
MINUTES

of the **Botany Historical Trust**
held in the Mascot Library and George Hanna Memorial Museum
2 Hatfield Street, Mascot
on **Monday 3 February 2025 at 6:30 PM**

Present

Robert Hanna, President
Jacqueline Milledge, Senior Vice President
Christopher Hanna, Vice President
Richard Smolenski, Treasurer
Warren Hensley, Secretary
Amanda Wilson AM, General Member
Lenore Daley, General Member

Also present

Bobbi Mayne, Manager Libraries and Lifestyle
Christopher Mackey, Coordinator Development Assessment
Cate Kloos, Administration Officer Libraries and Lifestyle

The Chairperson opened the meeting in the Mascot Library and George Hanna Memorial Museum at 6:30pm.

1 Acknowledgement of Country

The Chairperson affirms that Bayside Council acknowledges the Bidjigal Clan, the traditional owners of the land on which we meet and work and acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation. Bayside Council pays respects to Elders past and present.

2 Apologies, Leave of Absence, Remote Attendance

Apologies

The following apologies were received:

Councillor Christina Curry
Councillor Scott Morrissey

Attendance Via Audio-Visual Link

There were no Committee members in attendance via audio-visual link.

3 Disclosures of Interest

There were no disclosures of interest.

4 Minutes of Previous Meetings

[4.1 Minutes of the Botany Historical Trust Meeting - 4 November 2024](#)

Committee Resolution

Moved by Richard Smolenski and Christopher Hanna

That the BHT Committee notes the Minutes of the Botany Historical Trust meeting held on 4 November 2024 that have been formally adopted by Council on 27 November 2024.

[4.2 Minutes of the Extraordinary Botany Historical Trust Meeting - 4 November 2024](#)

Committee Resolution

That the BHT Committee notes the Minutes of the Extraordinary Botany Historical Trust meeting held on 4 November 2024 that were formally adopted by Council on 27 November 2024.

4.3 Business Arising

The Committee notes that the Minutes of the Botany Historical Trust of Monday 4 November 2024 were received, and the recommendations therein were adopted by the Council at its meeting of 27 November 2024.

5 Reports

BHT25.001 Planning, Development & Compliance Matters

Planning, Development and Compliance matters were tabled for discussion with the BHT Committee.

1. DA-2024/291 – 50 Gordon Street, Rosebery
 - Alterations and first floor attic addition to existing heritage item
 - The BHT Committee has no objections to DA-2024/291.

- DA-2024/304 – 1060 Botany Road, Botany
 - Conversion of an existing outbuilding to a secondary dwelling, conversion of a garage to a studio and alterations to primary dwelling
 - The BHT Committee has no objections to DA-2024/304.

- DA-2024/336 and 2024/337 – 1243 and 1245 Botany Road, Mascot
 - Alterations and additions to existing heritage attached dwelling including roof replacement, internal reconfiguration, rear extension, demolition of existing garage and construction of a detached garage
 - The BHT Committee has no objections to DA-2024/336.

- DA-2024/359 – 23 Henley Street, Rosebery
 - Tree removal and construction of a studio at the rear of the property
 - The BHT Committee has no objections to DA-2024/359.

- DA-2024/316 – 135 Bay Street, Botany
 - Alterations and two storey rear addition to existing heritage listed dwelling including a new swimming pool and attached garage
 - The BHT Committee has no objections to DA-2024/316.

- DA-2024/256 – 686 Botany Road, Mascot
 - Façade remedial works and change of use to gymnasium
 - The BHT Committee has no objections to DA-2024/256.

- MDA-2024/202 – 33-35 Sutherland Street & 36 Harris Street, Rosebery
 - Modification to landscape design, addition of shade structure, change to stormwater design for St Therese Catholic Primary school
 - The BHT Committee has no objections to DA-2024/202.

Committee Resolution

That the Committee notes the information provided about heritage related planning, development and compliance matters.

Committee Recommendation

That Council investigates who is responsible for the maintenance of the Marina Theatre in Gardeners Road, Rosebery to ensure graffiti is removed and mitigates further deterioration of the historical building.

BHT25.002 President's Report - Robert Hanna

The key points of the President's report were:

- Welcoming the new BHT General members Amanda Wilson AM and Lenore Daley as well as the new BHT Councillor members Christina Curry and Scott Morrissey.
- Advocating for excursions for the general membership.
- Finding three suitable Community Representative members to be recommended to the General Manager to join the committee including one with specific experience and/or interest in archiving.
- Recognising the considerate contribution of the late Dr Peter Orlovich to the BHT.

Committee Resolution

Moved by Richard Smolenski and Warren Hensley

That the BHT Committee notes the President's Report.

