

MOLONGLO CATCHMENT GROUP Inc.

ABN 78 210 867 987



MCG Executive and General Meeting.

Monday 15th October 2012.

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

1. Opening.

The meeting was opened at 5:12 pm by Lynton Bond, (President), in the Chair. A warm welcome was extended to all present. Lynton gave a special welcome to Sam Shannon, acting Murrumbidgee Regional Landcare Facilitator.

2 Attendance / Apologies.

In attendance were Lynton Bond, Tom Baker, John Bruggeman, Don Fraser, Linda Beveridge, Carol Billett, Sam Shannon, Anna See and Dr. Stephen Skinner.

Apologies were received from Karen Williams, Maryke Booth and Jim Arnold.

3 Minutes of 10th September 2012.

- (a) The minutes weren't accepted due to quorum not being reached, and have been passed over to the next meeting.

Amendments

- (a) 12(a) Dates in Linda's report corrected to General meeting 23 August, walk 24th September, workshop 3rd November.

4 Action Table.

- (a) Molonglo Catchment Strategy: ongoing. Feedback received from members.
- (b) Starane: no response yet from Dow Chemicals.
- (c) VOIP telephony: completed.
- (d) Pialligo Master Plan: a submission was not prepared.
- (e) The Poplars LEP: submission made.
- (f) Jerrabomberra Wetlands Draft: submission completed, thank you Stephen for advice.
- (g) Floriade: roster made and circulated.
- (h) Auditors: RS Bird Cameron appointed, we can expect audit back in a timely manner.

5 Correspondence List.

In

- (a) September 11: Upper Murrumbidgee Actions for Clean Water Plan.
- (b) September 14: ACTEW Water, Murrumbidgee to Googong Water transfer, summary of Flow Rates.
- (c) September 17: Regional Achievements and Community Awards, invitation to awards dinner.
- (d) September 21: Queanbeyan City Council, acknowledgement of receipt of submission for The Poplars.
- (e) September 24: ACT Legislative Assembly, Standing Committee on Climate Change, Environment and Water, report on annual and financial records.

- (f) September 24: STEP Newsletter.
- (g) September 27: Acknowledgement of Jerrabomberra Wetlands Submission.
- (h) October 2: Chris Ware, Director of NOWaste, response to MCG comments on Mugga Resource Management Centre expansion.
- (i) October 3: ACT Govt., Draft ACT Nature Conservation Strategy 2012-22.

Out

- (a) September 14: MCG submission on The Poplars.
- (b) September 27: MCG Jerrabomberra Wetlands submission.
- (c) September 27: MCG comments on Mugga Resource Management Centre expansion.

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

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Accept report as read.
- (c) Office: Additional staff and higher attendance numbers at meetings. We are running out of space. Lynton will look into acquiring another meeting space. The old Griffith High School has a place to lock up the display trailer in and adequate office space with room for expansion.
- (d) Draft ACT Nature Conservation Strategy 2012-22: An interesting document. Comments, meetings really open, good relationship with the government, discussion free and candid. Lynton is concerned then draft is not focusing on conservation as much as development.
- (e) UMCCC: Meeting last week. John Feint's comments on the Lake Burley Griffin Action Plan, nothing new here. Martin Lind (Peter Cullen Trust sponsored fellow this year) is cursing the standard that Andy set. He shares an equal footing with Doctors and Academics involved.
- (f) BoB: Last meeting poorly attended by government people. The next BoB Gungahlin meeting (6th Nov.) will look at BoB's future direction.
- (g) Website: Working nicely behind the scenes, Marion is working out how to do things quite neatly. Lynton is working on Waterwatch and Biodiversity Monitoring data entry.
- (h) Floriade: Lynton met a bloke there who wants us to post on his website, Pia Waugh of Data ACT (a satisfactory site). Potentially all 3 catchment groups on one site, with someone else maintaining it. Lynton will hold further discussions in the future with these people.

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. No students are interested at this point. Alan Jones is disappointed with this and suggests that other people may enter through the catchment groups. Money can be applied for through the Heritage Festival if schools are involved.
- (b) The Poplars: Submission on LEP done. Goes to council next week. 90 hectares to be set aside for conservation. Two issues: stormwater and who will manage it.

8 Treasurer's Report – Maryke Booth.

- (a) Presented by Lynton in Maryke's absence.
- (b) Financial reports sent out last week.
- (c) Profit and Loss Analysis: Doesn't break down budget by projects.
- (d) Purchased a licence for Calxa (add-on for MYOB) for better analysis of the budget and more easily see how things are running.

- (e) Commitments have been maintained.

9 MCG Coordinator's Report – Anna See.

- (a) See report sent out by email.
- (b) Majura Valley Hydrology Workshop: Held on 18th September. 20 people attended (land holders, GA, ACT Roads and other government organisations).
- (c) Frolicking Fauna Survey: Royalla, Maryke's place on 27th September, led by Darren Le Roux. Interesting.
- (d) BoB Molonglo: Met 14th August.
- (e) Old Bus Depot Markets: 16th September. Sold cards and books, and explained Waterwatch and what else we do to the public.
- (f) Floriade: Thanks to volunteers, and Linda and Carol, for input. Linda thanked Rachel for coordinating Floriade.
- (g) Captains Flat LC: Willow and Broom control done using our small grants funding. We'll attend the markets on 3rd November, with display trailer.

