



Executive and General Meeting

Monday 15th June 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, Sandra Lloyd, Claudia Nye, Maryke Booth, Tom Baker, Bruce Taloni, Andrew Westcott, Stephen Skinner, and Pauline Carder.

Apologies were received from Helen King.

3 Minutes of 11th May 2009.

Motion: Tom Baker / Claudia Nye

“That the minutes be accepted”.

Carried.

4 Business Arising.

- (a) East Fyshwick Development: a meeting with Malcolm Leslie has been organised for 10th July at 2:00pm. Details to be sent by email.

5 Correspondence List.

In

- (a) Floriade: confirmation of our participation in next season's event.
- (b) GVEHO: notification of successful grant application, \$2,300.
- (c) ACT NRM: Landcare Awards information pack.
- (d) IMB Foundation: Invitation to 10th anniversary of IMB Community Foundation.
- (e) Newman's Own Foundation: notice of unsuccessful funding application.
- (f) Telstra: phone bill.

Out

- (a) Application for funding from Paul Newman's Own Foundation.
- (b) Application for funding from Jobs Fund Program.
- (c) DWE: regarding water bores.

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

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Equipping Molonglo: Hugo has prepared a storyboard for the video. The project is back on track. Drafts of past project maps are now on the web site for comment. Future funding appears to be inline with the present situation.

- (c) K2C: still waiting for CfoC project announcements. Conservation Action Plan review and planning meeting is currently underway. This involves the spatial analysis of satellite imagery and hi-res digital photographic data for values of conservation areas and is likely to be applied to K2C. Carina Wyborn, PhD student from ANU is doing a study on how LC groups are fairing.
- (d) Accepting Donations: Bank account has been finalised. Brochures are at Graphic Ark and new ideas are being developed for fundraising. Maryke and Lynton have negotiated a deal where MCG will become their major charity for a year. They also sponsor the Raiders and there may be synergies open there.
- (e) CLA: Living Environment Centre, calendar of events reviewed and renewed. Training for gathering Place Stories will begin in July. www.placestories.com PlaceStories can be embedded into our website and potentially used for reporting on grants.
- (f) UMCCC: The Groundwater fact sheet was launched by Mike Kelly on 12th June. Funding is available to update and reprint "Look After Your Natural Assets". Some funding came from ACTEW.
- (g) Molonglo River Rescue: still waiting for payment of April's invoice.
- (h) Jobs Fund Application: Lynton and Andy completed a Jobs Fund application for \$20,000 to assist with keeping Hugo working on MRR until the end of June 2011 and to make up the shortfall in Waterwatch position funding.
- (i) MLM: The project has come to a halt as Steven Selden is ill. Volunteers are required for GIS and fieldwork mentoring for students.
- (j) Website: Lynton has been learning to use Drupal (open source content management system) with the help of Marian Benjamin. Drupal will assist with affiliated websites information transfer and has a Google Earth plug-in that simplifies adding mapping capability to the website.
- (k) Along the Molonglo: opened June 5th in Qbn. Impressive quality of work. Lynton has photos of the entries. A thank you letter is to be sent to John Reid for his contribution to the opening and judging.

7 Vice President's Report - Tom Baker.

- (a) Along The Molonglo: Planning is underway for Floriade (21st – 25th Sep.) MCG will contribute a \$400 prize and ACTEW will contribute the major prize this year.
- (b) The Poplars: A winter spraying program for weeds has been initiated for this site and Tom has asked committee for a \$1,000 contribution to funding. Other funds and assistance have been contributed by GA \$500, Monaro Conservation Society \$1,000, QCC for herbicide, and the owners will match all funds \$ for \$. This area will eventually be conserved into perpetuity.

Motion: Claudia Nye / Lynton Bond

"That the MCG contribute \$1,000 for The Poplars weeds project, noting that it is being matched \$ for \$ by the property owner".

Carried.

8 Accounts – Maryke Booth.

- (a) Sent out by email.
- (b) Reading the Landscape workshop: Maryke has asked committee for \$500 assistance to run this workshop with Royalla LC and David Tongway.

Motion: Tom Baker / Claudia Nye

"That the MCG contribute \$500 for the "Reading the Landscape" workshop being run by Royalla LC".

