



Executive and General Meeting

Monday 11th May 2009

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

1. Opening

The meeting was opened at 4:05 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, Sandra Lloyd, Claudia Nye, Maryke Booth, Tom Baker, Andrew Westcott, Stephen Skinner, and Margaret Piper.

Apologies were received from Helen King.

3 Minutes of 20th April 2009.

Motion: Sandra Lloyd / Tom Baker

“That the minutes be accepted”.

Carried.

4 Business Arising.

- (a) Tom has approached Margaret to see if she would like to represent MCG on the CCSERAC Biodiversity Group. No confirmation received as yet.

5 Correspondence List.

In

- (a) ACTEW: Graham Costin advises that the M2B received approval from the ACT Govt. Draft EIS being finalized now, hopefully ready by mid July for public display and comment for 30 days. Adina Cirson is ACTEW’s new community engagement leader. Her contact details are adina.cirson@actew.com.au or 62483563.
- (b) Queanbeyan City Council: Draft 10 year community strategic plan released.
- (c) Friends of Googong: Final report re. Acquittal of their ACT Govt. grant. Bruce Ainsworth made some interesting comments on MCG accounting cost estimates of \$440.
- (d) Telstra: Overdue account notice, account was paid 5 days before notice was received.
- (e) Riversmart: Overview of what they have to offer.
- (f) Qbn. Artists Society Newsletter.
- (g) Scott Eiper: received frog pictures from Scott to use in Frog Brochure.

Out

- (a) Environment Trust Grants: EOI.

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

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Catchment from the Air: project is running behind schedule. Andy and Hugo will look at this before end of June.

- (c) Map of Past Environmental Projects: set up as poster and brochure. A tool for seeking donations. www.molonglocatchment.com.au/HelpUsMakeADifference.htm
- (d) MLI: providing some web training. Marian has a new web site model for us, as per Victorian Landcare web-page (See Vic. LC website, using Google Earth and links).
- (e) Accepting Donations Brochure: added Tom's suggestions. Lynton wants to start to approach potential donors asap. Met with a representative of one organisation who is preparing a proposal for MCG. It may take some time maturing relationships before the process becomes productive.

7 Vice President's Report - Tom Baker.

- (a) Queanbeyan Environment Expo, 12th & 13th June '09. Friday evening 5:30 to 7:00 pm, get together with all other participants.
- (b) 'Along the Molonglo' Art Show: John Reid will open the Queanbeyan show on World Environment Day, 5th June after 7:00 pm. Winning paintings go to The Q for the next week.
- (c) CCSERAC Biodiversity Group: Margaret will attend if meeting times are suitable to her.
- (d) NPWS and left over funding: Tom and Rainer think this funding (a couple of thousand dollars) should be used for weed control at "The Poplars". Tom is preparing a proposal for a trial winter spraying of St. John's Wort. Should MCG top up the funding bucket for this? Also approach Country Energy for partnership. This 35 hectare block is high conservation value RG YB grassland with huge public exposure because of location.
- (e) African Love Grass is rapidly getting much worse in the region.

8 Accounts – Maryke Booth.

- (a) Sent out by email.
- (b) Main A/c. \$113,000, funds are dwindling, with not much in interest being earned these days.
- (c) Govt. still has a lot of accounts outstanding.
- (d) Our Bank A/c. details have been forwarded to Bendigo Bank in search of a better deal.

Motion: Sandra Lloyd / Claudia Nye

"That the accounts be accepted".

Carried.

9 Coordinators Report – Andrew Westcott.

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Activities Andy has been to working on are:
 - Training Days: attended 2 day Grasses conference on April 21st & 23rd. Attended lecture at CSIRO on economists views of environmental work and environmental projects with commercial value.
 - Pest Animal Education Pack: committee reviews integrated into case studies and additional photos sourced. Lecture to be given by Dr. Brian Cooke, Invasive Animals CRC, will discuss "Rabbits – Australia's Ecological Blind Spot" at ACT Sports House on 28th May at 7:30 pm, in conjunction with FoMM field day.
 - Support for Landcare Groups and the Community: Assist FoMM with rabbit warren mapping by providing MCG GPS. Assist community members dropping into office with enquiries. Burra Creek walk, 150 people attended.
 - 3D Catchment Model: The maps prepared by QCC were not suitable and a reprint is under way. Project has been delayed due to relocation of Men's Shed.
 - Catchment from the Air Project: Last lot of footage has been handed over. Final shoot has been delayed until Spring due to seasonal changes in foliage colour and inconsistency created by this.

