



Executive and General Meeting

Monday 12th May 2008

Queanbeyan City Council Committee Room 1

1 Opening

The meeting was opened at 6:00 pm with Lynton Bond (President) in the Chair. A warm welcome was extended to all present.

2 Attendance / Apologies

In attendance were Lynton Bond, Sandra Lloyd, Claudia Nye, John Bruggeman, Maryke Booth, Tom Baker, and Jim Arnold.

Apologies were received from Bayne Geikie and Bruce Taloni.

3 visitors or members attended, Bryan Nye, Eddie Davis, and John Buma.

Bryan Nye gave us a short presentation on the 20/20 Summit held in Canberra recently. He thanked us for the opportunity to speak. He acted as stream leader (10 streams) for his group of 100 participants, representing "Rural and Regional (Infrastructure)".

Some observations: Interesting what the media chose to report to the public (emphasis on celebrity), people attended from all over Australia, all senior people in their field, found the Indigenous Stream to be disappointing, Sustainability and Climate Change wasn't a predominant priority with the groups, each group was required to present 2-3 ideas to make worthwhile change in the near future (one idea with no cost), food provided was bad (boxed lunch). Groups were not convened along political lines.

Overall: Australia needs to have one national economy (no states) to eradicate duplication and achieve cohesion within the nation. The Government will have to pick up some of the ideas presented at the summit eventually. We need to develop processes to best utilize Australian conditions, with sustainability and climate change as priorities. We have to clearly understand the role of Government and the role of the people in the future. We require standardization and licensing accreditation across Australia and incentives for research into sustainability.

Generally it was a worthwhile process, with people working together towards a better future for all. Ideas will make a difference when adopted by Government, particularly ideas supporting a national economy. Urban congestion and better cities programs also require attention. All details are available on the 20/20 website.

To sum up in two words: A Challenge.

3 Minutes of 14th April 2008.

Motion: Tom Baker /Maryke Booth

“That the minutes be accepted.”

Carried.

4 Business Arising – From table at end of minutes.

- (a) Draft business plan still being worked on.
- (b) “Along the Molonglo” scoping project, looks as though something may eventuate this financial year.
- (c) 3D Model of Catchment: Bayne and Zoe are still looking into this.

5 Correspondence List.

- (a) NSW Environment Trust: sent in agreement, but no money has turned up as yet.
- (b) ACT Heritage Library: back copies of our e bulletin are now available.
- (c) Revised Territory Plan submitted to minister, available at Dickson Shopfront for inspection until 30th May.
- (d) Willow Management Guide: our copy has arrived.
- (e) Adrian Ford, PhD student from Orange wants to interview Zoe about the “Ferals” project. We should participate.

6 President’s Reports (Lynton Bond) New and outstanding business.

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Molonglo Catchment coordination Project: still owed nearly \$70,000 (for three quarters) in payments since last September. We have been advised the Commonwealth Government is still processing the quarterly reports. This is holding up our engagement of a 2nd part time coordinator. ACT NRM Council has indicated that the coordinator’s position has been guaranteed for the next 12 months. Funding for NRM activities needs to be core budget funding.
- (c) MCS: Paddock Plants field day, Hoskinstown, held on the 3rd May was well attended (10 people), mostly by the usual faces. Lower Molonglo Gorge field day on the 10th May was also well attended (29 adults, 6 children, 2 more for the e bulletin list). Good feedback.
- (d) MLM: Brochure has been printed. Keith has put together another ACT Environment Grant application for \$13,500 to fund continuation of the project. We have applied to TAMS for an open license to use and publish their data on our website. Will take time.
- (e) Ferals: Zoe has put together the draft survey and sent it out to the committee to test. We have asked for an extension to the NSW Environment Trust grant because we need time to get the data.
- (f) K2C: Tom attended the meeting on 1st May and circulated his notes by email.
- (g) Murrumbidgee Landcare Inc.: Funding for the executive officer is exhausted.
- (h) Catchment Landcare Association: Met 24th April. “Caring for our Country” funding was discussed. We will now get 90% of previous funding amount. Catchment coordinator funding has been guaranteed for the next 12 months. Lynton completed the questionnaire for the Joint Resources Centre for our group. The ACT NRM Plan is in it’s final draft and should be available for inspection by the end of May.

