



## **Frank Fenner Foundation BOARD MEETING: SUMMARY REPORT** **Tuesday February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016**

The Board meeting was **attended** by Peter Tait (Chair), Colin Butler (arrived 6pm), Gilles Rohan (on phone), Paul Howorth, Samara Constable, Virginia Young (arrived 6.15pm) and Lyn Goldsworthy (Executive Officer - EO).

**Apologies** were received from Brendan Mackay, Jane Olsen, Jonathan Miller, Tony Capon

The Chair **welcomed** Paul and Samara to their first Board meeting and declared the meeting open.

### **1: Finance**

The Board received the Finance report, including an aspirational budget for 2015-2016 and expenditure/income track against July-December 2015 budget. A number of submissions and other funding initiatives are in play to attract new sources of funding, expenses are being kept to a minimum and staff are working several voluntary days/month. Several projects designed to deliver the FFF strategic plan are being rolled out within existing staffing and finance constraints (see below). Progress on our projects will be accelerated as additional funding becomes available. The Board agreed to continue the Foundation's current strategy at present, and to undertake a further review at its June meeting.

### **2: Administration**

- The public fund has finally been formally registered in the name of Frank Fenner Foundation.
- Jane Olsen has resigned from the role of Office Manager (OM). The Board expressed their warm appreciation for her significant contribution to the Foundation as OM, and particularly noted the large number of voluntary hours she has committed. Samara Constable has been contracted for a short period to streamline processes and prepare an Office Manual, when requirements to fulfil the OM role will be reviewed.
- The Board agreed that a summary of outcomes agreed at each Board meeting, starting from this meeting, will be published on the website for members' access.
- An operational plan for 2016, reflecting priority tasks to deliver the Strategic Plan, was discussed and will shortly be finalised.
- The EO has prepared a Board Charter to provide consistent documentation about the FFF for new Board members. This will be completed prior to the next Board meeting in April.
- The Board agreed to general terms of reference and membership of the following Board Committees and Working Groups (WG) for 2016: Finance Committee; Fundraising WG; Membership WG; Communications WG and Projects WG. WGs meet at least 4 times a year face-to-face/phone. Board members are required to be members of at least one WG and to contribute to the work identified by the groups. There is also an established Journal production WG which works primarily via email.

### **3: Members**

Preparation of the March edition of this year's **Journal** (which will be published four times in 2016) is proceeding well, and is expected to be published in mid-March.

The following **Member talks/forums** for 2016 have been agreed or are in planning:

February 25 <sup>th</sup> :	Climate Change (with Conservation Council ACT's Environment Exchange meeting)
March 3 <sup>rd</sup> :	FFF: Tuvalu and climate change – Dr Ian Fry - at Fenner School for Environment and Society (FSES)
March 24 <sup>th</sup> :	Places you love (Environment Exchange meeting)
April 28 <sup>th</sup> :	Biodiversity offsets (with Environment Exchange meeting)
May 5 <sup>th</sup> :	Virginia Young on role of healthy forests in healthy world (tbc)
May 26 <sup>th</sup> :	Waste management/reduction (Environment Exchange meeting)
June 23 <sup>rd</sup> :	Biocentre/Life Centre (with Environment Exchange meeting)
July 7 <sup>th</sup> :	FFF: ACT Politicians Discussion on the place for a biosensitive Canberra
August	FFF: Engaging youth in biosensitive pathway
September:	FFF: Stephen Boyden has agreed to lead a discussion on the need/otherwise for a new ideology (ism) to provide a space for our vision.

Options for the rest of the year include the role of protected areas in biosensitive world, and an update on fairness and justice. Additional suggestions are welcome.

#### **4: Partner Relationships**

**FFES/ANU:** A FFF lecture to advanced FSES students is planned for mid-2016 and discussions are currently underway to provide a seminar to first year students during first semester. The Board has agreed to offer free FFF membership to first-year students of FSES. And FFF is also investigating holding a stall on student market days.

#### **5: Projects**

The Board has reviewed and prioritised projects which can best progress its Strategic plan objectives over the next two years, with minimum of staffing/funding. As funding becomes available, these projects can be accelerated.

**Strategic Plan Objective: Provide a framework for people to further develop their biosensitive values,** is progressed through promotion of the Biosensitive principles. In 2016 the priority is to develop, refine and accelerate the dissemination of the principles, and disseminated through various communications media.

**Strategic Plan Objective: Undertake collaborative projects,** is progressed through the development of the 'life centre' concept so as to demonstrate the practical implementation of biosensitive principles, and through education/engagement to promote principles and their application (Biosensitive Workshops, Online Course, Survey, Art Project).

**Strategic Plan Objective: Build collaborative partnerships with research and educational institutions,** including West Belconnen development, potentially City Farm, Australia 21, Conservation Council ACT and Region, Council of the Aging and FSES, to promote our biosensitive framework and to develop opportunities to demonstrate practical implementation of the biosensitive principles.

A number of support projects, including the Communications Plan, videos, fact sheets, presentations, lecture frames, publications, and social media, will assist the work above.

The research element of the Strategic Plan requires additional funding before being initiated and hopefully can be detailed in the next operational plan

**Strategic Plan Objective: Promoting informed discussion (for the purpose of generating change) about social cultural and economic changes necessary to achieve our vision,** will also remain opportunistic until we attract additional funding to launch the transformation project.

