



Executive and General Meeting

Monday 9th August 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, Tom Baker, John Bruggeman, Maryke Booth, Margaret Piper, Andrew Westcott and Stephen Skinner.

Apologies were received from Bruce Taloni.

3 Minutes of 21st June 2010.

Motion: Sandra Lloyd / Maryke Booth

“That the minutes be accepted”.

Carried.

4 Minutes of 12th July 2010.

Motion: Maryke Booth / John Bruggeman

“That the minutes be accepted”.

Carried.

5 Business Arising.

(a) Nil.

6 Correspondence List.

In

(a) Artists Society of Canberra: invoice for Along the Molonglo

(b) Volunteering ACT: membership renewal notice

(c) National Library of Australia: notice that they received Patience of the Water Scorpion

(d) CIC Australia: Communities in the Making

(e) QCC: revised donation policy

(f) GCG: 2,000 copies of the new Frog Friendly Habitat Guidelines

(g) National Library of Australia: reply to Andy’s enquiry in the out section, acknowledgement of receipt of two copies of MRR Action Plan

Out

(a) NLA: asking if they received the 2 copies of MRR AP that were sent with Patience of the Water Scorpion

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

(a) See report sent out by email.

- (b) K2C: MCMA has agreed to join the K2C partnership.
- (c) CLA: The Dairy Flat site is still empty with no leaseholder. CVA is currently looking for accommodation.
- (d) UMCCC: The forum is now to be held on 29th October. More key participants will be available on that day. The 3rd edition of “Look after your natural assets” will be launched on 11th August at the Queanbeyan Conference Centre. MCG and UMLC both contributed \$2,000 for the reprint. Rainer’s piece wasn’t reviewed.
- (e) MLi: MCMA is willing to mend fences. MLi has been successful with it’s application for a Regional Landcare Facilitator. Two part time facilitators will operate out of Leeton and Wagga Wagga or Gundagai.
- (f) Canberra South Rotary Club: Lynn Duckham met with Lynton to discuss ways that the club can work with MCG in areas such as developing a marketing plan, support MRR Action Plan and considering becoming something like Friends of the Molonglo River, possibly around Fyshwick. John Feint will take this proposal to the ACT NRM Council for discussion.
- (g) MLM: The history/ heritage walks on 27-28 July were a success with 30 Belconnen High and 10 Hawker College students and some others attending. The students are also learning to use GPS. Hawker College students are preparing a new brochure. Lynton is impressed with their design skills.
- (h) Eastern Broadacre Discussion Paper: Out now. Submissions due by 17th September.
- (i) Funding Applications: Still waiting for response due to delays caused by the election. A NSW ET Grant is going to be submitted re. sustainable horse management on small properties. CFOC Action Grants available to end of August.

8 Vice President’s Reports – Tom Baker

- (a) The 3D catchment model has been picked up from the Men’s Shed and is ready for us to paint in the detail. It’s made from foam covered with fibre glass and has been undercoated. The handing over was covered by The Queanbeyan Age.
- (b) Queanbeyan Landcare has prepared a submission addressing issues with the Googong DCP (Development Control Plan). Monaro Conservation Society is also preparing a submission. Tom asks how much trust we can put in the DVP? Urban fringe protection isn’t mentioned and the DCP document hasn’t been negotiated through community consultation. Where is the water going to come from for the township? Submissions due by 20th August.
- (c) Tom is the teacher for the Indigenous Crew at TAFE, using MCMA funding which is just about to end. The team is divided into workgroups for QCC, and permanent jobs may eventuate for members. Tom and the crew toured the National Arboretum and Tom wants ideas from the crew regarding indigenous elements on the landscape.

9 Treasurer’s Report – Maryke Booth.

- (a) Accounts sent out by email.
- (b) \$180,000 in the bank, \$700 dollars interest earned.
- (c) Helen is starting to prepare accounts for auditor.
- (d) Waiting for \$85,000 to come in from funding sources.
- (e) A couple of invoices have to be sent out.

10 Coordinators Report – Andrew Westcott.

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Activities Andy has been working on are:
 - Weeds: Plan to run weeds information day some time in Nov-Dec. SSF workshop feedback an indicator to possible future workshops incorporating weeds.

- Information Dissemination: 1 “Blackberry Control Manual” to Indigenous Crew. 10 weeds packs to landholders at SSF workshop. Received copies of the revised “Creating a Frog Friendly Habitat” guide. Wildlife Friendly Fencing Brochure draft has arrived for comment.
- Sustainable Farm Practices: SSF workshop feedback an indicator to possible future workshops incorporating sustainable farm practices. Frog Call evening presented by Frogwatch promoted and organised for 22nd July, Stephen assisted and 38 people attended.
- Landcare: Investigating feasibility of increasing maximum amount available through MCG project funding in the future. Providing ChemCert subsidy for a member of Friends of Spinnaker Island. They are still organising their membership and we will promote their first volunteer session once they are organised. Assist Geary’s Gap/Wamboin Landcare with a field day they are planning.
- Sustainability On Small Farms: 58 people booked in for the grass and weed ID session with Alison Elvin and Geoff Robertson on 4th August. 35 people attended, 21 owning small properties or agisting property. No change to plans for an indigenous workshop run by Rod Mason. Friends of Grasslands are running 2 full weekend workshops and we will hold our event later to avoid clashing with theirs. Reading the Landscape workshop planned for Burra in September. The Burra landholder has dropped out so Andy is looking for another property to hold the workshop on.
- Community Based Biodiversity Monitoring, Feasibility Study – Rainer has completed his work on all sites. Volunteers are at various stages of completion. A feedback session is planned for the end of August to thank volunteers and discuss feelings about the process and limitations of the methodology.
- Majura Valley: Met with Sherry and Esther to finalise questions for site visits which will begin in the week of 16th August as the truffle season is winding down. Esther will begin planning for a field day associated with this project.
- Catchment from the Air: 1st draft completed, ready to be viewed at the meeting. Marty is preparing title page and extended interview options.
- Grants: Still not heard back from ACT Environment Grants and Caring for Our Country.