- Frog Field Guide: Final needed images acquired. 1st draft from Graphic Ark imminent.
- Funding: submitted EOI to Environmental Trust Education Grants for Biodiversity Project and Indigenous Guided Walks project.
- Project Planning: Researching techniques for community based biodiversity survey. Met Sally McIntosh of PCL to plan GPS training workshop for volunteer groups.
- Media: 22-4-09 Stephen's report on Burra Creek; 28-4-09 Burra Creek walk, Qbn. Chronicle; May issue of Burra Intermittent, MCG Planting Guides; 3-5-09 Burra Creek walk in the Canb. Times.

10 Waterwatch Coordinator – Stephen Skinner.

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Activities Stephen has been to working on are:
 - Media Releases: Bungendore Mirror article quoted by UMCCC briefing paper on Burra Creek.
 - Waterwatch Newsletter: None this month.
 - Public Activities: attended Burra Creek walk on 3rd May and talked about chain-of-ponds creeks (the way they used to be).
 - Training Session: worked with Andy on drafts for Landcare lessons for school visits similar to the Waterwatch ones.
 - QA/QC Sessions: not for at least another month.
 - Community Groups or Projects Assisted: loaned Royalla group and Terry Korodaj equipment to do Bug Watch.
 - State Of Database for Reporting: 14 sites reported in, by 9 groups and one SIGNAL2 report.
 - Molonglo Website Update: 'April in our Catchment' submitted to web page.
 - Educational Programs Delivered: Captains Flat P.S., the whole school on the oval, 1.5 hours, 38 pupils.
 - Meetings: MCG, ACT Waterwatch.

11 Members Reports – Jim Arnold

- (a) Friends of Aranda Bushland: meet tonight.
- (b) Jim notes that Patterson's Curse is currently exploding out there in the paddocks.
- (c) Interest from 2 groups seeking partnership/bonding opportunities, ADFA and one other.
- (d) Field day planned for day prior to Sylvia Curley oration at Mugga Mugga.
- (e) Erosion Gullies: 50 years old, 10 feet deep. Proposal is being prepared for funding to build leaky weirs using coconut fibre barriers.

12 Members Reports – Claudia Nye

- (a) Claudia expressed concern for the status of aquifers in NSW. Bore water licenses handed out freely with no questions asked about usage. Huge allocation per bore and no monitoring or metering control. Potential for abuse is massive. Maps with all licensed bores can be seen on DWE website. What is the current govt. policy on this issue? UMCCC and Mike Kelly will launch ground water fact sheet shortly. Andy will send a letter to the dept. enquiring about current and future policy, in particular sustainable ground water usage and how that is evaluated.

13 Other Business.

- (a) CIC East Fyshwick (Oaks Estate): Andy will organise site visit. This is threatened

- remnant Box Gum Woodland of high value (old trees).
- (b) Corporate Volunteers: Booz & Co. (staff projects) have 30 volunteers to place with a river rehab. team. \$110 per volunteer if you can get them onsite, which has to have facilities provided (toilets, first aid officer etc). Maryke is interested in a group for Royalla. Does anybody else have projects we can send people out to? Information about this organisation will be relayed to QCC.
 - (c) First Aid Training: A woman from Carwoola has approached us for funding to do first aid training. We will fund her for half the cost. We will also put out a general call for people to train.

14 Next Meeting

Exec. & General Meeting: Monday 15th June 2009, 4:00 – 5:30 pm.
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15 Closure.

The meeting was closed at 5:43 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	

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Chairman)

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(Date)