



Executive and General Meeting

Monday 15th November 2010

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

1. Opening

The meeting was opened at 5:30 pm by Lynton Bond (President) in the Chair. A warm welcome was extended to all present.

2 Attendance / Apologies

In attendance were Lynton Bond, Sandra Lloyd, John Bruggeman, Maryke Booth, Tom Baker, Jim Arnold, Margaret Piper, Karen Williams, Andrew Westcott and Dr. Stephen Skinner. Apologies were received from Bruce Taloni.

3 Minutes of 11th October 2010.

Motion: Lynton Bond / John Bruggeman
“That the minutes be accepted”.
Carried.

4 Business Arising.

- (a) 7 b. Poplars: QCC also provided free herbicide for follow up spraying.

5 Correspondence List.

In

- (a) QCC: Invite for MCG to attend next years Environment Expo, 5th June 2011
- (b) CVA: Invoice for Royalla LC
- (c) ACTPLA: Molonglo Stage 2 reference group invitation
- (d) ActewAGL: Annual Drinking Water Quality Report 2009-10
- (e) Frogwatch: 2010 newsletter
- (f) Hawker College: 2008-09 ACT Environment Grants Project Evaluation and Financial Report (students did a great job and Lynton proposed we write a letter of thanks to them)
- (g) CIT: Account statement (incorrect, sorted out)
- (h) Aust. Govt.: Unsuccessful CFOC application notification
- (i) Aust. Capital Tourism: Thanks for displaying at Floriade
- (j) Volunteering ACT: AGM notification
- (k) IACRC: Guardian Dogs, best practice manual for use with livestock guardian dogs

Out

- (a) LAYNA, Horses on Small Properties, Private Conservation Agreements to Bree George

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

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) UMCCC: Lynton attended the forum on the 29th and is concerned that not much will come out of it as it seemed to die slowly as the day progressed. Education is a priority for the upper Murrumbidgee with a need to focus people's minds on community building.

- (c) Eastern Broadacre Discussion Paper submissions: Due by 28th November. One comment made at the BoB Forde meeting was the lack of East/West connectivity of bush across the area. MRR was referred to and we will concentrate on this. Lynton will put something together this week with Tom's assistance.
- (d) Along the Molonglo: Lynton and Tom met with Tim, Bev and Ann from ASOC to discuss possible changes for next year, including investigating different venues and a larger exhibition with stronger environmental and sustainable themes. It could have a water theme and coincide with Water Week in October next year.
- (e) Cheaper Telephone Service: Lynton is looking into alternative phone services. VOIP (voice over IP) is looking like a cheaper and more convenient set up for the office. It has initial set up costs but after that the savings roll in and it is also portable. He will bring a proposal to the committee when he has completed his research.

7 Vice President's Reports – Tom Baker

- (a) Queanbeyan Environment and Sustainability Fair: To be held on 5th June, 2011, which is also World Environment Day. The theme will be "Sustainable Home and Garden". The motion "Does MCG sponsor the event again next year" was moved but was withdrawn as this requires more discussion. Some questions raised were "What do we get for our money?", "Would in kind donation suffice?" and "Can stallholders sell goods at the fair?" Tom stated that we've built up a visible profile in the community due to attendance at events like this. We could afford to spend \$500-\$1,000. Put onto Business for the next meeting.
- (b) Indigenous Crew and River Restoration: Tom reminds us that there will be a celebration for the crew and project this Friday, 10:30 am at Dane Street.
- (c) Erosion at Jumping Creek: An impressive job has been done at this site to control massive downhill soil erosion. Funding and input are thanks to QCC, Qbn. Landcare and NSW Environment Trust Fund. \$20,000 was spent on an Aboriginal Site Survey. The site can be accessed off Barracks Flat Drive.

8 Treasurer's Report – Maryke Booth.

- (a) Accounts sent out by email.
- (b) \$225,000 in the bank, \$39,990 in General Expenses.
- (c) Interest earned in September, \$517.00.

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 attended and participated in our last horse seminar. Lynton comments that she really enjoys the ability to have an input in the project.
 - Information Dissemination: 41 Weed packs, 11 Pest Animal packs, 17 Glove Box Guides to Frogs, 40 Urban Habitat brochures, 1 Guide to Private Conservation, 2 Burra Planting Guides, 14 Molonglo Planting Guides, 4 Qbn. Planting Guides, 5 Jerrabomberra Planting Guides, 5 About the MCG flyers, 7 Get Involved brochures, and 30 Jane Myers booklets. 1 LAYNA booklet by post.
 - 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 Majura on 14th November with funding from the Regional Landcare facilitator. Assisted a landholder from Wamboin with a range of contacts and information.
 - Landcare: Investigating feasibility of increasing maximum amount available through MCG project funding in the future (no change). Offer of a ChemCert subsidy for a member of Friends of Spinnaker Island has been declined by the group. Guest appearance

on Radio Landcare on 2nd Nov. to talk about MCG and the Majura Valley project. Attended QCC Environment Expo steering committee meeting. Assisted 4 volunteers with UMCCC forum subsidies. Volunteer planting day was held with Royalla LC and Jemena on 4/11, funding coming through the Mobile Muster project. Volunteer planting day was held with Captains Flat LC and the Captains Flat School on 5/11, funding coming through the Molonglo Catchment project funding initiative.

