

Friends of Moreleta Kloof

Moreleta Kloof Natuurreservaat



Minutes for : Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Friends of Moreleta Kloof Nature Reserve
Venue : Rademeyers Chapel, Moreleta Kloof, Helios Street, Moreletapark
Date : Thursday 19 November 2015 **Time: 18:12 to 20:45**

Attendance:

	Name	Abbreviation	Title
Required:	Sarel van der Merwe	SvdM	FMK Chairman
	Andrew Meyer	AMR	FMK Director
	Jeannie du Plessis	JdP	FMK Director
	Pierre Steenkamp	PS	Director elect
	Lizel Steenkamp	LS	Secretary
Apologies:	Martie Malan		FMK Member
	Adelene Marais	AM	City of Tshwane: Nature Conservation
	Benita Liebenberg		FMK Member
Attendees:	Sarel van der Merwe	SvdM	FMK Chairman
	Pierre Steenkamp	PS	FMK Director Elect
	Lizel Steenkamp	LS	FMK Secretary
	Andrew Meyer	AMR	FMK Director
	Deirdre van Helsdingen	DvH	FMK Member
	Jeannie du Plessis	JdP	FMK Director
	Johan Pietersen	JP	City of Tshwane: Nature Conservation
	Helena Coetzee	HC	
	Pierre Pitzer	PP	FMK Member
	Mercia van Tonder		FMK Member
	Marie van der Merwe		FMK Member
	Berna Siebert		
	Chris Siebert		
	Menanteau du Plessis	MdP	
	Mornay du Plessis		FMK Member
	Karin Behrens		
Laura Jordaan		FMK Member	

Item #	Description	Responsibility
1.	Opening and welcome SvdM opened the meeting at 18:12 and welcomed everyone in attendance.	SvdM
2.	Attendance, apologies and proxy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apologies received from Benita Liebenberg, Martie Malan and Adelene Marais • Proxy for Benita Liebenberg, DvH • The meeting is a quorum. 	
3.	Approval of minutes of 2014 AGM The minutes of the AGM of 30 October 2014 were unanimously approved by the meeting without any changes. SvdM signed the minutes.	All
4.	Confirmation of agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The agenda was unanimously approved by the meeting. • SvdM invited the meeting to add points to the agenda if required, but no further points were proposed. 	All

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5.	Chairman's report	
5.1.	<p>Overview and status of FMK activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discovery and Sensory Trail Project Phase 1 of the project which includes a wooden rest deck and toilet combination as well as a bird hide and paved parking is in use but we have a serious shortage of water for the toilet facility. Nature Conservation organized the connection to the sewer. The water supply to the reservoir for the toilet continues to be a point of concern that must be addressed as a matter of urgency. • Removing alien plants and trees from the Reserve This problem is being addressed. We had a few groups, Wildlands, volunteers at clean-up events, UNISA students and Waterkloof Hoerskool pupils working very hard to remove invader plants. • Protection of the Palisade Fence We are actively seeking donors to help our partner, Nature Conservation, with the Protection of the palisade fence by means of a professional rust convertor. We have painted approximately 300 metres in Rutgers street. We still have a long way to go but, with the help of Nature Conservation and donations we will succeed. • Events Jeannie is organizing regular events and outings to promote the Moreleta kloof. An overview of the events from 1/11/2014 to the end of 2015 was presented. 	SvdM
5.2.	<p>Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The birdhide is functional and well used. • Reduction of game in the Kloof addressed overgrazing. • Construction work at Rubenstein and Blouhaak finally in progress • Inspection and repair of sewerage lines. • Introduction of "Snapscan" as a new way to support FMK • Introduction of Mountain Reedbucks (Rooiribokke) to the reserve. • Many exciting bird sightings ie.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ European Reed Wabblers ○ Buffspotted Flufftail ○ Swallow tailed Bee-eaters • Moreleta Village Market – Income and marketing possibilities. 	SvdM
5.3.	<p>Concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Condition of the Palisade Fence. • Water wastage at the reservoir. • Water supply to the toilet • Forced entry through the Palisade Fence. • Construction work at Rubenstein and Blouhaak. • Shelter for guards. • Moreleta Village Market – Impact on the kloof and how to manage. 	SvdM
6.	Overview and approval of financial statements	
6.1.	<p>Overview and approval of 2014/2015 financial statements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AMR presented the FMK 2013-2014 financial statements the statements was 	AMR

