



BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION OF THE ACT (INC)

**MINUTES OF THE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD
THURSDAY 20 APRIL 2017
AT THE YARRALUMLA PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Introduction

1. The Annual General meeting was attended with over 100 members present. The President welcomed attendees and opened the meeting at 1930.

Quorum

2. It was confirmed that the quorum (five members) was achieved as required by the Association Rules.

Presidents Report

3. The President, Cormac Farrell, presented his report for the preceding year to the members. A copy of the report is included at Attachment A.

Treasurer's Report

4. The Treasurer, Jon Justin, provided the financial status of the Association at the meeting. Jon outlined the significant activities that had been undertaken in the previous 12 months to modernise and improve the way in which the Association's finances were managed. A copy of the Treasurer's report is at Attachment B.
5. Jon also outlined the actions that had been undertaken to improve the management of the Association's membership. This included the online automatic payment system of Association fees.
6. There being no other reports to present, the President declared all Committee positions vacant.

Election of New Office Bearers

7. Cormac Farrell conducted the election of office bearers to the vacant committee positions. The results from the election are detailed at Table 1.

Table1: Results of Voting

Position	Nominee/s	Vote	Result
President	Cormac Farrell	N/R	Elected
Vice President	Dermot Asls Sha'Non Christine Joannides	Yes	Elected
Secretary	Phil Andrews	N/R	Elected
Treasurer	Jon Justin	N/R	Elected
Hive Manager	Alan Wade Frank Derwent	Yes	Elected
Training Manager	Frank Derwent	N/R	Elected
Assistant Hive Manager	Alan Wade ² Christine Joannides Frank Derwent ²	N/R	Elected
Assistant Training Manager	David Segal	N/R	Elected
Newsletter Editor	Juli Poole	N/R	Elected
Sentinel Hive SIG	Jeff Matson	N/R	Elected
Native Hive SIG	Peter Abbott	N/R	Elected

Notes:

1. Where the number of nominees is equal to the number of vacancies, a vote is not required and the nominee is duly elected
 2. Ineligible on account of being elected to another committee position
8. On completion of the voting the returned President, Cormac Farrell, thanked all nominees for their willingness to be engaged in supporting the Association.
 9. The meeting concluded at 2030.



Cormac Farrell
President

22 May 2017



Phil Andrews
Secretary

22 May 2017

President's Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 2017

With the traditional end to the beekeeping season fast approaching, it is time to have our Annual General Meeting, selecting a new committee for the next year. I have really enjoyed working with the current committee, and while we didn't always agree, we did achieve great things for the Association. Finishing our demonstration apiary and migrating our training to a purpose-built area, a successful Field Day, and lots of interesting meetings are significant achievements that members saw 'front of house'.

However, there were also a lot of things 'back of house' that are no less significant. Moving to an electronic banking and membership system was well overdue, as was the prep work that the hive management and training teams put into keeping things running seamlessly. Stephanie Wong also did an amazing job professionalising our approach to events management, often out of far-flung hotel rooms overseas.

Last month has also seen me realise a personal achievement, something that I have been working towards for three years. In the last week of March three beehives were delivered to the grounds of our national Parliament, capping off years of painstaking negotiations. Thanks to ANU Apiculture Society and my employer, Aurecon, for supporting this initiative. The hives were only in for a few days when they had their first 'official' function, used as the backdrop to the launch of a committee report on bee biosecurity. The apiary includes a standard Langstroth (our original Aurecon office hive supplied by Eric), a Top Bar Hive produced by the Open Source Beehives project and a Flow Hive.

It was interesting to see this focus on bee biosecurity from our Parliamentarians, given our continued (and expanding) role in the Sentinel Hive program. While Jeff Matsen is handing over the reins as Apiary manager, he is talking up a role of national significance as head of the Sentinel Hive Special Interest Group. The Association has signed a multi-year contract with Plant Health Australia to provide the ongoing monitoring around Canberra Airport. As many of you would be aware, Jeff has extensive experience in using this training as part of the response to the Townsville incursion of Asian Honeybees and Varroa mites. This longer term association is both a protection for our hives, as well as an opportunity to upgrade the skills of local beekeepers.

Please join me in thanking the outgoing committee members for the work that they have put into the association. We simply could not have functioned without their efforts, and most people never saw how much work they put in. Well I saw the work they put in, and I really appreciate it. Looking forward to the year ahead, building on what we have set up this year.



Cormac Farrell

President

Beekeepers Association of the ACT