



Executive and General Meeting

Monday 16th March 2009

MCG Meeting Room: Unit 10 Cassidy Arcade, 72-76 Monaro St Queanbeyan.

1. Opening

The meeting was opened at 4:07 pm with Lynton Bond (President) in the Chair. A warm welcome was extended to all present.

2 Attendance / Apologies

In attendance were Lynton Bond, Jim Arnold, John Bruggeman, Claudia Nye, Sandra Lloyd, Tom Baker, Margaret Piper, Andrew Westcott and Stephen Skinner.

Apologies were received from Maryke Booth and Bruce Taloni.

One visitor attended, Helen King (ANU - CRC).

3 Minutes of 9th February 2009.

Motion: Claudia Nye / Sandra Lloyd

“That the minutes be accepted”.

Carried.

4 Business Arising.

(a) The Q: rental for art exhibit not finalised as yet.

(b) Water testing: Stephen has prepared a wish list of equipment required. Phil Selmes had some surplus gear, which he has passed on to Stephen. Tanya is to receive some more testing kits.

5 Correspondence List.

(a) B2B Magazine arrived (Business & Govt. Magazine).

(b) Final MCS Roll-out Project (MCS2 and 3) report from GA.

(c) ACTEW, Murrumbidgee To Googong: Water transfer update, Frequently asked questions, Planning approvals.

(d) NSW Office of Liquor, Gaming & Racing: We have been granted Charitable fundraising authority in NSW.

(e) Livestock Health and Pest Authorities: Information sheet on the newly formed organisation. 14 offices replacing the 47 RLPBs.

(f) LHPA: updates on the Pest Insect Destruction Fund.

(g) NSW Environmental Trust: Annual Report 2007-08.

(h) NSW OLGR re: Central Café: notice of submitted application for a liquor license.

(i) Burra Creek: invite from Nathan Rees to attend a meeting with the premier on Burra Creek issues.

(j) Banksia Street Funds: letter from GA outlining how they will handle money.

(k) ACT Heritage Library: CD of historical images of the Molonglo Valley from the air, for the Catchment From the Air project.

- (l) Letter to NCA regarding Waterwatch.
- (m) Letters to various applicants regarding Project Officer recruitment.

6 **President's Reports - Lynton Bond.** New and outstanding business.

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) MCS: projects finalised, updating website as we receive GA's final report and stories from landholders.
- (c) ACT NRM Council are finalising a cooperative agreement for Regional Component of CFOC to the end of June. Much the same as this year; expect that there will continue to be a shortfall in funding of \$20,000.
- (d) Equipping Molonglo: still waiting on the next instalment of CFOC funding. Delayed because of Commonwealth Govt. requirement that all progress reports be received before releasing funding. 6 applications were received for the position of Project Officer to replace Terry. Interviews done on 13th March. Thanks Sandy and John Feint for assisting with selection. An offer will be made soon to successful applicant.
- (e) K2C: Ben Carr from Bush Heritage is preparing a CFOC Investment Proposal. No further details as yet. Next steering committee meeting 17th March at Scottsdale.
- (f) CFOC: Molonglo River Rescue Project has been delayed, no funding released. Extended to February 2010.
- (g) GA – Under New Management: Sue Streatfield and Lynton continue to work on this.
- (h) NCA and Waterwatch: Lynton and Stephen met with Peter Clark regarding Waterwatch on LBG. Discussed communications support for blue green algae issues, requiring \$11,000 funding in the first year, \$3,000 pa after that. Stephen will attend Lake Users Forum quarterly meetings in the future.
- (i) Billabong Aboriginal Corporation: Lynton and Andy met with Jim Best to discuss opportunities for involvement with this group. Andy has provided a fuller report.

7 **Vice President's Report - Tom Baker.**

- (a) Reminder: Queanbeyan Environment Expo, 12-13 June' 09.
 - (b) 3D Catchment Model: The Queanbeyan Men's Shed will take the project on. Hopefully it will be ready for the Environment Expo. We will pay the school for the materials they have bought.
 - (c) Along the Molonglo Art Show: The MCG should sponsor a prize for the Floriade event next year. ACTEW has upped their prize by \$300 to \$1,800. Would the ACT NRM Council be able to come to the party for funds? NCA also needs to be negotiated with. Our prize needs a name:
Motion: Tom Baker/ Claudia Nye
“That the MCG Committee prize be known as ‘The Catchment Committee’s Choice’”.
- Carried.**
- (d) School of Arts Scoping Project: apparently the work has been done (students did the work over the holidays) but the funding hasn't been spent. Sarah Ryan will talk to John Reid to see how the funds can be spent. Communication breakdown here. Helen King will talk with John if she sees him.
 - (e) International Arboretum Open Day: Busy day with lots of interest in displays, ran out of pamphlets.
 - (f) CIT Course: aimed at National Area Region for Industry people. They want our input as to what to include in the course. Geoff Butler and Geoff Robinson are also involved with this.
 - (g) Queanbeyan Council Nursery: a huge amount of water available here to exploit in projects such as native grass seed harvesting. QLC use part of this nursery.

8 Accounts – Lynton, on behalf of Maryke Booth.

- (a) Bank A/c's: \$117,000 in main a/c, \$5,000 in misc. a/c.
- (b) Over \$100,000 currently owed to us.
- (c) NHT/NAP invoiced for some things in advance.
- (d) MCS: still funding to go on the ground, but funding is committed GA will get the work done and then sign off.

