



## MCG Executive and General Meeting.

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2012.

**MCG Office: Unit 13 Cassidy Arcade, 72-76 Monaro St. Queanbeyan.**

### 1. Opening.

The meeting was opened at 5:05 pm by Lynton Bond, (President), in the Chair. A warm welcome was extended to all present.

### 2 Attendance / Apologies.

In attendance were Lynton Bond, Maryke Booth, John Bruggeman, Karen Williams, Jim Arnold, Tom Baker, Don Fraser, Anna See and Dr. Stephen Skinner.  
No Apologies were received.

### 3 Minutes of 16<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

**Motion:** Tom Baker / Karen Williams  
"That the minutes be accepted."  
**Carried.**

### 4 Business Arising.

(a) Nil

### 5 Action Table.

- (a) Preliminary review of Molonglo Catchment Strategy: ongoing.
- (b) VOIP telephony: ongoing.
- (c) Small Grants Funding: no action yet.
- (d) Effects of Starane on frogs, Jim has update.
- (e) Austcover Associations Liability Insurance: Lynton is still looking into this.

### 6 Correspondence List.

#### In

- (a) Connecting Up: Update our details.
- (b) Friends of Jerrabomberra Wetlands: Request for LOS for environmental grant application.
- (c) STEP: Request for LOS for one of their projects.

#### Out

- (a) Nil.

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

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Accept report as read.
- (c) Bookkeeping: Lynton is still seeking quotes. Planning to meet with Maryke and Pam Chilman. Looking at beyond the next 12 months, to seeing if MLI can extend their bookkeeping services to other networks.
- (d) Living Atlas of Australia: Stephen and Lynton have been progressing with this project.

- (e) The Environment Commissioner's Report on the state of Lake Burley Griffin has appeared and Lynton is studying it. One option, to develop a catchment management forum or council, which will involve all stakeholders and be linked to groups with concerns. Stephen comments that, as a background document to hang new work off this is a good piece of work and a good summary of what has to be done.
- (f) Conservation Council Biodiversity Working Group: Is compiling a wish list to put to politicians prior to the next election.

## **8 Vice President's Report – Tom Baker.**

- (a) World Environment Day: Natasha Abbot, Tom and Stephen are organising a series of events for World Environment Day. There will be a session on the Tuesday before about platypus monitoring on the Queanbeyan River, and other activities.
- (b) K2C: Tom couldn't attend the last executive committee meeting. The Traditional Land Practices document has been released and Tom comments that it is quite interesting.
- (c) Along the Molonglo: The Queanbeyan show will be launched on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June by Geoff Williams of the Platypus Conservancy, followed by a platypus spotting training walk at 3:00 pm (by invitation).
- (d) 3D Model: Can we build lights into it to indicate points of interest/places etc.

## **9 Treasurer's Report – Maryke Booth.**

- (a) Some financials provided.
- (b) Maryke is back from her business commitments.
- (c) \$160,443.23 (11<sup>th</sup> May) in the bank. \$15,500 approx in General Expenses.
- (d) Stephen asked if monies left over from the coordinator project could be used to buy equipment. Reallocation will be required as there is a notional budget there. Deb Saunders time also needs to be reallocated (Horses and Biodiversity projects).
- (e) Bendigo Bank: Maryke got an earbashing from manager about deposits. They offer a 2 month fixed term deposit rate of 5.35%, and, at his discretion, 5.55%. She will reinvestigate our deposits and do cash flow forecasting for a better return. She still prefers Westpac at present, as there are less fees and charges. She'll also investigate online term deposits with Westpac.

## **10 MCG Coordinator's Report – Anna See.**

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Rural Land Health and Biodiversity: Hydrology in the Majura Valley, landholders are concerned since the Majura Parkway plans release.
- (c) PlaceStories: Training day on the 19<sup>th</sup> April, 7 people attended.
- (d) BoB: Organised a meeting at Molonglo on 17<sup>th</sup> April. Weeds removal at Coombs to begin soon. MCG is interested to be involved with revegetation.
- (e) Molonglo Catchment Strategy: Anna and Lynton met with Matt de Jongh from MCMA in early May to discuss their Action Plan review and our Strategy review.
- (f) Riverside Plaza Stall: Organised for 5<sup>th</sup> June, for MCG information dissemination.
- (g) Managing Horses on Small Properties: Online survey (Survey Monkey) completed, with 26 responses to date. Good feedback re workshops. Lara Odell from ACTEWAGL has some new ideas to work on re funding.
- (h) Waterwatch: Anna is supporting Stephen with WW stuff at present.
- (i) Rabbits Workshops: There's not enough virus available at present and some people missed out, but there may be a new strain available towards the end of the year.

