

WA Federation of Bushwalkers Inc.

Resolutions from the Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at cnr Milligan Street and James Street, Northbridge, on Tuesday 23 August, 2005.

Minutes of last meeting

A copy of the minutes of the last AGM, held on 25 November 1998 were circulated prior to the meeting, as was a copy of the minutes of the last extraordinary general meeting, held on 21 June 2005.

It was resolved to accept these as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Report on Federation activities

John Rees made the statement:

‘The last twelve months have seen a continuation of the operating model of the Federation in a “caretaker” role with regular quarterly meetings to discuss the issues relevant to the member clubs and bushwalkers in general. This arrangement was agreed upon in November 1998 and has continued until this present time. In the last 12 months there has been a continuation of the public liability and personal accident insurance through the BWA for those member clubs that have wished to take advantage of this opportunity.’

‘In addition several formal submissions have been made with respect to:

- Premiers Physical Walking taskforce
- Naming of the new National Parks in the South West
- Walpole Wilderness Area
- Future National Parks services and the Community
- Middle Helena Catchment area land use and water management strategy

‘Ongoing correspondence has been exchanged on the access issues surrounding Water Corporation’s Policy 13 and RPZs. This dialogue has not achieved any measurable progress to date however it was agreed upon a special meeting in June that it should be pursued with vigor.

‘At this special meeting on 21 June 2005, it was agreed that a range of initiatives would be undertaken to ensure that the Federation objectives would be followed through as well as moving out of the “caretaker” role and pursuing a range of initiatives that may be achievable and may include the formation of subcommittees. This was elaborated on in the minutes from this meeting.

‘As the Chairperson for the Federation meetings for the past few years and as a current BWA representative, I would like to register my personal thanks to Ian McDonald for the contributions that he has made to the coordination of the formal submissions and correspondence of the Federation and for the co-ordination of the BWA Insurance on behalf of member clubs. His support to the Federation and to bushwalking in general over many years has been commendable and all clubs should be thankful for his contribution. Jackie Furbie should also be thanked for her contributions to the management of the financial aspects of the Federation in her role as Treasurer.

‘For a long time, the success of the Federation’s initiatives has been difficult to measure and at times support from the member clubs and individuals has been wanting. This situation is not isolated to the Federation alone and where we rely on volunteers to give up their own time, it is often difficult to get a balance between work, home and families and the tasks of the Federation. This will not change.

‘For the future success of the Federation, it will need strong commitment from the elected delegates and from individual members within clubs to support the hard work that will be needed to tackle the issues of access to those areas that we have traditionally traveled and to the challenges ahead. It will rely on us to be more politically aware and to foster an interest in those that may be able to help our cause. These resources may lie outside the current Federation.’

Ian McDonald thanked John for his kind words, and added that the Federation had also made formal submissions with respect to:

- CALM’s policy 18 about Visitor Services
- Management of the D’Entrecasteaux and Shannon National Parks
- ERMP for expansion of Worsley operations

And there had been a lot of correspondence about:

- Access to the eastern Stirlings and Ellen Peak
- Water supplies on the Ridge Walk

And that actually we had had a lot of success with CALM’s Policy 18. Bushwalkers could go virtually where they wished subject to keeping group numbers small, and certainly below 25, and obeying our usual very tight minimum impact practices.

A motion of thanks to John Rees was passed unanimously.

Treasurers report

Ian McDonald circulated a statement of accounts prepared by Jackie Furby, and an auditor’s note dated 28 July 2005 saying he had examined the Federation’s books and found them to be true and accurate.

To the end of the year ended 30 June 2005 the Federation has had:

An income of	\$7776.31
Expenditure of	\$7701.00
Giving a surplus of	\$75.31

and at the end of the year had a bank balance of \$2565.78

A vote of thanks to Jackie Furbie was passed unanimously.

Future work of Federation

It was resolved that the programme agreed at the special meeting of 21 June 2005 would continue for the next 12 months.

It was requested that the Federation, where it had a programme that could be assisted by sponsorship, should seek it. This was agreed on the voices.

Frank Obbens requested that following the excellent submission on the Worsley Expansion ERMP the Federation needed to keep pushing with Worsley, to the extent of a letter a month. This was agreed with the proviso that ‘someone had to resolve to do this’, and it should be discussed at the next Federation meeting.

Election of Office Bearers

President: Ian McDonald was elected unopposed.

Secretary: Steve Napier was elected unopposed

Treasurer: Jackie Furby was elected unopposed

The meeting was closed at 9.00 pm