- (i) ACT Land Keepers Summit: A monitoring, evaluation and reporting trial (MERI) was conducted on a \$1M ACT Land Keepers project. This is a relatively expensive way to evaluate projects and allowances will have to be made in funding applications in the future to cover additional costs if this trial method is adopted. Participants in the project were interviewed. A draft report is available now.
- (j) UMCCC Meeting: Held on 30th April, followed by a Landcare Forum Steering Committee meeting. Tentative dates for a Landcare Forum in Queanbeyan are 17-18 November. Landcare NSW Muster is on the 16th November. UMCCC is considering updating and reprinting the “Look After Your Natural Assets” booklet as supplies are nearly exhausted.
- (k) Weeds Pack: Jason Robinson of QCC (Weeds Inspector) has developed a system to ensure that ratepayers who want copies of the weed pack will get them, hopefully reducing landfill in the process by ensuring that they only go where they are wanted.

7 Vice President’s Report (Tom Baker)

- (a) Along The Molonglo: The Queanbeyan show opens in the Trinculo Place Gallery on Friday 6th June at 7:15 pm. Tom has organised for The Q (new theatre in Qbn.) to exhibit winning entries in their exhibition space on the last week in June (23rd to 28th) at a cost of \$300 (QCC Cultural Grant).

8 Accounts (Maryke Booth).

- (a) \$96,000 + GST still owed to us. \$200,000 in the bank at 7% interest. \$46,000 in General Expenses.

9 Waterwatch Coordinator (Bayne Geikie)

- (a) Bayne wasn’t present but did email his report through to the committee listing his recent activities. He continues to attend schools. He suggests MCG donate our Wollemi Pine to ActewAGL GM of the Water Division in recognition of ActewAGL’s continuing contribution to water education in the Molonglo catchment.

10 CCSERAC Biodiversity Group Delegate (Claudia Nye)

- (a) Claudia attended her first meeting on 30th April.
- (b) Kings Highway: A development application for widening and rerouting has been submitted. They propose to reroute through the TSR, not the pine forest? Dr. Michael Mulvaney has prepared a submission for CCSERAC.
- (c) Molonglo Valley Development: 158 submissions received regarding the changes to the territory plan (281), to be addressed at a later date.
- (d) Next meeting: 28th May. Claudia will be O/S and is unable to attend. Maryke offered to attend in her place.

11 Other Business.

- (a) Future field days: Gary and Mark Burgess have proposed a weeds and indigenous species field day at Campbell Park sometime in the future. Lynton will see what can be arranged.
- (b) Look After Your Natural Assets booklet: MCG has in principle support for revision and reprinting of the booklet and will put up \$2,000 for this.
- (c) Canberra’s Volunteers’ Day: 10:00-3:00 18th May at the Hotel Realm, Barton.

- (d) African Love Grass: John Buma spoke about a trial of flouro propionate poison (e.g. Taskforce) to monitor and evaluate it's action on weed and native species. Volunteers will be required for visual assessment and monitoring throughout the trial. 8.5 acre plots will be trialed, possibly on Scottsdale. MCG will advertise for the volunteers, and training will be provided, possibly for a November start.
- (e) Indigenous Planting guides: Maryke has a quote for \$2,090 to update the Burra, Qbn. and Molonglo guides to the same standard as the Jerrabomberra Creek Planting Guide. The quote is from the some business that did the weeds kits. Printing will cost an additional \$2,500 when design is finalised.
- (f) NRMA Volunteer of the Year: 15th May, 10:00am, Southern Cross Club, Phillip. We have nominated Maryke for the Environment Award.
- (g) Ferals: Don't forget to complete your "Ferals" survey and return it.
- (h) Getting Involved brochure: Jim will circulate photos for our consideration to use in the brochure.
- (i) Willow control in Queanbeyan: Tom informed us that QCC will accelerate willow control in the centre of Qbn. The CMA has contributed \$100,000 to the project to assist with removal of dead trees.

12 Next Meeting.

Executive and General Meeting, Monday 16th June '08, 6:00 pm, QCC Community Centre, Casuarina Room.

13 Closure.

The meeting was closed at 7:45 pm.

Action By	Details	Start Date	Due Date	Completed
LB/ZW	Draft business plan based on Murrumbidgee Landcare model	12/2/07	ASAP	
LB	Seek variation to MCS3 for increased subsidy rates for perennial pastures in line with current charges.	12/2/07	12/3/07	Submitted awaiting response
TB/LB/ZW	Prepare project proposal to scope art in NRM extension of Along the Molonglo	2/11/07	10/12/07	Ongoing
ZW	List project deadlines and prepare advice on priorities	14/1/08	11/2/08	Completed
ZW/LB	Prepare work plan to optimise outcomes for Molonglo Catchment Coordination project	11/2/08	10/3/08	Completed

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(Chairman)

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(Date)