## **11 Waterwatch Coordinator's Report – Dr. Stephen Skinner.**

- (a) See report circulated at meeting.

- (b) April in our Catchment: The importance of environmental flows in aquatic systems, this month's topic. Irregular (high and low) flows are optimal. "Froth and Bubble" next month.
- (c) It rained on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May on the excursion to Molonglo Gorge and the year 12 Daramalan College biology kids were very, very good.

#### **12 Members Report – Don Fraser.**

- (a) Burra Landcare: Don's been away and has missed recent Burra LC meetings. Since returning he has been inundated with pipeline issues. ACTEW is putting some money about and may possibly pay for new tree plantings in Burra Park (fairly mature trees have been requested for replanting). Palerang Council will remove the old trees. ACTEW also has money for riparian work. Angela Calliess has been out a couple of times and recommends re-fencing of riparian zones. Roger Farrow is looking after the main LC side of issues.

#### **13 Members Report – Maryke Booth.**

- (a) Royalla Landcare: Rabbit control completed by Royalla residents. A few people have taken advantage of the Cheap Trees project. No Allocasuarina plantings done yet.

#### **14 Members Report – Lynton Bond.**

- (a) Carwoola Landcare: Rabbit control being implemented by Carwoola residents.

#### **15 Members Report – Jim Arnold.**

- (a) Friends of Aranda Bushland: FoAB conducted a bushland tour during Heritage Week.
- (b) Starane: Sent an email to Dow Aust and received no reply. Snail mail version of enquiry is next.

#### **16 Members Report – Karen Williams.**

- (a) Oaks Estate River Project: Tree planting day organised for 20<sup>th</sup> May, all welcome. Hall confirmed, posters posted, newsletter out tomorrow. ACT Budget not out until June for future funding news.
- (b) Oaks Estate Master Plan: The new owners of the paddocks North of the river want to develop them (housing).

#### **17 Members Report – Tom Baker.**

- (a) Cuumbeun Walk: Held last Sunday, with 31 people attending. The walk proceeded over the Eastern escarpment (possibly Koala and Lyrebird habitat) and down to Jumping Creek. All who attended had a good time.
- (b) Queanbeyan LEP: QLC staged 3 submissions. There are 3 main areas of concern, Eastern escarpment issues, Gale Precinct (full coverage of higher density zoning), and Jumping Creek issues (including weeds).

#### **18 Members Report – John Bruggeman.**

- (a) Charles McDonald is now living in Albury (closer to his family). His wife has left him and he is well.
- (b) FOG: Attended the FoG working bee at Stirling Park on 22<sup>nd</sup> April and GPS mapped the Button Wrinklewort populations in the park.
- (c) The fourth round of photo monitoring for the Oaks Estate River Project is complete.

#### **19 Business.**

- (a) MCG Small Grants: Maryke feels we could spend \$5,000 total funding this year on small grants, with \$1,000 being maximum funds available for each project. Scoring of

applications, out of 45 points against our criteria, with cut-off at 23/45. Member groups only need apply. Projects considered, NRM walks, talks, field days, small equipment etc. We need to know if the applicant is seeking funding from elsewhere and/or if our funds are required to top up funding already gained. The application period will extend for 6 weeks. Are funds to be allocated by presentation of invoices to us or through reimbursement of submitted invoices? Variations to project will be considered.

- (b) Letters of Support: We will send out letters (for ACT Environment Grant applications) to our members but we require 5 days notice and will see applications to assess and review what we are supporting in future.
- (c) Majura Parkway: Hydrology issues have been raised and a report completed by a hydrologist, which didn't include the realignment of Woolshed Creek. Stephen comments that slowly but surely engineers are learning that hydrology has to be done first because it determines the types of structures that are used for the development. Woolshed Creek is fed by springs.
- (d) MCG World Environment Day display: To be held at Riverside Plaza outside Coles Supermarket on 5<sup>th</sup> June. Anna will draw up a roster.

## 20 Next Meeting.

Exec. & General Meeting: Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2012, 5:00 – 6:30 pm.  
MCG Office: Unit 13 Cassidy Arcade, 72-76 Monaro St Queanbeyan.

## 21 Closure.

The meeting was closed at 6:54 pm.

Action By	Details	Start Date	Due Date	Completed
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.	21/03/11	11/07/11	In Progress
AW	Review MCG Small Grants Project Funding process	11/04/11	11/07/11	completed
JA	Investigate effects of Starane on frogs, Jim to write to Dow Chemicals for info. Progress report at next meeting.	13/02/12	ASAP	In Progress
LB	Research Austcover Associations Liability Insurance and report back	19/03/12	ASAP	In Progress

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(Chairman)

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(Date)