- Sustainability On Small Farms: Plans for indigenous workshop with Rod Mason will most likely be shelved due to illness. The first Jane Myers field day was held on 7th November at Bungendore with 24 people attending. Alison Elvin's attendance really boosted the day's value for participants. Planning to offer a subsidy towards David Tongway's new book for SSF participants. Also liaising with DAFF to see if this can be extended to all LC groups under SSF funding.
- Community Based Biodiversity Monitoring: Rainer Rehwinkel is undertaking analysis of the data and writing the final report.
- Majura Valley: Site visits should be completed this week. Promoted the project on Radio Landcare.
- ACT Environment Grants: Additional copies of the Weed Pack and the Frog Guide will be printed after a contribution from UMCCC and an increase in contribution from FrogWatch. The Guide to Aquatic Plants of the ACT is currently Graphic Ark's focus. Molonglo BoB met on 12th October. The "Seeing Grasslands" Photographic Exhibition project workshop was held on Sunday with 17 people attending.
- 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 October 20 groups submitted data on 40 sites across the catchment.
 - Seasonal Indicator Species program: Stephen and Andy recorded frogs at 6 sites in the region. Frog census data from the catchment from '03 to '09 has now been collated and entered into the CHiP system.
 - Land Manager Training Program: Assisted Emma Keightley and Dave Hunter with Advanced Frogwatch Training on 11th October.
 - Public Events and Websites: Attended Kingston Working Harbour for Lake Users information sessions on 27/10 and 29/10.
 - Field Days: UMCCC field day at Tharwa on 28th October. Captains Flat Market Day on 6th November.
 - Volunteer Training, Groups: QA/QC session at Lions Youth Haven, Kambah on 4th November. 12 volunteers present.
 - Volunteer Training, Individuals: Trained 3 new volunteers for 3 new sites.
 - School Visits: Monaro High School (Cooma) 21 October with Antia Brademan (130 students for 2 hours), Queanbeyan Cubs and Joey Scouts on 3rd November (15 kids for 1.5 hours).
 - Technical Support and Administration, Waterwatch: 15 emails, several phone calls and 4 office enquiries from volunteers. Contacted Vendart and Westlab for new supplies for the coming year. Calibration fluids for T. Korodaj. PO₄ kit for Karen Butler. Manual for Roy Wilson.

11 Members Report – Sandy Lloyd

- (a) There's a Plants Identification Day run by Luke Pope to be held at Burra next Saturday.
- (b) Trees have been planted along the road.
- (c) Crown lease land vegetation is looking beautiful now.

12 Members Report – Maryke Booth

- (a) Royalla Wildflower Walk went well. *Swainsona* was found on Maryke's property. The David Tongway book is available now (at a reduced price) for last year's attendees.

13 Members Report – Jim Arnold

- (a) FOAB: Weeds are invading from surrounding leaseholder's properties and growth is exploding now.
- (b) NSA: AGM has finally been held (Jim wants to step down). Field day being planned for Bredbo.

14 Members Report – Karen Williams

- (a) Karen lives in Oaks Estate. Interests and concerns; the Molonglo River corridor, MRR and the river as a recreation corridor; Eastern Broadacre Discussion Paper and her submission and the lack of East/West connectivity; willow removal piles, bunnies and blackberries; section of Queanbeyan River between the confluence of the Molonglo and the railway bridge and no apparent caretakers and the need for a community group in this area. (Stephen notes that TAMS have no money for this, Tom mentioned Karen's book, "Oaks Estate, No Man's Land" and her heritage work).

15 Members Report – Margaret Piper

- (a) The UMCCC Forum field trip to Tharwa was a great event. The Upper Murrumbidgee Demonstration Reach Implementation Plan (from *Scottsdale* to Point Hut Crossing) is to be launched tomorrow. There's a huge amount of sediment going down the river due to land clearing on the Monaro. Many trees have been planted, barriers have been built in the river to create fish habitat, blackberries and willows have been largely eliminated and a lot of fencing has been done. There was a suggestion that sand mining resume in areas where the river is being choked by sandbars.

16 Business

- (a) Friends of the Pinnacle: LiDAR, re Vaughn's mapping proposal, MCG propose that we actually map a larger area to cover all of Lower Molonglo and put up funding for the cost. The data can then be shared with the Pinnacle group, Lower Molonglo, STEP etc. Our quote is cheaper as a charitable organisation.

Motion: Lynton Bond / Maryke Booth

"That MCG purchase the larger area of LiDAR data for \$2,250".

Carried.

- (b) Molonglo Valley Stage 2, Draft Planning and Design Framework: MCG has been invited to contribute to this planning process. Lynton will be our delegate on the committee. Andy will also attend and contribute. 3 x 2 hour meetings are planned with the first happening next Monday.

17 Next Meeting

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

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18 Closure.

The meeting was closed at 6:48 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)