Confirmation of minutes: The minutes of the Friends of Edgars Creek 2020 Annual General Meeting were confirmed. The minutes have been published on the FoEC website.

President's Report:

2020 was a difficult year and the covid-19 restrictions had a significant impact on plantings during the year. David thanked all volunteers who assisted with plantings during their 2 hours of allotted exercise. Plantings associated with the Melbourne Water MW32, MW34 grants, as well as the 'Commonwealth communities for environment' grant, have been completed. Applications have been made to Melbourne Water for further grants, however, the grant approval process has been slower this year. Two grants have been approved by Darebin Council and a grant from Moreland Council is likely to be approved this week.

The President's Report was accepted by members of the meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Stephen Northey noted that the current FoEC finances were positive and the books are up to date. The balance sheet and profit & loss (income and expenses) statements were tabled for FY 19-20 and FY 20-21 YTD (year to date). Funds for the Melbourne Water 2021 grant application have not yet been received. The Commonwealth Communities Environment Program (CEP) project grant was fully expended during the FY 20-21 reporting period.

The Melbourne Water (MW32) project grant was fully expended during the FY 19-20 reporting period.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted by members of the meeting.

Secretary's Report:

The number of FOEC Facebook friends has been increasing each year (2013: 156; 2014: 185, 2015: 222, 2016: 295, 2017: 392, 2018: 1206, 2019: 1387, 2020: 1423). FOEC now has 454 followers on Instagram (320 in 2020). Seven committee meetings were held in 2020 (in March, April, May, July, September x 2, December). Most of these meetings were held on-line.

Attendance at the 2020 plantings was significantly affected by covid-19 and many events were cancelled:

Event	Date	Attendance
AGM	23/2/20	11
Powerline	21/6/20	18
M9 planting in 5's	4/10/20	14
M9 maintenance in 10's	22/11/20	14
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE		14

Average attendance over the years has been:

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Average attendance	23	33	32	36	31	35	30*	38	14

* If the initially cancelled 17/6/18 planting is not included, the average attendance for 2018 was 32.

The Secretary's Report was accepted by members of the meeting.

Works Manager Report:

Site preparation for the 2021 planting season is well underway. The FoEC noticeboard has been re-installed at the Ronald Street footbridge and a new noticeboard is planned for the Kodak Bridge. The FoEC trailer and container are fully stocked for the 2021 planting season.

The Works Manager's Report was accepted by members of the meeting.

Changes to the FoEC Statement of Rules (Constitution):

A revised version of the FoEC Statement of Rules was tabled at the meeting and changes to the statement of rules were discussed.

The revised FoEC Statement of Rules was accepted by members of the meeting.

Action: *Lisa Davis to publish the revised statement of rules on the FoEC website.*

Election of Office Bearers:

The meeting received the following nominations for vacant office bearer positions:

President: **David Pavone** (Nominated: SF, Seconded: PG)
Treasurer: **Stephen Northey** (Nominated: DP Seconded: BD)
Assistant Treasurer (in-training): **Malcolm Wrest**
Secretary: **Robert Urquhart** (Nominated: BD, Seconded: DP)
Immediate past president: **Stephen Northey**

All the above nominees were unanimously voted in.

Event Caterer: **Julie Brown/Margaret Golder (appointed)**
Works Manager: **Robert Burnett (appointed)**
Assistant Works Manager: **Ben Davis (appointed)**
Media Manager: **Lisa Davis (appointed)**
Additional committee member: **Scott Fry (appointed)**

Other Business:

Moreland Council Outstanding Achievement Award: Stephen Northey was congratulated for receiving an outstanding achievement award from Moreland Council for his work on Edgars Creek.

Use of glyphosphate for weed control: Moreland Council has indicated that it wishes to stop the use of glyphosphate for weed control in August 2021. The FoEC Committee has written to Moreland Council with concerns that the removal of glyphosphate will affect the success of plantings. Further discussions are planned with Moreland Council.

River red gums on North-West Link: Malcolm Wrest indicated that many old river red gums were being removed as part of the North-West Link project. Seed could be collected from the river red gums for use in plantings.

The meeting closed at 11:15 am.