



## Executive and General Meeting

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2011

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

### 1. Opening

The meeting was opened at 5:00 pm by Lynton Bond (President) in the Chair. A warm welcome was extended to all present. Lynton also introduced and welcomed Nicole Maher to the meeting.

### 2 Attendance / Apologies

In attendance were Lynton Bond, Tom Baker, Maryke Booth, John Bruggeman, Karen Williams, Jim Arnold, Sandra Lloyd, Margaret Piper, Dr. Stephen Skinner, Andrew Westcott and Nicole Maher (Regional Landcare Facilitator for the Eastern Murrumbidgee Region).

Apologies were received from Bruce Taloni.

### 3 Minutes of 21<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

**Motion:** Karen Williams / Sandra Lloyd

**“That the minutes be accepted”.**

**Carried.**

### 4 Business Arising.

- (a) Maryke and Helen are still working on allocations in accounts for agreed commitments. A preliminary review is on hold at present.
- (b) Lynton is still looking into call diversion as a part of implementing VOIP telephony.
- (c) Membership renewals are ready to go out.
- (d) Small Grants applications review today by committee.

### 5 Correspondence List.

#### In

- (a) NSW Govt. notice that they have received our application for listing as a fund raising authority
- (b) MCMA, invitation to the 2011 Murrumbidgee Regional Landcare Awards
- (c) Catalogue from DonorTec
- (d) Jeni Murdock, update on changed work conditions in regards to Hawker College
- (e) Thank you to Stephen from Blue Gum Community School, Rosary Primary School, Majura Primary
- (f) Feral Flyer
- (g) Landnews
- (h) Phone bills

#### Out

- (a) Schedules for NSW Environment Trust
- (b) Membership renewals
- (c) Waterplant guides to Royal and National Botanic Gardens, ANPC and Greening Australia.

- 6 President's Reports - Lynton Bond.** New and outstanding business.
- (a) See report sent out by email.
  - (b) Activity on the Website: The graph Lynton presented shows that the website is receiving 120 visits per day. A Google search for *Molonglo* has our website coming up 4<sup>th</sup> in the list of results.
  - (c) Lake Burley Griffin Investigation Study: No terms of reference yet. Stephen questions whether it is necessary for us to make a submission at present for this.
- 7 Vice President's Report – Tom Baker.**
- (a) Along the Molonglo: There will be two shows this year, the first (QAS) opening in Queanbeyan on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June (World Environment Day and the Queanbeyan Enviro Expo). The Canberra show will be at the Wesley Centre on 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> September, combined with the main ASOC exhibition. ASOC want us to address one of their meetings regarding what they want for the MCG portion of their show. The president has steered them toward *Seeing Grasslands* as the theme this year. Tom will attend an ASOC meeting and see if he can get *Friends of Grasslands* to come along too.
- 8 Treasurer's Report – Maryke Booth.**
- (a) Accounts sent out by email.
  - (b) Just under \$175,000 in the bank, \$14,879 in General Expenses.
  - (c) Accounts have gone off to the auditors. Some adjustments are not quite right as yet. The balance sheet is the easiest to read and explain.
  - (d) MCG Funded Projects: \$10,950 of items to go into a/c's still. \$130,000 unexpended.  
**Motion:** Sandra Lloyd / Tom Baker  
**“That the Treasurer's Report be accepted by committee”.**  
**Carried.**
- 9 MCG Coordinator's Report – Andrew Westcott.**
- (a) See report sent out by email.
  - (b) Sue Crickmore, a photographic student has contacted us looking for a suitable community group to use as a subject for her work. She has been placed with Queanbeyan Landcare.
  - (c) Activities Andy has been working on are:
    - Weeds: Through BoB Molonglo we are looking into working with Yarralumla Nursery to ensure that new residents in the area purchase suitable plants. Made initial contact with the nursery at the Festival of the Forests (no update). Field days with Alison Elvin at Little Burra Estate and Fernleigh have been held (4 people attended). 8 people turned up for the NSW Environment Trust day held at Sutton.
    - Information Dissemination: 8 Weed packs, 50 Glove box guide Frogs of the ACT Region, 8 Jane Myers Property Planning Booklets, 1 Isabella Ponds Regatta, 106 Glove box guide Waterplants of the ACT Region.
    - Sustainable Farm Practices: Potential topics from SSF workshop feedback include soil compaction, pasture management and controlling weeds with biological controls. Andy intends to combine soil and knowledge/skills into one field day, combining soil compaction and pasture management/grazing. Potentially a David Tongway field day (no update). Field day sponsored by ActewAGL Source Water Protection on grazing management and riparian protection with Alison Elvin was held at Little Burra/Fernleigh on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April.
    - Landcare: MCG project funding has been advertised. 6 applications in total, all to be reviewed at this committee meeting. Friends of Glenburn consulted about potential for ACT Heritage Grants (no update). Working with a Little Burra Estate resident to develop a funding application for a project involving the development of land management for a

small horse property based on the expertise of Jane Myers and Alison Elvin. There will be flow on benefits from this project, a part of our continuing horse management project.

