



MCG Executive and General Meeting.

Monday 10th September 2012.

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

1. Opening.

The meeting was opened at 5:01 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, Karen Williams, Tom Baker, John Bruggeman, Don Fraser, Margaret Piper, Linda Beveridge, Carol Billett, Anna See and Dr. Stephen Skinner. Apologies were received from Jim Arnold.

3 Minutes of 13th August 2012.

Amendments

- (a) Carol Billett (FoBM) also attended.
- (b) Don's report: 3(a) Hog Hopper, not Pig Hopper.
Motion: Karen Williams / John Bruggeman
"That the minutes be accepted with amendments."
Carried.

4 Action Table.

- (a) Molonglo Catchment Strategy: ongoing.
- (b) VOIP telephony: installed last Friday, featuring cheaper phone calls.
- (c) Pialligo Master Plan: a submission was not prepared.
- (d) The Poplars LEP: submission made.
- (e) Jerrabomberra Wetlands Draft: Stephen will prepare advice for our response and circulate.

5 Correspondence List.

In

- (a) August 20 – UMCCC invitation to attend *Connectivity and Corridors* workshop.
- (b) August 30 – Environmental Trust, photo release form to use horse workshop photos in case study.
- (c) September 7 – Transfer of Rights Agreement for *Labour of Love* book.

Out

- (a) August 16 – To Aust Govt Register of Environmental Organisations, confirmation we only operate in Australia.
- (b) August 21 – NGH Environmental, MCG comments on Craven's Creek.
- (c) August 30 – Environmental Trust, signed release form to use horse workshop photos in case study.
- (d) September 7 – Lynton sent response re concerns over Transfer of Rights Agreement for *Labour of Love* book.

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

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Accept report as read.
- (c) New Project Officer: Rachel Marks started with us in late August, to work on rabbit control and biodiversity, and to tidy up some other projects. She has her own established photographic business.
- (d) BoB: Proposal that "Misery Hill", to become a recreation/conservation area in the new Molonglo River Park be renamed Barrer Hill, after Peter Barrer in recognition of the biodiversity work he did in the area in the mid 1990s.
- (e) NSW ET Restoration & Rehabilitation Grants: An application has been submitted for weed management on the Molonglo River below Captains Flat (in association with Captains Flat LC) after a previous unsuccessful grant application.

7 Vice President's Report – Tom Baker.

- (a) Along the Molonglo: Planning for 2013 (our 9th show) is underway, the Canberra Centenary Celebrations year and Queanbeyan's 175th birthday. Alan Jones (ASOC) continues to consult with Tom and Lynton. Canberra Grammar is the venue, on during Heritage Week, 21-29 April. \$2,000 will be required for gallery hire. GCG and SACTCG will also sponsor this show. Students from Canberra and Queanbeyan and members of the ASOC will portray their interpretation of the environment along the Centenary Trail. Friends of Black Mountain will also be involved as the trail goes by Black Mountain.
- (b) Zero Waste Aust information session: Tom attended. Organic food and composting on farms: demonstration of a composting technique using one control heap of wood chip, and another with bacteria and fungus added, under black plastic. The second heap thrived, turning into soil, whereas the control heap only shrank in volume. The process involves conversion of carbon and nitrogen from the environment. zerowasteaustralia.org
- (c) K2C Inc: Newsletter now out. K2C will get \$100,000 for Glossy Black Cockatoo habitat enhancement project. CIC and Queanbeyan Quarry want to participate. The project is coming along well, with cooperation amongst stakeholders.

8 Treasurer's Report – Maryke Booth.

- (a) Karen, the new bookkeeper is settling in well, and catching up. Changes to our reports are occurring, and she is doing budgeting. We can identify when we can invest money if we don't need it immediately.
- (b) Total assets \$225,000, all allocated. General expenses \$16,000.
- (c) A new auditor will be appointed for this year. Accounts are due by the end of September. It is proposed that we use RS Bird Cameron (\$3,000 plus GST p.a.). Charity status requires that we submit audited accounts by the end of October.

Motion: Maryke Booth / Lynton Bond

"That RS Bird Cameron is to be appointed as MCG auditors."

Carried.

9 MCG Coordinator's Report – Anna See.

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Majura Valley Hydrology Workshop: To be held on 18th September. GA and ACT Roads will attend.
- (c) Frolicking Fauna Survey: Royalla, Maryke's place on 27 September, led by Darren Le Roux. Tom is interested in doing an Aprasia survey towards the end of October.
- (d) BoB Molonglo: Met 14th August. BoB Molonglo may lead a project to restore rocky knolls in the Arboretum. John commented that care should be taken not to disturb Aboriginal sites on these knolls (burials).

- (e) Yass TAFE: 15 copies of the Weeds pack were sent to Yass TAFE, for use by the students.
- (f) Community Survey: 75 responses so far.
- (g) Friends of Black Mountain: FoBM and Atlas of Living Australia are talking about doing a Bio Blitz survey, possibly at the end of March.
- (h) Old Bus Depot Markets: MCG to display with other catchment groups this Sunday.
- (i) Mia Friedman: At a conference last week Mia encouraged Anna upon the benefits of using social media, which is capable of reaching beyond our static mailing list. Anna talked with Kelly from GCG about the possibility of doing a joint project.
- (j) South Aust. Zoos project: Connecting Red Tailed Cockatoo habitat in South Australia. The National Conservation Society of SA engage in community led vegetation monitoring and have a manual and other tools available.
- (k) Maryke asks about the new batches of virus for rabbit control, or the possible use of Pindone.