9 Coordinators Report – Andrew Westcott.

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Activities Andy has been to working on are:
 - Pest Animal Education Pack: 1st draft comments are in, with some initial problems with the format. Waltraud can provide photos of rabbit damage on Mt. Majura.
 - Support for Landcare Groups and the Community: assisting 'Soul Survivors' to place volunteers for environmental work, assist Sascha Kaminski on Mt. Pleasant project, display at Qbn Regatta, display at Corin Bank Festival, appear on Radio National to promote weeds field day, meeting with Watson Woodland Group and Friends of Mount Majura.
 - Indigenous Planting Guides Posters: final drafts supplied by Graphic Ark have been reviewed and approved by Lynton, John Feint and Andy. Final copies are expected within a fortnight.
 - 3D Catchment Model: Qbn High has pulled out but the Queanbeyan Men's Shed will further the project.
 - Weeds Field Day: The Jerrabomberra Weeds Field Day is to be held on 28th March.
 - Meetings with stakeholders: CLA, Frog Watch Coordinator and Laura of the Forde Development, Richard Larson of Watson Woodland Group, Waltraud of Friends of Mount Majura, Jim Best of Billabong Aboriginal Corporation.
 - Catchment from the Air Project: Due to shoot final scenes. We now have over 300 high quality images of the catchment, a valuable resource for future projects.
 - Biodiversity Monitoring Program: Developing a biodiversity monitoring program with the assistance of Rainer Rehwinkle.
 - Frog Field Guide: 1st draft has been developed. Dave Hunter, Threatened Species Officer with NSW Dept. of Environment and Climate Change will assist to review the document. Andy met Laura Attuall from the Forde Development who has committed to funding printing of 1,000 copies and pay for any images that we require.

10 Waterwatch Coordinator – Stephen Skinner.

- (a) See report distributed at the meeting.
- (b) Activities Stephen has been to working on are:
 - Media Releases: Radio Landcare
 - Waterwatch Newsletter: Report on Holiday Program.
 - Public Activities: Qbn Cabinet meeting regarding M2G, Qbn. Regatta Day, met with NCA and Peter Clark re. Waterwatch on LBG, ACTEW public information evening at Burra, attended follow up to the Qbn Cabinet Meeting at Kangaroos Club, met Ms Tebbutt re. Burra Creek and the upcoming EA for the pipeline, attended MCG monthly meeting, attended ACT Waterwatch meeting.
 - Training Session: prepared for Year 12 field day at Molonglo Gorge, trained volunteer Kate Harriden (YAR400 Kit 12) for water quality testing.
 - QA/QC Sessions: prepared material for 2 future training days for volunteers.

- Community Groups or Projects Assisted: assisted the Indigenous Crew to select site at barracks Flat for testing and record first tests, prepared submissions for NCA re. LBG testing, assist Terry with Frogs Glove-box Guide.
- State Of Database for Reporting: 8 groups reported in for February, recording 11 sites.
- Molonglo Website Update: 'February in our Catchment' and important Waterwatch dates submitted to web page.
- Educational Programs Delivered: Blue Gum Community School trip to a dam on Mt Majura, Bungendore Joey Scouts macro invertebrate trip.

11 Members Reports – Jim Arnold.

- Jim walked all of Yarralumla Creek to see what is there. He will circulate photos by email.
- NSA: Field day at Peter Marshall's perma-culture and NSF property Reidsdale, and another nearby.

12 Other Business.

- Billabong Aboriginal Corporation: Andy met with Jim Best to look at potential projects which MCG can assist with. Short term projects have little value for the Corporation as they seldom deliver long term outcomes for the participants. "Adopt an Area", possibly on the Murrumbidgee, with 3 year intensive training and future mentors is one potential project which may deliver better outcomes. Opportunities present themselves with Qbn Council Nursery and Queanbeyan Sewerage Works used to raise funding, possibly with aquaponics and native seed harvesting programs, using BAC trainee labour.
- CCSERAC: Hume Development and loss of Grassy Box Woodland. Biodiversity Working Group next meeting, 25th March.
- Project Officer: The Molonglo River Rescue project has no funding yet so we may have to fund the next project officer until such time as funds are released.
- GA : Final MCS 2 & 3 reports are in from GA. They reveal some interesting statistics: 73 sites, 50 on sites of less than 20 hectares. Average cost per site \$1,800. \$235,000 spent. 39% to 50 landholders. All funds have been committed.
- Landcare Awards: nominations required. July 10 deadline. 3 new categories: Urban Landcare, Young Landcarer, State And Territory Peoples Choice.
- UMCCC: Planning day last week. 5 year plan, what to concentrate on, how to achieve it etc. 8 main areas to be looked at. No summary of full plan is available as yet.
- MCG as a Registered Charity: Lynton is working on a draft brochure to make available to interested parties who may want to give us money as a registered charity.

13 Next Meeting

Exec. & General Meeting: Monday 20th April 2009, 4:00 – 5:30 pm.

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14 Closure.

The meeting was closed at 5:45 pm.

Action By	Details	Start Date	Due Date	Completed
LB/ ZW	Draft business plan based on Murrumbidgee Landcare model	12/2/07	ASAP	
TB/LB	Letter to CIC re principles: "Assessing and Responding to Major Development Proposals in the ACT"	14/7/08	11/8/08	

LB/MB	Review trailer insurance conditions	11/8/08	8/9/08	
TB/AW	\$300 for The Q rental	9/02/09	16/03/09	Completed
SS	Approach ACTEW for WW testing kit sponsorship	9/02/09		Completed

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Chairman)

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(Date)