- Indigenous Projects: Assisting the Indigenous Facilitator in development of projects where possible. Contacted Jo Donovan re. a heritage walk with Adrian Brown (no update).
- Sustainability On Small Farms: Milestones have been met for the project and Andy has completed and submitted the report. The report will be reviewed while the audit is undertaken (no update).
- Community Based Biodiversity Monitoring Feasibility Study: John Feint has requested a presentation of the project to the NRM Council Board. Rainer has agreed to do the presentation. Now waiting for a reply from John Feint with a suitable date. Acquittal of the grant is underway.
- Majura Valley: Consultancy and mapping stage has begun. Consultants have been interviewed and a decision will be made when Sherry returns from holidays.
- ACT Environment Grants: Molonglo BoB meet tomorrow 12/4/11. Next round of funding was expected to be open in late March but there has as yet been no word of the opening date.
- NSW Environment Trust: Held two sessions with the Southern CMA in Braidwood on 7<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> April. A second day with Alison Elvin and Jane Myers was held at Sutton on the 10<sup>th</sup> April.
- Other Grants: Committed the remainder of the ActewAGL money on the Little Burra Estate field day. No word yet from the NRM Council re. the 2<sup>nd</sup> round proposals under the RIS.

## 10 Waterwatch Coordinator's Report – Dr. Stephen Skinner.

- (a) See report sent out by email (Stephen was absent on annual leave).
- (b) Thank you responses to Stephen from schools continue to accrue.
- (c) Stephen spoke about the explosion of Mexican Waterlilies in LBG and Lake Jerrabomberra and how dredging is the only method of eradication.
- (d) Activities Stephen has been to working on are:
  - Publications and Website, Waterwatch: *March in our Catchment* is now on the website.
  - Catchment Health Indicators data collection: In March 18 groups submitted data on 38 sites across the catchment. We also have 18 reports for Palerang Council's work on upper Yass and Lake George (South) for February and March.
  - Seasonal Indicator Species program: Local leeches are the feature in *March in our Catchment*, a part of the on-going survey of wetland macro-invertebrates (with DECCEW).
  - Urban Habitat Corridors: Review of *Gambusia* status at Banksia St. Wetland, 1<sup>st</sup> April.
  - Public Events and Websites: Interviewed by Canberra Times and Melanie Tate on ABC Radio 666, about the Mexican Waterlilies in LBG (28/29<sup>th</sup> March).
  - Field Days: Attended *Tidbinbilla Extravaganza* with Steve Welsh (SACTCG) on 3<sup>rd</sup> April (3.5 hours).
  - Volunteer Training, Individuals: Replacement of equipment for 2 volunteers, 1 Oliver Water Kit and 1 Cassie Bug Kit and 8 queries and confirmation by email.
  - Volunteer Training, Groups: Took Lesley Peden to meet with Sandy Lloyd and Penny Lockwood from the Burra Catchment Group to start the pre and post vegetation survey of the M2G pipeline site.
  - School Visits: O'Connor Girl Guides at Banksia St. Wetland, 29<sup>th</sup> March, 16 brownies, 1.5 hours; Blue Gum School, years 2/3, 31<sup>st</sup> March, 24 pupils, 1.5 hours; Rosary PS Watson, 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2x25 pupils, 1.5 hours; Merici year 12, 8<sup>th</sup> April, 28 pupils, 4.5 hours.

**11 Members Report – Maryke Booth**

- (a) Royalla Landcare has gained funding from Communities and Landscape for interpretive signage for the Swainsona recta plot. They're still working on the rabbit eradication project and are considering trailing Calicivirus (training sessions reqd). Landholders are interested so dates will be announced shortly for training.

**12 Members Report – Margaret Piper**

- (b) Indigenous Crew: Nothing else sprayed except Blackberries in their current work area.