BHT25.003 Local History Update

Committee Resolution

1. That the BHT Committee notes the Local History Update report.
2. That the BHT Committee assists and contributes to the Women During Wartime project.
3. That the BHT Committee assists Council to promote the Historical Markers program.

BHT25.004 Program and Activities for 2025

Updates to the Program and Activities for 2025:

- The Ron Rathbone Local History Prize Award will close in July 2025 and the winners will be announced in August 2025.
- The Mascot RSL ANZAC Day March will take place on Sunday, 27 April 2025.

Heritage excursion:

- The Royal Australian Navy historical museum at Garden Island is closed until further notice so can't be included as an excursion option.
- The ANZAC memorial museum in Hyde Park can be visited and entry is free. BHT Treasurer Richard Smolenski will further investigate this excursion option including logistics, timing and costs, to assist the Committee in making an informed decision on proceeding later in the year.

Excursion to Sydney's National Trust homes:

BHT Treasurer Richard Smolenski is investigating if an excursion to Sydney's National Trust homes is possible since most of these homes are now privately owned.

Committee Resolution

1. That the BHT Committee notes the Program and Activities for 2025 report.
2. That the BHT Committee organise an extraordinary meeting to further discuss and make recommendations for the 2025 Program and Activities.

[BHT25.006 Botany Historical Trust Funding](#)**Committee Resolution**

That the BHT Committee notes the Botany Historical Trust Funding report.

[BHT25.005 Other Business](#)**1a New Executive Membership****Committee Recommendation**

Moved by Amanda Wilson AM and Lenore Daley

That Council email information about new member applications to the BHT Committee prior to the meeting.

1b Community Representatives

There are 3 community representative positions available with voting rights in the BHT Committee. The BHT Committee would like to fill all 3 positions; one preferably by an archivist.

Committee Resolution

Moved by Jacqueline Milledge and Lenore Daley

1. That BHT President Rob Hanna liaises with Nominees that were not appointed an Executive Position and General Members who have expressed an interest on being on the committee to obtain more information about them and their interests. Rob will update the BHT Executive Committee on the outcome of the engagement. The BHT Executive will then make a recommendation to the General

Manager for the 3 community members to join the Committee in accordance with the BHT Constitution.

2. That BHT Treasurer Richard Smolenski contact Paul Brown from UNSW to enquire about experienced archivists that may be interested in joining the committee.

2 Recognition of Dr Peter Orlovich

Committee Resolution

Moved by Richard Smolenski and Jacqueline Milledge

That BHT President Rob Hanna investigates if the family of the late Dr Peter Orlovich would like to be involved in the recognition of Dr Orlovich, former BHT Committee member and archivist.

Committee Recommendation

Moved by Richard Smolenski and Jacqueline Milledge

1. That Council considers recognising former Archivist, BHT Executive Member and St George Historical Trust Member, Peter Orlovich by establishing a local history grant or some other form of recognition of his work.
2. That Council display a photo of Dr Peter Orlovich with information about his legacy at Mascot Library.

3 Acknowledgement of Country

Committee Resolution

That the BHT Committee members agreed that the Acknowledgement of Country statement is read in accordance with Council's operational procedure.

4 Update of Names on the Botany War Memorial

Committee Recommendation

That Council requests that the Manager Libraries and Lifestyle revises the scope of the project and develops a project plan including estimated costs with the Local History Team and the BHT President.

5 Engagement Strategy

General Executive Member Amanda Wilson AM is working on a draft engagement strategy to increase the engagement and participation of general non-executive members and to grow the membership. Amanda will send the draft to BHT President Rob Hanna and then circulate to all Executive members for comments.

BHT Committee members will organise a meeting to discuss the strategy.

Committee Resolution

Moved by Amanda Wilson AM and Lenore Daley

1. That the BHT Committee accept the nominations from Rupert Shuttleworth and Robert Nilson as general (non-Executive) members.
2. That the BHT Committee to meet and discuss the engagement strategy when drafted.

6 General Business**BHT25.006 BHT involvement – BHT Newsletter and Local History Exhibitions**

BHT President Rob Hanna stated that the BHT Committee would like to have more input in the newsletter and exhibitions. The Manager Libraries and Lifestyle advised that Council welcomes more input and participation from the BHT Members in the newsletter and also welcomes suggestions for future exhibitions.

Committee Recommendation

That Council engages with the BHT Committee to seek their ideas and input into the preparation of the BHT Newsletter and future exhibitions.

BHT25.007 BHT Christmas Function

That the BHT Committee thanks Council for a well organised Christmas function for all BHT members at the end of last year.

7 Next Meeting

That the next meeting be held in the George Hanna Memorial Museum at Mascot Library at 6:30pm on Monday, 5 May 2025.

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 9:10pm.