

# MOLONGLO CATCHMENT GROUP Inc.

ABN 78 210 867 987



## **MCG Executive and General Meeting**

Monday, 9 December 2013

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

### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

Following the Annual General Meeting, the Executive and General meeting was opened at 5.37pm by the re-elected President. Lynton extended a warm welcome to all present.

In attendance were Lynton Bond, Karen Williams, Anna See, Stephen Skinner, John Bruggeman, Tom Baker, Jim Arnold, Don Fraser, Margaret Piper and Carol Billett.

Apologies were received from Linda Beveridge and Maryke Booth, who was running late.

### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Tom proposed that the minutes of the previous meeting of 11 November 2013 be accepted. The motion was seconded by Karen.

### **3. Business Arising**

Tom advised that Friends of Grasslands (FOG) are happy to support Queanbeyan Landcare's efforts in weed management in the grassland and the woodland at The Poplars and have offered a grant of \$1,000 towards any work that needs to be done. Queanbeyan Council will talk to the owners about fencing the property.

Lynton moved to add Small Grants to Other Business.

### **4. Correspondence**

#### **Inwards:**

- 11 November – notification that the Draft ACT Trails Strategy is now open for comment;
- 11 November – Conservation Management Network, Glovebox Guide to Frogs.

#### **Outwards:**

- 6 December – Submission on Review of Weed Management in NSW.

Carol advised that Friends of Black Mountain are writing a response to the Draft ACT Trails Strategy and Lynton stated that Molonglo Catchment Group would support it.

### **5. Reports**

#### **a. President's Report – Lynton Bond**

See report circulated by email.

Lynton expressed his disappointment that the website was not yet completed.

#### **b. Vice-President's Report – Karen Williams**

Karen will send Oaks Estate updates to the MCG Committee. Anna suggested creating a blog on the ACT Landcare Facebook Page.

The Bush on the Boundary network has been useful for potentially getting access to sites for the Ngunawal walks. Wally and Tyronne Bell have done surveys on many sites already. Karen met with the Heritage Unit with Tyronne and Karissa (Ginninderra Creek Catchment Co-ordinator) and had the first Ngunawal walk last week on 30 November. It was very successful and received positive feedback. It integrated different disciplines: Fiona Dwyer talked about water and Karen did the landscape perspective. She showed how the present landscape is important to the environment. Tyronne and Wally Bell provided Ngunawal perspective. People were very keen to be involved and were pleased with the (very rare) local expertise. Three more walks are planned for the future: one around Civic in February looking at the lake and mountains, then another in April on Little Black Mountain. One walk will be combined with Ginninderra Catchment Group.

Lynton commented on the historic imagery in paintings and remarked that there was plenty of scope to involve Landcare Groups.

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

See reports circulated by email.

Maryke advised that the reports were not quite up to date. We have received \$64K which is the second round grant to pay for the Coordinator's and Catchment Officer's positions. We have also received a \$12K grant for the Land for Wildlife project.

The financial report has been produced.

#### **d. Coordinator's Report – Anna See**

See report circulated by email.

As part of the Woolshed Creek Restoration, Anna has ordered plants for planting in April with funding secured from Roads ACT. Roads ACT have also agreed to erect a fence, approximately 50 metres from the creek line along the realigned section to allow further plantings of woodland species.

An ACT Environment Grant had been received for Revegetation of Lower Molonglo after Woody Weed Removal. Anna met with Darren Roso and they found patches of snow gums. More snow gums will be planted and the seed given to the Aboriginal nursery for propagation.

Volunteers are needed for weed management of 85 hectares in Royalla.

We need to get 5kms of fencing to put up this year for conservation and management of grazing. Anna suggested we could possibly use the left over ACTEW money.

MCG was successful in its bid for a Regional Investment Strategy grant to support the Group's work for the next five years; however, the funding granted was less than asked for so the budget will be very tight. The Regional Investment Strategy people want us to do more monitoring although we do not have any funds to do that.

#### **e. Catchment Officer's Report – Stephen Skinner**

See report circulated by email.

Stephen mainly has been involved with Majura Parkway issues but also attended the Spring QA/QC for Waterwatch at Scottsdale on 30 November.

On 14 November Stephen participated in the macroinvertebrate survey of the lower half of the catchment.

#### **f. Friends of Black Mountain – Carol Billett**

Friends of Black Mountain held a General Meeting on 28 November. Eight people attended and Amelie Langevin from Frogwatch gave a very interesting presentation.

Weeding continues on the first Saturday of every month and we are currently weeding in the ANBG Annex with Friends of ANBG.

#### **g. Friends of Aranda Bushland – Jim Arnold**

Friends of Aranda Bushland are spraying St John's Wort.

#### **h. Queanbeyan Landcare – Tom Baker**

Queanbeyan Landcare have just finished participating in a koala scat survey. No koala scats were found in the local area but some were found near Captain's Flat. Lots of possum scats were found.

Three members of QLC participated in a Weeds Workshop at Carwoola. Everyone brought St John's Wort but there was no evidence of mites.

#### **i. Burra Landcare – Don Fraser**

Approximately a dozen people turned up for the walk on Tinderry led by Roger Farrow. It was a beautiful day and the group saw a patch of blue *Dampiera fusca*, which is very rare as they only thrive after fire.

#### **j. Radio Landcare – Margaret Piper**

Southern Area Catchment Group have done shows by themselves and their skills are expanding.

#### **k. Oaks Estate – Karen Williams**

There have been two sightings of platypus. People are relating to the river in a positive way.

#### **l. Royalla Landcare – Maryke Booth**

Royalla Landcare have released Patterson's Curse bugs. A day at Royalla Common was held with a table set up for Landcare. People are not happy about rabbits but do not want to poison them. They are not happy about weeds either.

#### **m. Carwoola Landcare – Lynton Bond**

40 people attended the Weeds Workshop.

## 6. Other Business

- a. **Nature Conservation Bill** – we have received a letter from the Conservation Council asking us to endorse the Nature Conservation Bill. The committee agreed to the endorsement and Lynton will advise the Conservation Council accordingly.
- b. **Small Grants** – Lynton raised the possibility of a contribution to The Poplars project. Money from the Land for Wildlife grant could also be put towards it. A condition would be that the owners would at least have to match it. Anna has put forward a proposal to go out to member groups about funding for projects. The guidance would be in the order of \$600, which could be used for the purchase of small equipment, herbicide, etc. Money is also available for tree planting.

## 7. Next Meeting

As the next meeting would be the first for the New Year, Lynton suggested that we make it an informal meeting. He further suggested that we meet at Oaks Estate on 13 January 2014, Karen lead a guided walk and we follow up with a barbecue. The Committee was in favour of this option so Karen agreed to contact the relevant real estate person and let us know if it were possible.

## 8. Meeting Close

There being no other business the meeting closed at 6.48pm.

..Lynton Bond.....  
President

.10 February 2014.....  
Date