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 Planning and Budgeting Courses.
- Support for Landcare Groups and the Community: MCG nominee for ACT Volunteer of the Year Waltraud Pix took out the top prize for environmental volunteers.
- Educational Material: First draft of Frog brochure completed by Graphic Ark.
- 3D Catchment Model: QCC have prepared the maps and the men will start work in 2 weeks, after relocation of The Shed.
- Catchment from the Air Project: Hugo has prepared text for film and is negotiating with Natalie Forest (Prime News) to do the commentary. Willow removal below Scrivener Dam has been videoed to include in the film.
- Funding: application for Jobs Fund grant. EOI for Paul Newman Foundation grants.
- Field Days: FoMM “Rabbits” field day, presented by Brian Cooke of Invasive Animals CRC. Over 30 people attended. World Environment Day, Booz & Company corporate volunteers and Indigenous River Rehab team got 1,200 trees into the ground. Qbn. Environment Expo display on 12-13 June.
- Murrumbidgee River Rescue: First milestone report submitted. GA and PCL have the new owners of the Margules land on side for the project. Stakeholders meeting held on 1st July to assess progress. Action plan is progressing well.
- Media: 26-5-09 Radio Landcare, promote rabbit field day and other MCG events; 28-4-09 Burra Creek walk, Qbn. Chronicle; May issue of Burra Intermittent, MCG Planting Guides; 3-5-09 Canb. Times, Burra Creek walk; Palerang Bulletin, a monthly report from now on about what’s on in the catchment.

10 Waterwatch Coordinator – Stephen Skinner.

(a) See report sent out by email.

(b) Activities Stephen has been to working on are:

- Media Releases: ABC Rural, Friday 22nd May, discussed state of the Qbn. River and Platypus Watch with Sarina Locke.
- Waterwatch Newsletter: article on QA/QC at the Discovery Centre.
- Public Activities: ABC Radio interview on QRR, Riparian Communities card game for Murrumbidgee Demonstration Reach, display at Qbn. Expo, proposed development of Gungahlin Pond at Gungahlin Town Centre where earthworks need to be developed to allow nature to move back in to what is otherwise a healthy dam, UMCCC meeting, Queanbeyan Environment Expo.
- Training Session: restarted Carwoola area water testing with volunteers, Platypus Count afternoon at The Kangaroos Club on 24th May.
- QA/QC Sessions: not for at least another month.
- Community Groups or Projects Assisted: enabled Orana School students to do water testing as part of Duke of Edinburgh community engagement.
- State Of Database for Reporting: 10 groups have sent in chemistry results for 19 sites, macro invertebrate data from 3 groups covering 4 sites.
- Molonglo Website Update: ‘May in our Catchment’ and ‘Upper Murrumbidgee Waterwatch Newsletter’ submitted to web page.
- Educational Programs Delivered: 4 students from Qbn. Distance Education Centre, trained 6 students from Orana Centre for water testing, 20 kids from Blue Gum Community School visit Mt. Majura Dam.
- Meetings: MCG, UMCCC, ACT Waterwatch on 12th May.

11 Members Reports – Jim Arnold

- (a) Friends of Aranda Bushland: meet Thursday to plan working bee for early July. Rabbits are the current obsession. 60 warrens (140 burrows) have been mapped. Expect to take 2 days to fumigate. Jim asks what measures an individual can take to exterminate rabbits. Motion: Jim Arnold / Maryke Booth
“That the MCG write a letter of concern to PCL about what measures can be taken to promote community action on rabbits”.
Carried.

12 Other Business.

- (a) Frog Brochure: reviewed by the committee, looking good.
- (b) Ferals Brochure: reviewed by the committee, background colours need to be changed, looking good.
- (c) First Aid Course: 5 places will be subsidised, 1 per group. There are 4 places left. Training is by St Johns and includes a workbook.
- (d) FoMM: request for additional funding as there Nat. Tree Day event has gotten larger than they expected, with 2 other groups and a school group coming along on the day. Maryke offered to donate excess tree guards that she has. We will set our negotiation limit at \$200 more (on top of the \$510 already contributed).
- (e) Pauline Carder said a few words at this point. She mentioned the launch of the Groundwater Facts sheet, the reprint of the “Look after Your Natural Assets” booklet and M2G. Feedback on M2G is about ACTEW spin. EIS should be available in August.

13 Next Meeting

Exec. & General Meeting: Monday 13th July 2009, 4:00 – 5:30 pm.
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14 Closure.

The meeting was closed at 5:35 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	Thank you letter to John Reid for assistance with Along the Molonglo in Queanbeyan	15/6/09	13/7/09	In progress
TB/LB	\$1,000 for The Poplars weeds project	15/6/09	13/7/09	In progress
MB/LB	\$500 for the “Reading the Landscape	15/6/09	13/7/09	In progress
LB/AW	Letter of concern to PCL about what measures can be taken to promote community action on rabbits	15/6/09	13/7/09	Completed

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(Chairman)

(Date)