



Executive and General Meeting

Monday 8th February 2010

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

1. Opening

The meeting was opened at 5:02 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, Sandra Lloyd, John Bruggeman, Maryke Booth, Tom Baker, Margaret Piper, Andrew Westcott, Stephen Skinner and Richard Larson (North Watson Woodlands).

Apologies were received from Bruce Taloni.

3 Minutes of 9th November 2009.

Motion: Maryke Booth / Sandra Lloyd

“That the minutes be accepted”.

Carried.

4 Business Arising.

(a) Nil.

5 Correspondence List.

In

- (a) E-water: Annual Report
- (b) UMCCC: membership renewal
- (c) Bungendore Mirror: reminder for payment of advert (cancelled as we didn't order adv)
- (d) National Library: acknowledged that they received and catalogued 2 Pest Animal packs
- (e) CIC Newsletter
- (f) Land & Water Australia: 2 copies of all research reports from 1990-2009
- (g) Volunteering ACT: invite to dinner to celebrate 15 years of the Connections Program

Out

- (a) Julie Palmer, PCL: 10 Frog Guides 29/1/10
- (b) Wendy Hodgman: 1 pest animal pack 8/2/10

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

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) CLA: met on January 21st, were Rob Thorman (Land Development Agency) spoke about the first 2 suburbs to be developed in Lower Molonglo and sought comment on which organisations should be consulted on the development, particularly on river corridor management.

- (c) Website: Marion has begun to transfer the content of our website to the new shared website. 130-140 pages are to be converted. This will provide one common website in the region for all groups involved in NRM, at a cost per group of \$15 p.a. Tom asked that Lynton be acknowledged for his input into the website, agreed by all.
- (d) Lynton is drafting a submission to the Investigation into Canberra Nature Park, Molonglo River Corridor (nature reserves) and Googong Foreshores. Liaising with Souther ACT Catchment Group, Conservation Council, and member Park Care groups. Draft to be circulated for comments shortly.

7 Accounts – Maryke Booth.

- (a) Sent out by email.
- (b) Audited reports returned, a few changes, auditor is happy. One number needs recalculating, the Grants in Advance amount for the current financial year
- (c) \$216,000 in the main account, \$35,000 in General Expenses.
- (d) The Pest Animal Info Pack project needs to be finalised and accounts sent to auditor.
- (e) Trailer Insurance paid, \$133.55.

8 Coordinators Report – Andrew Westcott.

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Activities Andy has been working on are:
 - Support for Landcare Groups and the Community: Andy will speak to Peter Kemmis of Wanna Wanna Road Firewise Group to assist with their rabbit control program. GPS and training will be provided for rabbit warren mapping. Field days on horses on peri-urban blocks are being organised with Jane Myers (Equiculture), possibly in April and October. Construction of the Banksia Street Wetland is due to be completed in a week, followed by community planting days assisted by MCG. Planning underway for MCG at Qbn. Regatta, Festival of the Forests, Footprint Festival and Dickson Wetland Community Fair. Royalla Landcare planting day being planned under Mobile Muster initiative. CIT and GIS diploma, 2nd project being developed, methodology already established. Assist STEP with information on relevant Parkcare groups to assist with establishing CIAG forests. Successful funding application (through Community Action Grants) for a project with the RLA titled “Sustainability in the Majura Valley”. Eastern Broad-acre Study due out soon.
 - Educational Material: Frog Guides, 30 to Murrumbateman Landcare Group and 10 to Julie Palmer (PCL). Weeds Packs, 100 to PCL Stromlo, and promoted to Southern Tablelands Ecosystems Park (STEP). Pest Animals packs, 100 to PCL Stromlo, 50 to PCL Gungahlin, 70 to GCG, 3 to FoMM, 2 to ACT Heritage Library, 1 To Orange Agricultural Institute, 4 to community members.
 - Sustainability On Small Farms: Planning now for field day with David Tongway. Progress report submitted on 27/1/10.
 - Pest Animal Initiative: Pack launched on Wednesday 16th December. Received media coverage in the Queanbeyan Age and ABC666 via Sarina Locke. Packs and launch were also promoted in the “Feral Flyer” from IACRC. Reporting underway and audit to be completed soon.

9 Waterwatch Coordinator – Stephen Skinner.

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Activities Stephen has been to working on are:
 - Waterwatch Newsletter: “December in our Catchment” and “January in our Catchment” are on the website and have been sent to the network.
 - Targeted Works: draft of Glove Box Guide to Aquatic Plants being reviewed. NOTE - photos of water plants are required.