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	<p>unanimously approved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The financial statements are available on the FMK website. 	
6.2.	<p>Overview and approval of 2015/2016 Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Because FMK does not have a regular income there is not a specific budget, funds generated through membership fees and donations will be allocated to projects on the basis of priority and donation requirements. Project identification and fund allocation will be discussed at the first directors meeting of 2016. 	AMR
6.3.	<p>Vote of thanks to Bookkeeper and Auditor</p> <p>SvdM thanked CMV Auditors for the audit performed as well as the preparation of the financial statements.</p>	
6.4.	<p>Appoint /confirm Bookkeeper and Auditor for next year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The auditors agreed to do the FMK audit for 2015/6 and the meeting unanimously re-appointed CMV Auditor as FMK auditors for the next financial year. SvdM was in contact with CMV Auditors and will endeavour to finalize the Audited Statements within 2 months from our financial year end; they will also handle the appointment and resignation of directors. 	
7.	Moreleta Kloof projects and activities	
7.1.	<p>Palisade maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Palisade maintenance continues to be a problem that requires ongoing attention. JP said that they will purchase more paint. It was noted that a lot of preparation needs to be done to remove rust before painting can commence. HC said that she would organise the involvement of Hoërskool Waterkloof pupils in the preparation and painting of the palisade fence. Fund allocation for the projects will be discussed at the first directors meeting of 2016. 	Meeting
7.2.	<p>FMK Membership and involvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that there was a decline in membership numbers in 2015 compared to the previous year. An effort will be made to get existing members to renew membership. HC said that R350 was too high and that she thinks that FMK would get more members if we lowered the fee to R200. Directors will discuss and establish a reduction of fees. The payment of fees shall be on a “pro rata” basis/ quarterly fee structure for members joining throughout the year will be discussed at the first directors meeting of 2016. DvH said she would be willing to help with the administration. The possibility of lowering the fee to R200 or even lower will be discussed ad-hoc and implemented as from 29 November 2015. 	Meeting

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7.3.	<p>FMK marketing, new signage, display cabinet and regulations This will be discussed at the first directors meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A suggestion from HC early in the meeting was to try an “Adopt-an-Animal” campaign for fundraising. 	Info
7.4.	<p>Clean-up, clearing of invader plants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A lot has been done already but this is an ongoing concern. JP said that their contractors will continue to clear invader plants JP said that he (they) would supply poison for the “pom-poms” on request. 	Info
7.5.	<p>Water supply to toilet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A pipeline will be laid from Rademeyers’ borehole to the toilet This will commence on Monday 23 November 2015. The meeting thanked both Nature Conservation and Rademeyers as this will be a great improvement to the facility. Jeannie, David, Eddie and Johan were thanked for their ongoing efforts with the water supply problem. 	Info
7.6.	<p>Differential access control options There was nothing new to report, this will be discussed at the next directors meeting of 2016.</p>	Info
7.7.	<p>SnapScan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This has not been used a lot but as more and more people explore this option it will grow in time There is no monthly cost, but it does cost 3% of every transaction. This will be of particular benefit at the Moreleta Village Market as a means for people to pay membership fees/ donate. 	Info
7.8.	<p>Construction c/o Blouhaak and Rubenstein JdP reported that construction is in process and will continue on 28/2/2016</p>	Info
7.9.	<p>Sewage leaks, pollution and water wastage from the reservoir.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As stated in the Chairman’s report a Team from Mainline Civil Engineering opened up, investigated and cleaned the sewerage pipelines (6 points on the main line). Repairs were made by CoT. No further sewerage leaks have been reported. 	Info
7.10.	<p>Entrance to Reserve and Shelter for the guards JP said that Nature Conservation will put up a shelter with a roof for the guards</p>	JP
7.11.	<p>Maintenance to the Bird Hide and toilet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As stated in the Chairman’s report, members of the Defence Inspectorate painted the Bird Hide for Mandela day. JdP said that she has someone that will repair the hinges (Willem Sultus?) 	Info

