

Minutes of 21th GNoR BIG AGM
Winchester Marketing, Lower Houghton
25 July 2015



Present – Executive Committee:

Julio Balona	Chairman/Research Coordinator
Erna Balona	Membership Secretary
Sharron Reynolds	Treasurer
Trevor Morgan	Newsletter Editor
Terence Scott	
Werner Marais	

Also Present

Leon Coetzee
Annatjie Barkhuizen
Rebecca Smith
Pat van Nierop
Yolandi du Toit
Goffinet Family (Glenys and Michelle)
Andries and Liz Herholdt
Dorothy Wheeler
Leigh Richards
Eve Pearse
Friend of Terence
Monika (Animalia)
Richard Goode

Apologies:

Mimi Neumann	Ford family (Roger & Leticia)	John Kinghorn
Ingold Family (Dave and Vanja)	Wanda Markotter and family	Kate MacEwan and family
Mientjies family (Avril & Tony)	De Villiers Family (Lindsay and Kate)	Ashleigh Taylor
Stewart McCulloch		

Author: Erna Balona

Proceedings

Welcome to the 21th AGM of GNoR BIG. Founder member Liz Herholdt was welcomed along with the speaker, Dr Leigh Richards. With 15 memberships present and 5 proxies received, the meeting was declared legal.

1. Chairman's Address

Julio gave the Chairman's address summarising the past year's activities, future activities planned and thanked all GNoR BIG contributors. Highlight was Ratho, a venue that rivalled Pafuri. Rhenosterpoort was another highlight where Botswana long-eared bat was captured.

Highlights included ~ 373 people educated during this financial year and 2 Newsletters were issued. Pat van Nierop mentioned that the members are very appreciative of the newsletters.

Pierre Goffinet was thanked for playing chef for Ratho and coordinating pizza at Groot Marico. 36 members paid up. Actual is closer to 50.

Facebook site slowed down and will be revived.

Calendar for 2015/2016 was discussed. Joint outing proposed with Bats KZN next year.

Current committee was thanked.

The following other people were thanked:

Mimi Neumann for the website
Lihle Dumalisile from Gauteng Nature conservation
John Power from North West Nature Conservation
Staff at Pretoria Botanical Gardens and JHB ZOO
Karin Spotiswoode and Steve & Frok
Pros: Teresa Kearney, Ara Monadjem
Leigh Richards
Brian Whiting for the use of the venue.

Regular Helpers were thanked.
 Annatjie and Andre Barkhuizen
 Pierre and Glenys Goffinet
 Lindsay de Villiers and Family
 Yolandi du Toit
 GNoR BIG members

2. Treasurer's Address

Sharron gave the Treasurer's address summarizing the past year's financial performance.
 Cash on hand R22 000. New laptop purchase has been proposed.
 Call account is R1 000.
 Petty cash R500.
 Most income from bat walks, and talks by Wanda.
 10 Bat detectors were purchased for resale.
 Subs were not increased this year.

3. Electorate

The following proxies were received by email or fax prior to the AGM:

Proxy from	Proxy to
Steward Mcculloch	Terence Scott
Sandy Hammond	Erna Balona
Mimi Neumann	Erna Balona
Vanja and Dave Ingold	Sharron Reynolds
Lindsay de Villiers	Julio Balona
Roger & Leticia Ford	Julio Balona

Therefore the electorate was represented by 5 proxies in addition to the attendees which equated to 15 votes (family votes count as one each), to give an equivalent total of 20 voters. With 36 paid-up members, 12 members are required to form a quorum. Meeting was declared legal.

4. Results

According to the GNoR BIG Constitution the following portfolios were required to be submitted to the election process since the incumbents will have served two years since their last election:

Julio Balona Chairman
 Erna Balona Membership Secretary and merchandise

There were no new nominees for any of these positions and all present voted the incumbents to serve another two year term, which was accepted.

The positions of:

Sharron Reynolds Treasurer
 Trevor Morgan Newsletter Editor
 Wanda Markotter no specific portfolio
 Kate MacEwan no specific portfolio
 Werner Marais no specific portfolio,
 Stewart Mcculloch Sponsorship
 Terence Scott Sponsorship
 John Kinghorn Jnr. Education,

were not required to be submitted to the election process since they have served less than two years since being elected, and are willing to continue another year.

The new Executive Committee is therefore:

Julio Balona Chairman
 Erna Balona Membership Secretary and merchandise
 Sharron Reynolds Treasurer
 Trevor Morgan Newsletter Editor
 John Kinghorn Jnr. no specific portfolio
 Wanda Markotter no specific portfolio
 Werner Marais no specific portfolio
 Kate MacEwan no specific portfolio
 Stewart Mcculloch Sponsorship
 Terence Scott Sponsorship

5. Any other business

Increase in talks for other groups

Leigh Richards mentioned that museum journal can be used to publish new records.

Consider talk at mountain club.

Honorary rangers are putting up bat houses at Berg and Dal. If anybody is interested and can assist – contact Erna.