



Executive and General Meeting

Monday 11th October 2010

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

1. Opening

The meeting was opened at 5:04 pm with Lynton Bond (President) in the Chair. A warm welcome was extended to all present.

2 Attendance / Apologies

In attendance were Lynton Bond, Maryke Booth, Sandra Lloyd, Tom Baker, John Bruggeman, Margaret Piper, Andrew Westcott, Stephen Skinner and Vaughan Cox from Friends of the Pinnacle.

Apologies were received from Jim Arnold and Bruce Taloni.

3 Minutes of 13th September 2010.

Motion: John Bruggeman / Sandra Lloyd

“That the minutes be accepted”.

Carried.

4 Business Arising.

- (a) 7 b. Poplars: spraying for Serrated Tussock was successful but requires follow up spraying, QCC \$1,000 + herbicide, MCG \$1,000, MCS \$500, Owners \$2,000. John Buma is to do an inspection. The Poplars is currently resplendent with wildflowers including rare and endangered species. 4WD vehicles have been in again. The block doesn't have a conservation agreement over it. Tom will present a range of conservation options to the owners for the future.

5 Correspondence List.

In

- (a) Telstra: phone bill reminder
(b) MDBA: invitation to attend launch of the Basin Plan
(c) Bush Heritage News
(d) Returned deeds

Out

- (a) David Tongway CDs: 7 to field day attendees
(b) LAYNA: copies to David Lloyd, Michelle Smith, Lily Corrigan and Ian Wood
(c) ACT NRM Council: deeds
(d) ActewAGL: application for funding

- 6 President's Reports - Lynton Bond.** New and outstanding business.
- (a) See report sent out by email.
 - (b) K2C: Biodiversity and Farming Fair was held yesterday with approximately 300 people attending. People attended from as far away as Orbost, Goulburn and Albury. Presentations were well attended and grassland walks had 20-30 people participate in each one. Grant money was spent on advertising and the marquee. Lynton will give feedback on ideas to do it better next time. There is a need to build on K2C knowledge in the community. Many ideas regarding Environment were on show on the day. Margaret would like to see more sustainable craft items in the future.
 - (c) Along the Molonglo: Andy, Tom and Lynton would like to hear feedback and suggestions for improvements for next year's event. Tim Hardy, new President of ASOC asked about a larger environmental element in the artwork and wants to have a chat with us about future shows and whether Floriade will be included in the future.
- 7 Vice President's Reports – Tom Baker**
- (a) QCC has a new Sustainability Officer, Kaya Mitchell. Meetings start shortly (Wed. 20th October) to plan the Queanbeyan Environment and Sustainability Fair to be held on 5th June, 2011. Andy will attend the first meeting at the Environment Conference Room in the main council building.
- 8 Treasurer's Report – Maryke Booth.**
- (a) Apparently the Treasurer has been slack lately (her own words). Accounts will be sent out by email shortly.
 - (b) She's working on the Audit and UMLC things.
- 9 Coordinators Report – Andrew Westcott.**
- (a) See report sent out by email.
 - (b) Activities Andy has been working on are:
 - Weeds: Local weeds expert Alison Elvin will attend the upcoming Jane Myers field days.
 - Information Dissemination: 87 Weed packs, 58 Pest Animal packs, 30 Frog Habitat Guides, 40 glove box guides to Frogs, 22 UMCCC Wetlands brochures, 16 UMCCC brochures, 14 Urban Habitat brochures, 40 Are Your Garden Plants Going Bush brochures, 13 Grow Me Instead brochures, 5 Guides to Private Conservation, 20 Burra Planting Guides, 46 Molonglo Planting Guides, 22 Qbn. Planting Guides, 33 Jerrabomberra Planting Guides, 60 About the MCG flyers and 30 Upper Murrumbidgee Waterwatch brochures handed out to the public at Floriade. 3 LAYNA booklets by post and 2 at Burra field day. 10 copies of David Tongway's Reading the Landscape CDs.
 - Sustainable Farm Practices: Potential topics from SSF workshop feedback include soil compaction, pasture management and controlling weeds with biological controls. A Vegetation Monitoring workshop with Sarah Sharp is planned for Carwoola on 30th October. Assisted a new landholder from Burra with a range of contacts and information.
 - Landcare: Investigating feasibility of increasing maximum amount available through MCG project funding in the future (no change). Providing ChemCert subsidy for a member of Friends of Spinnaker Island. They are still organising their membership and Andy is waiting for a ChemCert receipt (no change). Displayed for 7 days at Floriade. The 3D catchment model was a great success with dozens of people stopping to enquire about the water samples and what the readings meant (do we use the model the same way again next year?). Mornings were busy but afternoons were a lot quieter. We may be able to reduce volunteer involvement for afternoon sessions next year. Weekends are important. A Facts Sheet for when none of us can attend to inquiries could be worthwhile.
 - Sustainability On Small Farms: No change to plans for indigenous workshop with Rod Mason. Friends of Grasslands are holding 2 full weekend sessions so we will hold ours at a

later date to avoid clashing. Jane Myers field days are planned for 7th November at Bungendore and 27th November at Burra (note change of dates). Alison Elvin will attend as our local weed expert to answer questions about weeds. Planning is moving along nicely and bookings are coming in steadily for both sessions. Burra Reading the Landscape field day was held on 18th September and was a great success with 16 people attending. David Tongway divulged his information to attendees, 10 being small farm managers. Thanks to Peter Duffy and Kath Boyd for use of their property. We plan to hold more of these sessions in the near future.