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

- (a) See report circulated at meeting.
- (b) Stephen has been away.
- (c) ERG Burra Creek: Walk held on 29th August, meeting held on 5th September. The switch over from the bulk water alliance has finished, and control is now with ACTEW. Reports are coming in and strategies are being developed. Offsets are the biggest problem, with Transact not talking to ActewAGL and ACTEW, resulting in doubling up on fencing and small plots instead of one big plot. Reseeding seems to have worked but now waiting to see what happens this spring. Stephen is proud of the Burra mob and happy with finances (\$20,000).
- (d) Stephen had an enquiry from Mrs Heffernan re damage being done along Old Cooma Road by the road realignment. He asks, did we do a submission on this? [It is too late for a submission on this; Queanbeyan Landcare raised this issue two years ago.]

11 Molonglo Catchment Project Officer – Rachel Marks.

- (a) See report circulated at meeting.

12 Members Report – Linda Beveridge.

- (a) Friends of Black Mountain: General meeting held on 23rd August. Seeking support for projects on Black Mountain, including pre-fire and post fire entomology project, potentially using CSIRO entomologist's knowledge. A walk will be held on 24th September to preview the Centenary Trail, starting at Frith Road. She mentioned a weeding program with a workshop on the 3rd November, with support from Steve Taylor, targeting St Johns Wort and Blackberry, etc. An ACT Weeds Management Strategy and program exists. What can FoBM do in conjunction with other stakeholders? Linda supports participation in the Biodiversity project.

13 Members Report – Don Fraser.

- (a) Burra LC: ACTEW's \$20,000 is to go to Palerang Council for replacement trees in Burra Park. Don is concerned as removal of old pines will be taken out of this money, where Palerang had previously promised to remove trees out of their own budget. Burra wants trees other than pine as replacements.
- (b) ACTEW Pipeline: Huge flows in Burra Creek. Testing continues.

14 Members Report – Tom Baker.

- (a) QLC walk to be held on 23rd September, meeting at The Scar (the old quarry off South Bar Road) at 9:30 am. Plant and bird people will be coming along.

- (b) The Poplars: A submission is being worked on. The area will stay in private hands and management strategies need to be worked out. It appears that QCC attitude has gone backwards and they appear to not be interested. A DCP will be done in due course. Once again, who will look after it?

15 Members Report – Karen Williams.

- (a) Lynton and Anna toured Oaks Estate, prior to doing the submission for the Master Plan.
- (b) We have heard back from QLC re individual membership of OE residents.
- (c) Weeds identification field day: Confirm with Lynton for 30th September.

16 Members Report – Maryke Booth.

- (a) Royalla LC: Looking forward to the Glossy Black Cockatoo project. 1,000 Allo-casuarina seedlings have been ordered and there is a sign and brochure holder now in the reserve.
- (b) A Bats workshop will be held at Maryke's place.

17 Members Report – John Bruggeman.

- (a) The 5th stage of photo monitoring has been completed for the river restoration project. Lynton suggests that the results be put up on the Flickr website. This will be done as time allows.

18 Members Report – Lynton Bond.

- (a) Carwoola LC: A Wildflower Walk will be held on either the 20th or 21st October.

19 Business.

- (a) QLC Gale Precinct letter to newspaper: Don spoke for Burra LC. Mike Nixon was luke warm regarding the letter. Don wants Gale protected and Roger Farrow agrees. Maintain a green belt between the Googong development and Queanbeyan and link in the Eastern Escarpment. Lynton will send a response back to Dave. Re Aboriginal management of the area, the Yass mob want it to be conserved but the local mob want it for development. 46% was rezoned for housing at one time, and still is.
- (b) Lake Burley Griffin Action Plan: Not released as yet.
- (c) ACT Environment Grant: Successful, for a tablet computer (\$4,000, Tammy Spackman and Cathy Tracy, ESDD, recommended by Steve Taylor) for loan to park-care groups for weed mapping. The use of a smart phone is now being recommended for this project as the technology has moved on. The grant has been put on hold until the device to be used is decided on. Atlas of Living Australia says that an *app* will be available very shortly to do the same job. Smart phones are \$1,000 each, compared to \$4,000 for a tablet computer. The grant also includes 4 battery powered back-pack sprayers.

20 Other Business.

- (a) Jerrabomberra Wetlands Draft: Available now from the ACT Govt at government shopfronts.
- (b) Report of the ACT Weeds Forum: Now available. Steve Taylor's strategy explained.
- (c) Frogwatch Seminar: This week, field day next week.
- (d) Floriade roster to be distributed tomorrow.

21 Next Meeting.

Exec. & General Meeting: Monday, 15th October 2012, 5:00 – 6:30 pm.
MCG Office: Unit 13 Cassidy Arcade, 72-76 Monaro St Queanbeyan.

22 Closure.

The meeting was closed at 6:32 pm.

Action By	Details	Start Date	Due Date	Completed
LB/AS	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	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
AS	Seek committee feed-back re proposed goals for revision of MCS	18/6/12	9/7/12	Completed
All	Submissions on Poplars LEP	6/8/12	14/9/12	Completed
All	Submission on Draft Jerrabomberra Wetlands Master Plan	6/8/12	28/9/12	In progress
All	Work out roster for Floriade	11/9/12	4/10/12	

.....
 (Chairman)

.....
 (Date)