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

- (a) See report circulated at meeting.
- (b) Two platypus walks were held in Queanbeyan, five people attended on 22/9 and two people attended on 14/10. Stephen feels that the Platypus and Water Rat Union have blackballed him as none were seen on either walk.
- (c) Stephen is a bit behind with the 6 monthly WW report due to attendance at Floriade.
- (d) Attended the release of the Upper Murrumbidgee for Clean Water Plan on 11th September.
- (e) Attended the Lake Users Group meeting on 12th September. Centenary planning and ways to keep the lake open discussed. One artistic event (One River) planned for August 2013, but no environmental events. (Linda asks, can we have a Molonglo Prize in this event, thus reminding people that this is the bush capital).
- (f) Attended Mugga Lane Tip Extension meeting on 9th October. Water testing will continue and they may share data with us. Trees will go, with the offset being looked after by the Isaacs Ridge group. A kangaroo proof fence may be used along Mugga Lane as tip truck drivers do not stop for them.
- (g) Visited the new facilities in the old woolshed at Mulligans Flat with Pauline Carder and David Shorthouse on 27th September, in preparation for the UMCCC forum (new toilets and a good meeting space).
- (h) The Murray-Darling Basin Authority Education Office held a show & tell day on 9th October where Stephen presented his Conspicuous Algal Tutorial. There are enthusiastic people all over the basin and it's important for us to keep in the loop, despite our focus being urban. The Lachlan CMA paid big money for a catchment model made in America so Stephen told them about our 3D model of our catchment.
- (i)

11 Members Report – Linda Beveridge.

- (a) Friends of Black Mountain: 70 people turned up for the wild flower walk last Sunday. Participated in shared display at Jamieson Centre 21-23 September. Met with Raine & Horne Commercial about revamping the display at Telstra Tower, where there is a vast scope for improvement. MCG may be able to help with a labelled landscape profile of Black Mountain. The lower ground area in the tower has a meeting room (seats 50). FoBM became members of the Conservation Council (three members sit there, Linda Beveridge, Carol Billett and Isobel Crawford). After the election the group will attempt to be recognised as a Park-care Group. Chris Bourke is interested in supporting this. Weeds work party for 3rd November.

12 Members Report – Don Fraser.

- (a) Burra Community Association Open Gardens scheduled for 3rd & 4th November. The Lions Club is involved with advertising for this.
- (b) Weeds Day scheduled for London Bridge homestead on 10th November.
- (c) Don enjoyed Floriade where he got to talk to Stephen and Tom.

13 Members Report – Tom Baker.

- (a) Joint letter supporting QLC and Gale Precinct hasn't gone ahead.
- (b) This Sunday QLC will conduct an Aprasia survey at River Drive, Fairlane Estate.
- (c) 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?

14 Members Report – John Bruggeman.

- (a) There will be a weeds identification field day at Oaks Estate on 27th October, conducted by the MCG.
- (b) John thanks the committee for the gift of the book "Flowers of the ACT & Region". Much appreciated and already useful.

15 Members Report – Lynton Bond.

- (a) Carwoola LC: A Wildflower Walk will be held on 21st October at 519 Wanna Wanna Road, Libby Hillman's place.
- (b) A local land-holder sent Lynton photos of Allocasuarina amongst Tree of Heaven on his property. Lynton will organise a weeds and planting day and seed collection event there.

16 Visitor's Report – Sam Shannon.

- (c) Sam wanted to come along to our meeting to see what we do. He's been with MLI since July, working on an across properties planning project near Wagga Wagga to reconnect habitat in that area. Sam is originally from New Zealand, and moved to Australia in July with his wife and dog. He is involved with the Monaro Landscape Connectivity project and has attended a UMCCC meeting already.

17 Business.

- (a) Floriade: What do people think about this year's event and our input there. Linda said: the display at Floriade was worthwhile. Nice weather on the days she attended. Children loved the water display, with the 3D model being superb. Frogs fascinated the kids. Is it worth joining with other groups eg snakes, frogs, wasps, other local environment groups etc? Tom said: it was the first year the Look 'n' Learn marquee wasn't full of displays. A tragedy that there was no hint of Australian native plants on display, and that we have a quality display. We should have our own tent, along with the other catchment groups. Don said: scheduled talks in the marquee were quite loud. John said: parking arrangements for volunteers were atrocious. Stephen said: he is concerned about Bill Phillips' agenda.
- (b) MCG Office: Do we move out of the Queanbeyan office, possibly to Griffith, and not have a shop front? For the same rent we get a lot more space. Lots of discussion, with lots of questions. Lynton summarised: committee is not keen, we need to find out what is available, possibly meet at different venues around the catchment and keep the shop front and office.
- (c) Display Trailer: The trailer is looking shabby and requires a refurbishment (new tyres, new paint, new art work) at approximately \$2,500 cost. Lynton will enquire with CIT and The Men's Shed for options.

- (d) Possible Future Projects: Lynton and Anna will give a Presentation to the the ACT NRM Council at the Regional Investment Strategy workshop on 17 October about progress and plans for the future. (The Poplars security of tenure, information dissemination, etc) One possible project, Lake Burley Griffin Task Force (for education about people's back yards, LC, WW, etc), permanence for our part time employees and promotion of ideas to the task force. Another possible project, Bio-Blitz: Some questions: Annual or bi-annual, funding allowing, throughout the catchment, across sub groups etc? This would require project management.
- (e) MCG may wish to consider shopping centre displays as an avenue for informing the community about its work.

18 Next Meeting.

Exec. & General Meeting: Monday, 12th November 2012, 5:00 – 6:30 pm.
MCG Office: Unit 13 Cassidy Arcade, 72-76 Monaro St Queanbeyan.

19 Closure.

The meeting was closed at 7:05 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	Completed
All	Work out roster for Floriade	11/9/12	4/10/12	Completed

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(Chairman)

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(Date)