- Community Based Biodiversity Monitoring: Rainer Rehwinkel is undertaking analysis of the data and Sarah Sharp is preparing a brief report on the workshop which included volunteer input.
- Majura Valley: 8 site visits have been planned for next year. Submitted progress report which has been accepted by the Community Action Grants team.
- Catchment from the Air: Final copy has been completed and received.
- ACT Environment Grants: All deeds have been signed and invoices submitted for payment. The Weed Pack and the Frog Guide have been updated and are ready to print. Frogwatch has contributed more money to boost the print run. The Guide to Aquatic Plants of the ACT is currently Graphic Ark's focus. Molonglo BoB meets on 12th October and the MCG's successful grant is on the agenda. The "Seeing Grasslands" Photographic Exhibition project budget needs modification as we received less funding than we asked for.
- Other Grants: Still waiting to hear from NSW Environment Trust. Received \$2,900 from ActewAGL to run the Horse seminar at Burra.

10 Waterwatch Coordinator – Dr. Stephen Skinner.

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Activities Stephen has been to working on are:
 - Publications and Website, Waterwatch: "September in our Catchment" is on the website and has been sent out to the network. Water birds are the focus this month. Stephen's Frog article is in the UMCCC Newsletter.
 - Catchment Health Indicators data collection: In August 17 groups submitted data on 36 sites across the catchment. Reporting; over 12 months reports and sites have grown and reporting is now more reliable.
 - Seasonal Indicator Species program: One group has already reported on macro-invertebrates.
 - Public Events: Attended Floriade for 5.5 days and one talk, 20-22, 25 and 26 September. Attended a meeting at Bulk Water, Mt. Stromlo about setting up an Environmental Monitoring Body (under strict State and Commonwealth conditions) for M2G but it may not eventuate because of complexity of organisation.
 - Field Days: Attended the Biodiversity and Farming Fair at Bredbo on 10th October to read the children's books.
 - Volunteer Training: Assisted with introductory Frogwatch on 15th September, 6-8:30 pm with 30 people attending. Trained 3 volunteers to look after sites at Hospital Point, Regatta Point and Scrivener Dam on 18th and 19th September.
 - Waterwatch Holiday Program: Platypus Discovery Walk at National Museum of Australia, 29th September, 2.5 hours, 14 students attended.
 - School Visits: Sutton P.S., Yr 3-4, 28 students, 14th September, 1.5 hours, in McLaughlan's Creek, Sutton; Turner P.S., Yr 3-4, 48 students, 22nd September, 2 hours, at Banksia Street Wetland with Edwina Robertson and Hilary Thompson from DECCEW.
 - Technical Support and Administration, Waterwatch: 10-12 emails and office enquiries, mostly about equipment.

11 Members Reports – Tom Baker

(a) Very little detail on this but there is a bloke protecting remnant woodland along the Federal Highway near Sutton..

12 Members Reports – Maryke Booth

(a) Royalla Wildflower Walk this Friday, 22nd October. A plant species survey is being conducted at the Royalla Reserve and the group now has a seed collection permit. A grant application has been made to Communities in the Landscape for interpretive signage and a brochure to promote the project. One aim is to boost numbers of threatened species in the reserve.

13 Members Reports – Lynton Bond

(b) The Carwoola Wildflower Walk is on again this weekend. Biodiversity workshops are being planned for the near future.

14 Visitors Report – Vaughan Cox, representing Friends of the Pinnacle.

(a) Vaughan spoke about the plans and aspirations of the group established in 2009 who will be looking after this patch of Canberra. They have a highly skilled team with a wide range of talents at their disposal. 35 members will look after the 135 hectare Pinnacle Nature Reserve located South of Weetangera and Hawker and parts of the Kama Woodland North of the expressway. They are very organised.

15 Business

(a) The Annual General Meeting of MCG will be held on the 8th November at the meeting room. We'll be going out for dinner after the meeting. Andy will organise a venue.

16 Next Meeting

The Annual General Meeting for the election of office bearers and the next Exec. & General Meeting: Monday, 8th November 2010, 5:00 – 6:30 pm.
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17 Closure.

The meeting was closed at 6:20 pm.

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

...(signed by chairman).....
(Chairman)

...15 November 2010.....
(Date)