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7.12.	<p>Information Hut</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work has been completed, can now be used to host talks. • Power can be obtained from the guard house if needed. 	Info
7.13.	<p>Moreleta Village Market</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HC Started the discussion by raising the following concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ She feels that the reserve is supposed to serve a different purpose and that the market would undermine that purpose. ○ Possibility of damage to the grounds (made reference to the Pioneers museum) ○ The area will not be able to handle the extra traffic. ○ Concerned over where people (especially 4x4s) will park as she lives very close to the reserve. • AMR suggested that the event organiser, Pierre Pitzer (PP), inform the meeting as to the specifics of the market as people are concerned but they may not know all the details about the market and how it will be run. • PP explained the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It is an Art market with quality goods and food on offer. ○ 1st and last Sunday of every month. ○ If a market day is cancelled due to the weather, it will move to the following Sunday. ○ 6h00 – setup starts 9h00 – market opens, 14h00 – market closes. ○ It is organised the same as any other event/function held at Rademeyers. ○ Maximum of 130 stalls. ○ It was approved by CoT, SAPS, Nature Conservation and the local City Councillor, Francois Bekker. ○ It will adhere to strict Health and Safety regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Health and Safety officer ▪ Ambulance ▪ Evacuation plan etc. ○ There is a map with the layout which will be made available to FMK. ○ Parking only allowed in designated areas ○ There will be people to regulate the traffic and parking ○ Places where parking is not allowed and other restricted areas will be marked with orange tape. ○ Additional toilets will be available. ○ Background music will be played, not too loud because it is Sunday. ○ There will be a debriefing after markets where problems will be identified and addressed. ○ They will donate R1000/month to FMK. ○ FMK can set up a stall at each market to use for marketing and fundraising free of charge. ○ They will do as much as is possible to make sure that market goes do not park on FMK parking and adhere to reserve regulations. ○ The market is only marketed in the surrounding area and serves to bring the people of the area together. ○ PP apologized for not openly communicating their intentions to move 	Meeting

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	<p>the market to Rademeyers with FMK directly and earlier and that members had to find out via social media. But that the FMK must also keep in mind that there were sensitive and confidential business dealings between them and Rademeyers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DvH also said that the meeting must keep in mind that it is in Rademeyers' interest that the market runs smoothly and not have a negative impact on the grounds or animals. And that the market will be managed to accomplish this. • HC said that it sounds much better that what she thought it was and that she thinks it could be very positive. • HC is still concerned about where people will park. • HC made a statement not relevant to the discussion about loud music late at night coming from Rademeyers. She was informed that it is most possibly the music from the pub in Rubenstein that she hears as sound travels down the Kloof. • The Chairman said although this agenda point has not been finalised yet he would like to suggest that PP serve as a director of FMK because he has a lot of financial, marketing and event management experience to offer the management of FMK. Furthermore, being a director will ensure that he is obligated to keep the prosperity of the Moreleta Kloof Nature Reserve in mind at all times, even where the market is concerned. • AMR and DvH seconded the motion. • HC walked out of the meeting without saying a word. • An emotional discussion ensued amongst the meeting members. • AMR calmed the meeting and suggests that PP write a guideline on how the Market will be managed and that we give it a chance. FMK Management can lodge complaints if necessary. • PP confirms that he will provide the guideline document to FMK. 	PP
7.14.	<p>Tshwane Nature Conservation inputs</p> <p>7.14.1 Game management (Nature Conservation)</p> <p>7.14.1.1 Gene pool management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JP will find out what the plan is for the introduction of new animals, he will report back at the next directors meeting. • JP is planning to construct a "birth camp" that can be used to protect young ostriches and sick or hurt animals. <p>7.14.1.2 Drought management plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lucerne has been supplied and will be supplied as needed. • Rademeyers' borehole water will be used to irrigate and rehabilitate areas identified. <p>7.14.2 Proclamation of Moreleta Kloof Nature Reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AM is in the process of obtaining quotations • AM will give feedback at the first directors meeting. • This will be a priority project with regards to fundraising. 	JP AM
7.15.	<p>Acknowledgements</p> <p>SvdM thanked everyone involved with making the events planned throughout the year a success. Jeannie for organising the events and getting knowledgeable</p>	Info

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	people to lead walks and talks and for getting sponsors. He also thanked the various sponsors for getting involved to help make events successful.	
8.	Confirmation / election of directors and resignations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• During the emotional discussion that followed agenda point 7.13 and HC's walk-out it was established that there was indeed a quorum present.• AMR, PS and SvdM was re-elected as directors and PP was elected to serve as director.• SvdM said on numerous occasions that he would leave the chapel if the meeting wants to discuss his competency as Chairman, no one asked him to leave or put forward a motion of no-confidence and DvH asked that he must please stay on as Chairman as he is deemed very competent.• JdP did not indicate if she is still available as FMK director.	All
9.	General	
9.1.	Faansie Peacock day This point was not added at the beginning of the meeting but was introduced as a random suggestion by HC. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A day to honour Faansie Peacock before he leaves for Cape Town.• Organise birding events on the day (ie. bird talk, bird ringing)• SvdM asked HC if she would organize the day, she agreed.• HC must be notified of a suitable date for the event.	HC
10.	Next AGM <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A date will be set and communicated to friends and the public.• The AGM will be held soon after the audited statements and report is received from CMV Auditors, hopefully April/May 2016.	

Meeting adjourned at 20:45

Minutes of meeting approved by:

Sarel van der Merwe
Chairman of FMK