- Community Groups or Projects Assisted: Helped with the launch of the Pest Animal Information Pack. Visited Tharwa Sandings to support the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Curriculum Committee (ACT) on Monday 18th January. Participated in the Tour of Urban Wetlands of North Canberra on Monday 14th December. Attended Molonglo River Rescue workshop at Greening Australia on Thursday 10th December.
- State Of Database for Reporting: In December 11 groups submitted data on 19 sites. In January 13 groups submitted data on 22 sites. Seasonal Indicator Species Program, working with Dr. Fiona Dyer of UC to present a SIGNAL2 macro-invertebrate list for wetlands and standing water.
- Volunteer Training: advertised sites that need monitors and signed on two new volunteers taking on a site each. Also signed on 2 new Waterwatchers, Dr. Fiona Dyer at the David Street Wetland and Richard Larson at Watson Woodland.
- Waterwatch Holiday Program: at the H₂O-Water=Life display at the National Museum on 11, 13, 21, 28, & 29 January. 5,000 family groups attended these sessions.
- School Visits: 35 primary and 17 secondary letters and fliers sent out on 25th January.
- Meetings: MCG, UMCCC Waterwatch Coordinator's meeting on Monday 1st February.

10 Members Reports – Jim Arnold.

- (a) Friends of Aranda Bushland: Jim mapped 50 rabbit burrow sites but only 12 were treated (it appears that baby rabbits are protected). Promises by rangers but no action on other sites yet. Weeds have taken off again to.
- (b) NSA: trying to organise group activities but the drought is the problem, with no results to see. Also organising visits to biodynamic properties in the region in conjunction with the Orana School.

11 Members Reports – Maryke Booth.

- (a) Final draft for the Royalla Reserve Management Plan is being reviewed.

12 Members Reports – Tom Baker.

- (a) Queanbeyan Landcare Envirofund grant has been acquitted. \$2,000 for Gale Precinct weed control, which John Buma completed.
- (b) It appears the Sawfly larvae are gone, yet willow continues to die back. Sawfly survey being undertaken across the region.
- (c) Jason Robinson advised willow piles in MRR downstream of Yass Road are sprouting.
- (d) Kingston Foreshore Development: who is monitoring the environment of the foreshore.

13 Members Reports – Sandra Lloyd.

- (a) Burra pipeline: ongoing, new EIS out now, which is bigger than the last one. Target is Burra Station Estate.

14 Members Reports – Margaret Piper.

- (a) Run in with QCC regarding weeds, especially caltrop in the Queen Elizabeth and Ray Morton Parks.

15 Visitors Report – Richard Larson.

- (a) Here as an observer representing North Watson Woodland.
- (b) Approval has been given by ACTPLA for the North Watson Development.
- (c) Rabbit warrens, small drop in warrens/hectare from 1.9 to 1.2.
- (d) Proposal for ACT Government to set aside another 5 hectares of urban land for rabbit eradication and preservation.

- (e) The group requires Waterwatch kits for 4 dams in the area. Some idiot has released Mosquito Fish into the dams (they eat frog tadpoles and birds are their only enemy).

16 Business.

- (a) Guide to Aquatic Plants of the ACT: funding required. Stephen suggests there is potential funding for several sources.
Motion: Lynton Bond / Tom Baker
“That Stephen continue working on this, allowing expenditure to \$10,000”.
Carried.
- (b) Field day and office equipment purchase. We have purchased 2 Thermos Airpots for field day support, and a microwave for the office. Maryke suggests first aid kits should be acquired for the trailer.
Motion: Lynton Bond / Tom Baker
“That MCG purchase further Field Day and Office equipment (First Aid kits, Snake Bite kit”.
Carried.
- (c) Lower Molonglo Riparian fencing funding on property adjacent to Lower Molonglo Corridor Reserve.
Motion: Lynton Bond / Tom Baker
“That MCG match the landholder’s funding for fencing up to a maximum of \$10,000”.
Carried.
- (d) Meeting dates 2010: for meeting dates see the website.
- (e) Festival of the Forests: Sunday 14th March, Canberra Arboretum 10:00 - 4:00 pm. Roster required for attendance; Stephen is unavailable and Andy is away.
- (f) Queanbeyan Regatta: Saturday 13th March, on the weir down town. Ideas needed for a craft. Tom and Phil Selmes are working on building something.
- (g) Canberra Nature Park investigation: draft distributed earlier by email, needs fleshing out. Due 26th February. Andy will send terms of reference around. SACTCG submission available

17 Other Business.

- (a) Next meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th March due to the 8th being the Canberra Day public holiday in the ACT.

18 Next Meeting

Exec. & General Meeting: Tuesday, 9th March 2010, 5:00 – 6:30 pm.
MCG Meeting Room: Unit 10 Cassidy Arcade, 72-76 Monaro St Queanbeyan.

19 Closure.

The meeting was closed at 6:55 pm.

Action By	Details	Start Date	Due Date	Completed
LB	Investigate options for PayPal for donations.	12/10/09	9/11/09	Completed

.....
(Chairman)

.....
(Date)