11 Waterwatch Coordinator – Stephen Skinner.

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Activities Stephen has been to working on are:
 - Publications and Website, Waterwatch: “July in our Catchment” is on the website. Working on advertisement for the two books, as suggested by John Rowe. The Isabella Ponds booklet should be entered into the Children’s Book Awards.
 - Catchment Health Indicators data collection: In June 16 groups submitted data on 34 sites across the catchment. The Jan-June 2010 M-CHiP report is in it’s final draft form.
 - Seasonal Indicator Species Program: Assisted Emma Knightly and Dr. Beth Mantel with the Queanbeyan Frog Call evening 22nd July. 38 people attended.
 - Public Events: attended the release of the Urban Wetlands School Curriculum at O’Connor Community School 28th July, and the release of the Capital Region Platypus Count and The Patience of the Water Scorpion at Molonglo Reach 3rd August. Supported Tanya Rucosky Noakes at Qbn. Probus meeting 19th July.
 - Field Days: Tidbinbilla Algal Workshop 7th August.
 - Volunteer Training: May have someone to test at Tin Hut Dam and London Bridge Homestead ford.
 - Land-manager Training Programs: Met with David Walker, Liverpool Plains Landcare and the Gould League at Birrigai School at Tidbinbilla on 21st July.

- School Visits: O'Connor Community School, 21st July, 80 students. Radford College year 6 at Point Hut Crossing and Lake Ginninderra, 26th & 28th July and 2nd & 4th August, 120 students.
- Technical Support and Administration, Waterwatch: Assist Vera Kutz (SACTCG) with Qbn. River data for her academic work. Discuss results with Wendy Hodgman, Shelley Owen, Leanne Barrett and John Moore and supply new calibration fluids to Hilary Gunn.

12 Members Reports – Jim Arnold

- (a) NSA: AGM planning underway. NSA plans to be represented at Murrumbateman Field Days and K2C Biodiversity and Farming Fair. Membership renewals due.
- (b) Friends of Aranda Bushland and the Mt. Painter joint group's bush track erosion repair working bee was held.
- (c) The backpack sprayers price was misquoted and FoAB are short \$100 funding and will therefore only purchase one (to be discussed at their meeting later tonight).

13 Members Reports – Maryke Booth

- (a) Royalla Landcare: Meeting Simon Holloway and others at the reserve to discuss the management plan. 1,000 plantings completed by CVA in erosion gullies. A lot was achieved with Mobile Muster money. Palerang Council isn't doing anything about Chilean Needle Grass and it's now out of control.
- (b) The skippy proof fence is up but visibility issues need sorting.

14 Members Reports – Sandy Lloyd

- (a) Burra Landcare is now on the reference group list for ACTEW.

15 Business

- (a) Floriade: our days have been put back to 20th-26th September, Nightfest included.
- (b) Assist groups outside the Molonglo Catchment: Outside groups have asked for assistance, eg. Geary's Gap and Wamboin. It was agreed that they would have to be MCG members. With K2C we assist, but we have to formalise our structure. Outside groups need to expend all available local sources of funding before they approach us. Lynton will draft something and circulate by email.
- (c) Wildlife Friendly Fencing brochure: Gruesome images. Fences should be built with no barbed wire, and only one top strand to prevent entrapment of animals. Andy is to provide feedback on the new version.

16 Other Business

- (a) K2C and donations: As a registered environmental organisation charity we can only have one donation fund, but designation of donations by donors makes them not tax deductible. We would need to set up a separate organisation to be able to designate funds for K2C specifically.
- (b) Membership renewals: Volunteering ACT \$75 agreed, NSA \$50 agreed.
- (c) K2C and Partners MOU: All of the Molonglo Catchment area is now in the K2C area. We will continue to do our thing in our catchment.
- (d) Palerang Council LEP: Negative actions contained therein. Dept. of Planning has the final say. A delegation has been formed to approach Mr Brown about issues arising.

17 Next Meeting

Exec. & General Meeting: Monday, 13th September 2010, 5:00 – 6:30 pm.
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18 Closure.

The meeting was closed at 6:35 pm.

Action By	Details	Start Date	Due Date	Completed
MB	Make allocations in accounts for agreed commitments.	9/3/10	12/4/10	

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(Chairman)

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(Date)