

THE CANARY & CAGE BIRD FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 6th November 2019.

The President opened the meeting at 8:05 pm welcoming the delegates, thanking them for their attendance.

ATTENDANCE and APOLOGIES: as per attendance register.

MINUTES:

The minutes for the 4th September General Meeting of Federation had been distributed and read by the delegates. It was moved J. Flood and seconded J. Palmano that the minutes be adopted as a true record of the September General meeting – Carried

Matters arising out of the minutes: *None other than matters that can be held over for Reports and General Business.*

CORRESPONDENCE:

In-coming correspondence as follows:

- Affiliated clubs. Notification of office bearers duly elected at their AGM's, clubs requesting assistance with matters regarding the insurance, clubs 2020 ring orders from various affiliates notification of show, sale and auction dates for 2020.
- Affiliates, advising closure or non-requirement of public liability insurance in 2020, Beaudesert Parrot & Finch Association Inc, Brisbane Waters Cage Bird Society, Central Coast Poultry Club Inc, Langshan Club of NSW, Northern Suburbs Homing Pigeon Society Inc., Norwich Canary Club of South Australia Inc., Tenterfield Poultry Club Inc. No response from, Narrogin Poultry Society Inc., and the Yass and District Cage Bird Club Inc. Insurance also cancelled for the last two clubs.
- Combined Council of Queensland Avicultural Clubs, request for affiliation and insurance, commencing 31st December 2019 with completion of the application and privacy forms.
- Finch Society of Australia Inc. Nominating Sam Davis for the position of President for 2020, acknowledging his input and involvement in all avicultural issues throughout Australia during 2019
- President / Govt Liaison Officer. Sam Davis- ongoing communication, received in response to their communication with, NSW OEH / NPWS, - Wildlife Licensing submission, NSW DPI - Animal Welfare Action Plan, – ACA animal welfare alliance, ACT office of Conservator of Flora and Fauna.

Newsletters / Journals – Received from various clubs, with notification of club events for insurance:

Out-going correspondence as follows:

- Insurance Broker submitting complete schedule of affiliate clubs requiring insurance for 2020 and negotiating term, invoice and CoC's
- Various affiliates (80), email and phone calls following up their club's requirement for public liability insurance in 2020. clarifying matters regarding the insurance.
- President, notification to all affiliates advising two ways to access Feathered World. 3. On our website www.ccbfa.org.au and click on the Journals tab. And the second via the following URL - <http://online.fliphtml5.com/anwr/biqn/>
- President / Govt Liaison Officer, Sam Davis. - ongoing communication, in response to their communication with Minister for Agriculture NSW, Minister for Energy and Environment NSW, OEH / NPWS, Wildlife Licensing submission, NSW DPI – ACA animal welfare alliance, ACT office of Conservator of Flora and Fauna .

Matters arising out of correspondence:

Moved B. Lloyd and seconded B. Barnes that application for affiliation and insurance be accepted for the, Combined Council of Queensland Avicultural Club's – carried

It was moved by C. Isbister and seconded by J. Forrest that the correspondence be received and the secretary's action endorsed - Carried

TREASURERS REPORT

The accounts were submitted for endorsement. It was moved by B. Lloyd and seconded by G. Roberts that the payments and the Treasurers actions be endorsed – Carried

It was moved by J. Flood and seconded by G. Roberts that the payments and the Treasurers actions be endorsed – Carried

REPORTS:

President / Government Liaison Officer Sam Davis presented reported on:

- **ACT Licensing Issue**

Bruce Goleby (President Canberra Finch Club), Simon Degenhard and CCBFA President Sam Davis met with the ACT Conservator's office on Thursday afternoon 5/9/2019 to present our submission to reverse the recent changes to again allow the keeping of most exotic and commonly kept native species within the ACT without the need for a licence. Full submission is on our website – www.ccbfa.org.au.

The meeting couldn't have been more successful. There was immediate agreement that in general all exotics that are at all likely to be present in ACT aviculture should be returned or added to the exempt list, and similarly, in general, for any natives that are (or will be) exempt in NSW.

Implementation will take some time as they wish to ensure the new exempt list does not conflict with their work on the pest animal lists. There may be some negotiation on some species but we're confident all can be resolved sensibly. In the interim, we were assured nobody will be charged for keeping birds that were exempt but are currently not exempt.

Many thanks to all who assisted.

- **Native Parrot Exports for Display – Australian Government Meeting**

Productive meeting about native bird exports in Canberra yesterday 5/9/2019. A summary of the meeting will be released in due course, however this seems to be taking way too long.

The main points to come out of the meeting, in my view are....

- ACTP has done nothing wrong whatsoever.
- Support for a broader definition of where animals can be sent compared to the somewhat vague “zoo” current criteria. 4 criteria, from memory, were proposed as follows - conservation, education, welfare and breeding.
- Ensuring only captive bred birds are exported. A range of convoluted systems were discussed. A simple blood dot system so parentage of birds in doubt can be later checked would be simplest (my view).

The following CCBFA statement relevant to this matter was unanimously passed at our September CCBFA meeting and is the general view expressed by CCBFA President Sam Davis during the meeting and on behalf of approximately 250 CCBFA affiliated clubs. I believe there was general support for this statement at the Canberra meeting.

CCBFA supports and encourages a simplified export system for birds known to be aviary bred. Essentially captive bred birds, whether native or exotic, should be treated in the same manner as dogs, cats, and other routinely exported (and imported) species (except for threatened species within captive breeding programs). This is THE way to deter smuggling, as there is not and will not ever be sufficient sustainable funding to enforce border controls. The only proviso is to include safeguards to ensure captive numbers within Australia for each exported species remain sustainable.