**13 Members Report – Jim Arnold**

- (a) FOAB: There is a profusion of growth this year and problems with weeds from neighbouring properties. African Love Grass has been sprayed on the roadside and a small outbreak on the neighbour's property. Jim made good headway with Bathurst Burr last year but they're still there.
- (b) NSA: Had a stall at Cooma Show but it was a slow day. The *Gorgeous Gullies* field day was held at 2 properties, each displaying different approaches to NSA techniques. There's a field day to Bungonia this Saturday.

**14 Members Report – Karen Williams**

- (a) Gary Byles from TAMS failed to contact MCG so Andy will contact him.

**15 Members Report – Sandy Lloyd**

- (a) The *Community in Landscapes* grant application was successful.
- (b) Work continues along the pipeline ahead of the bulldozers.

**16 Business**

- (a) Nicole Maher, Regional Landcare Facilitator for the Eastern Murrumbidgee Region: Nicole commenced her job as facilitator 3 weeks ago, based in Wagga Wagga. Her role is to assist Landcare groups from Narrandera to the head waters of the Murrumbidgee River and it's catchment in whatever way they require with help and support. Works side by side with ACT Regional Landcare Facilitator, Sally McIntosh. Employed by MLI. Supports Marion with the website. She's from Sydney, studied Environmental Science at uni, worked for Sydney Water at Wollongong, Masters in Sustainable Agriculture at Charles Sturt Uni, agricultural research for the last 3 years.
- (b) Molonglo Catchment Group Project Funding: 6 applications; FoAB, FOTPIN, Captains Flat LC, FoMM, Mt. Ainslie Weeders and Burra LC. Applications to be evaluated by MCG committee now. A lot of discussion followed. Lynton did the scoring for each application. Maryke recommends we fund all applications, however we should put caveats on lesser scoring ones. Feedback to be given to all applicants. Andy will do a review of the small grants process for next week.

**Motion:** Tom Baker / Maryke Booth

**“That MCG fund all applications, subject to eligibility, and that feedback be given to all applicants to get better quality funding applications next year”.**

**Carried.**

- (c) DonorTec: Only one order available per group per year for MS products. The purpose is to upgrade all MCG computers to Windows 7 Pro and a copy of MS Office 2010 for Mac so that Andy can take work home with him. The touch-typing training software has already been purchased.

**Motion:** Lynton Bond / Tom Baker

**“That MCG purchase MS Office 2010 for Mac and 3 x Windows 7 Pro software from DonorTec at a cost of \$76 ”.**

**Carried.**

- (d) SkyMining proposal: Who are they? Lynton has information he will circulate. Tom Gleeson (director) is endorsed by Peter Lawson from Kyeamba LC, therefore also by MLI and Sam Archer. Lynton is trying to arrange a meeting with Drew English to involve him. SkyMining will donate a portion of each sale to the buyer's choice of Landcare charities if the sale is made through a Landcare promotion. Potential revenue, \$1 million of sales into the ACT brings \$6/kw to Landcare groups (no guarantee), with potentially \$5-10,000 per year across 3 groups. Lynton will report back on his meeting results.
- (e) June meeting: The usual meeting date falls on the Queen's Birthday holiday (13<sup>th</sup> June) so we have decided to have the next meeting a week earlier on the 6<sup>th</sup> June.

**17 Next Meeting**

Exec. & General Meeting: Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2011, 5:00 – 6:30 pm.  
MCG Meeting Room: Unit 10 Cassidy Arcade, 72-76 Monaro St Queanbeyan.

**18 Closure.**

The meeting was closed at 7:00 pm.

Action By	Details	Start Date	Due Date	Completed
MB	Make allocations in accounts for agreed commitments.	9/3/10	12/4/10	
LB/AW	Preliminary review of Molonglo Catchment Strategy	13/12/10		In Progress
LB	Investigate call forwarding as an option in order to implement VOIP phone system.	21/3/11	11/4/11	In Progress
AW	Send out membership renewal notices	21/3/11	11/4/11	Completed
All	Review and assess small grant applications	8/4/11	11/4/11	Completed
TB	Attend ASOC meeting to discuss theme for this years show, invite <i>Friends of Grasslands</i> to attend	11/4/11	9/5/11	Completed
AW	Contact Gary Byles from TAMS, re. common ground on MRR	11/4/11	9/5/11	
AW	Review MCG Project Funding Small Grants process	11/4/11	9/5/11	

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(Chairman)

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(Date)