

Friends of Moreleta Kloof

Moreleta Kloof Natuurreservaat



Minutes for : Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Friends of Moreleta Kloof (FMK)
Venue : FMK Information Hut, Moreleta Kloof Nature Reserve
Date : Thursday 09 November 2022 **Time: 16h00**

	<p>easier to manage with banks and SARS for example. It was agreed that the FMK stays an Article 21 Company and that the constitution stays the same. All monies that are owed will be paid. New directors will be appointed, and current directors will be removed.</p> <p>FMK is a member of WESSA, to which all Friends groups must belong. FMK is also registered at the CoT as the Friends Group of Moreleta Kloof. FMK operates under the provisions and requirements of the constitution as a Friend group under WESSA.</p> <p>5.3 FG mentioned as highlights the Saturday morning alien hacks, the walks with experts in various fields and the guided walks.</p> <p>5.4 The sewage running into the reserve, the palisade fence general condition and vagrants forcing their way into the reserve, were mentioned as concerns and ongoing challenges. FG mentioned that the FMK membership increased from 16 in 2021 to 21 in 2022. The lack of funds and general maintenance of the reserve remain a concern.</p> <p>5.5 FG wished to thank donors, CoT for palisade fence repair, Wille Vrywilligers, Karl van Dyk and Rouxne Botha and volunteers on the weekend hacks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please refer to the Chairman's report for more detail, if required. 	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Overview and approval of financial statements</p> <p>6.1 FG was under the impression that LB could audit the financial statements but only realised too late that CMV needed to audit the statements. CMV do now have the documents for the audit. It was agreed that the audit be added when it is ready. The FMK finances are still in the green.</p> <p>6.2 FG thanked LB and CMV for all their work with the finances.</p> <p>6.3 CMV was appointed as auditors for the next year and Leon Badenhorst for financial control and the preparation of the applicable financial records and statements.</p>	<p>FG All</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Overview of activities and projects presented by JdP</p> <p>7.1 JdP said that the clean-up and clearing in the reserve is successful and AM agreed. Most of the volunteers work together on a Wednesday but there are others that work elsewhere in the reserve on other days. JdP thanked LK for the work that Frans is doing. She thanked RH for organising the extra Saturday hacks. She thanked Nature Conservation for cutting the trees below Rutgers, although this area still needs to be tidied up.</p> <p>7.2 The palisade fencing needs attention to stop game escaping and for security reasons. Karl van Dyk and RB have been working on the maintenance of the paths and the paths have been kept well. 1000 steel pins that were donated have been used up. LK said that the paths look good.</p> <p>7.3 Thanks to the help from volunteers, Waxall from Nature Conservation, donations from Investec and Dries Bekker the hide and the toilets have been repainted and repaired in the last few months. The work was interrupted by the rains but it is nearly finished.</p> <p>7.4 The sewage problem has improved but there are still some problems with</p>	<p>JdP</p>

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	<p>sewage entering the reserve. This is difficult to trace as it comes in through the stormwater drains. Other pollution from the stormwater drains is a big problem.</p> <p>7.5 Dr Piet-Louis Grundlingh (Department Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment) referred FMK to Antoinette Boonstra.(Wetland Specialist). She is always willing to give advice and has been a huge help regarding the erosion and the wetlands. She has helped with advice regarding the development of Stand 88 and problems that might occur. She advised about testing the water 2-3 times a year using a MiniSASS and a full SASS. She advised about building wooden structures to slow the flow of water in the wetland that could lead to the wetland drying out. AM said the wood that was donated has been stored at the Nature Conservation depot for security reasons and that some long poles still need to be collected from the donor.</p> <p>7.6 Refer to 7.10.</p> <p>7.7 Ivan van der Walt (Landscape Consultant) came to give advice regarding the large areas that were exposed once the invader plants have been removed. He advised that grass seeds should be planted to stop erosion. He also advised on methods of stacking the invader plants once they have been removed. Shade and sun mixture seeds have been purchased and the first few demarcated areas have been planted. It appears that the first seedlings are coming up already. The grass will hopefully slow down the growth of invaders such as Linden Leaf Sage.</p> <p>7.8 JdP feels there are too many people visiting the reserve. AM said she works in the reserve on weekends and the hikers she spoke with did not think that the reserve was overcrowded. She personally feels that there aren't too many visitors. LK said he thought there weren't too many visitors. AM says she only allows one large group of hikers on a day but can't control groups that just arrive without prior approval.</p> <p>7.9 The development of Stand 88 next to the reserve is a cause for much concern. The Basic Assessment Report refers to the Reserve as "Vacant Land" with no value and has mountain bikers riding in the area. There is no mention of the wetlands and all the other plants and animals that will be affected. FMK and JdP (in her personal capacity) have responded within the deadline of 9 November 2022.</p> <p>7.10 JdP acknowledged Andre Jooste, Pieter Theron, Dries Bekker, Investec through RB and many other donors. She acknowledged Judy van Eeghen for the upkeep of the rest deck. The volunteers that give their time and buy equipment when necessary were also thanked. Thanks to Carol Martin and Elaine Lubbe for assisting with the MiniSASS. The SDA group with Marise were also acknowledged for there alien invader removal once a month.</p>	
8.	<p>Tshwane Nature Conservation inputs</p> <p>8.1 AM said a tender was out for the gene pool management in the Reserve, but it had been turned down. Now the tender process starts again. She said ostriches do not need a permit, so they can be brought in if some can be found. MK only has female zebras and male zebras are not wanted as the Reserve is not a breeding farm. AM said there may be something in the pipeline from the National Zoological Gardens.</p> <p>8.2 The entrance gate for the Reserve is not off Nature Conservation's agenda. The R400 000 surplus from another project has been stopped. AM says she</p>	AM

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	wants to plan a smart entrance with toilets and an office. The entrance will have to meet with CoT requirements. It will include a generator for power failures and paving and new fences. It will come at a cost of R6 000 000. 8.3 AM said Moreleta Kloof has been approved as a National Nature Reserve and is no longer a Municipal Nature Reserve. The proclamation just needs to be published and advertised.	
9.	Confirmation / election of FMK directors and resignations FG will continue as the chairman. AH will continue as secretary with JdP and RH as additional members.	
10.	General 10.1 JdP suggested an Open Day for purposes of marketing the FMK. LB suggested that Friends should not be charged for the organised walks. LK suggested that more school groups should be hosted. JdP said these groups were difficult for FMK to handle and that AM does organise school groups. 10.2 Refer back to 7.9. 10.3 Refer back to 5.4 and 7. 10.4 AM requested that the drums near the rest deck be removed and rather have benches placed there. JdP felt that the drums should stay.	JdP
11.	Next AGM 11 Date for the next FMK AGM in 2023 will communicated to FMK Friends and the public.	All

Meeting adjourned at 17h30

Minutes of meeting approved by:

Faan Grundlingh
Chairman of FMK