- **Major Review of the NSW Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 (POCTA).**

A major review of POCTA and related Acts has just commenced. Michael Donnelly (ACA President) and I were and invited and subsequently met with the Kim Filmer (Chief Animal Welfare Officer), Suzanne Robinson (Director Animal Welfare) and other senior policy staff in Sydney on 24/10/19. The aim was to gather our initial thoughts on the current Acts regulating animal welfare in NSW prior to widespread public consultation taking place.

We outlined our recommended approach with simplified legislation based on the five freedoms, with enforceable standards for each animal grouping. The Standards (along with guidelines) to be written by the stakeholder groups with DPI staff assistance to edit. We have agreement to work with RSPCA as these standards are developed. Note this process will take many years.

There are a range of parliamentary inquiries underway that feed into this review and to which we are or will contribute, largely via ACA. We have been asked to present at the parliamentary inquiry into Animal Cruelty Laws in New South Wales whose findings will no doubt influence the POCTA review.

ACA President Michael Donnelly and I met with Shooters Fishers Farmers Party (SFFP) MP Mark Banasiak at parliament house on 23/10/19 and are confident of their support. We are meeting with Animal Justice Party (AJP) MP Emma Hurst on 3/12/19 to try to find common ground. We are meeting with RSPCA NSW CEO and senior staff regularly so as to present a united voice.

- **Victorian Animal Welfare legislation review**

There has been recent media indicating Victoria will move to progress its Animal Welfare Action Plan into a major review of all animal welfare legislation in the state. CCBFA is in contact with the Director of Animal Welfare, Tracey Marsden to ensure CCBFA (and ACA) are consulted from the start.

- **NSW Native Animal Licensing Update.**

We are still awaiting approval of the reforms package by Matt Kean, Minister for Energy and Environment. We have learnt the package has not yet reached the Minister's office so we have requested meetings with Atticus Fleming who is now at the top of the chain as Executive Director. Everything remains ready for implementation.

- **Animal Care Australia (ACA) update**

At ACA's AGM on Monday 9/10/19 I, Sam Davis, was elected ACA Vice President and will continue as the bird representative. The new President is Michael Donnelly who is an avid reptile and bird keeper. There is a terrific ACA committee representing a broad range of captive animal keepers. Michael and I have recently met with a range of senior government animal welfare staff, RSPCA CEO and MPs, we have invites to present at parliamentary inquiries and have further meetings with MPs scheduled. Submissions on a range of issues are or have been finalised and can be viewed on the ACA website – www.animalcareaustralia.org.au

There is much work underway by ACA. In NSW there are a range of parliamentary inquiries that require ACA input together with similar welfare matters arising in Victoria. If your club is aware of emerging issues in your state please let me know – best via email to president@ccbfa.org.au

We encourage all clubs to join ACA at their earliest convenience. Membership forms can be downloaded from <http://animalcareaustralia.org.au/files/aca-membership-application.pdf> and my letter date 20/10/2018 regarding ACA can be found under the submissions tab on the www.ccbfa.org.au

Moved G. Roberts and seconded by B. Lloyd that the Reports be accepted and Reporters thanked – Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- **Sydney Royal Show update.** I. Cindric presented an update stating the RAS now acknowledging that the aviary display and hand raised parrots as a draw card and will allocate more media exposure in 2020, options for show bags viable for 2021. The Feature bird in 2020 will be the Budgerigar. The aviaries will be for the duration of the show
- **National Poultry Show 2020.** C. Tsintarakis, advised with the support from the RAS Competition section that in addition to the aviary displays which again will be supplied by Col Western the RAS agreed to an aviary bird auction that will be conducted by the FSA, NSW Avicultural Society and the African Lovebird Society.
- **Avicultural Society of New South Wales.** C. Tsintarakis asked the chair a question regarding the insurance cover for a project the club is proposing which includes the installation of nest boxes at various locations and was advise that the CCBFA Public Liability policy would not cover that activity / project.
- **WIRES escaped birds.** B. Barnes advised that he had received a couple of requests, one being for a parrot with the beak and feather disease, which the Vet was advised should be euthanised.
- **Guest of Honour.** Nominations for Guest of Honour for consideration, 2020 to be received by the secretary before the night of the 5th February 2020 General Meeting, as per the Constitution o enable the G.o.H Selection Committee to review and consider. The Secretary to provide J. Palmano and the President with a list of the past guests.
- **Ring Orders 2020.** Supplementary orders can be arranged for all species during 2020. The initial orders for **2020 canary rings** [if required for distribution at the specialist Annual shows at the end of May] should be finalised by the 1st March 2020. Clubs requiring an order form which must be completed, should contact the Secretary, Ron Robertson by **Email:** Federationbirdclubs@aapt.net.au
- **Show and Sale dates for 2020** – Clubs are requested to email the secretary the dates for their 2020 shows, sales and auctions. It is understood that confirmation of the venue may be in abeyance / pending, however we request the tentative / projected dates be advised. Email birdclubs@aapt.net.au
- **Feathered World February March 2020 issue** show, sale, auction dates. The Secretary asked if additional copies should be printed. As all dates would be on the web, it was agreed that hard copies could be printed by those requiring them.
- The Secretary asked the meeting to approve the donation to the Children's Cancer Institute. It was moved B. Lloyd and seconded G. Roberts that we continue to donate \$200.00 as we had in the previous years. – carried

The President thanked the delegates for attending, as there was no further business the meeting closed at 9:44 p.m.

Notice of the next General Meeting

Wednesday 5th February 2020

at 8:00 pm

Ashfield R.S.L. Liverpool Rd. Ashfield