

MOLONGLO CATCHMENT GROUP Inc.

ABN 78 210 867 987



MCG Executive and General Meeting

Monday, 13 October 2014

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

1. Welcome and Apologies

Lynton Bond, President, declared the meeting open at 5:09pm and extended a warm welcome to all present.

In attendance were Lynton Bond, Karen Williams, Bernie Bugden, Linda Beveridge, Carol Billett, Tom Baker, Maryke Booth and John Bridge (arrived 5.30pm).

Apologies were received from Jim Arnold and Don Fraser.

2. Minutes of the Meeting of 11 August 2014

The minutes of the meeting of 11 August 2014 were circulated by email prior to this meeting. No amendments were tabled and Linda moved that the minutes be accepted. Carol seconded the motion.

3. Minutes of the Meeting of 8 September 2014

The minutes of the meeting of 8 September 2014 were circulated by email prior to this meeting. No amendments were tabled and Carol moved that the minutes be accepted. Tom seconded the motion.

4. Business Arising

Bernie advised that Mel had not yet had time to prepare the report on the *In Safe Hands* workshop as other matters had taken priority.

Lynton asked Carol what was happening regarding membership. Carol responded that she would check with John, who had compiled the updated membership register, on the next step in the process (at that stage John had not arrived at the meeting having previously advised that he may be late).

5. Correspondence

In:

Date	Source	Subject	From
10/9/14	Email	13-14 Regional Delivery Stage 2 Payment	Mardie Kearns, NRM, Environment & Planning, ACT Govt
19/9/14	Email/Media release	25 th Anniversary Landcare Grants and establishment of National Landcare Advisory Committee	The Hon Ministers Greg Hunt and Barnaby Joyce
30/9/14	Email	Canberra Brickworks and Environs Planning and Development Strategy Feedback	Louise Dong for the Chief Minister, ACT Government
3/10/14	Email	Invitation to 14/15 ACT Heritage Grants Announcement	Mary Gleeson, ACT Heritage, ACT Govt

Out:

There was no outwards correspondence.

6. Reports**6.1 President's Report – Lynton Bond**

The President's full report was circulated by email prior to the meeting.

- Deb Kellock has commenced as Waterwatch Coordinator.
- The number of grants being announced is frustrating as there is not enough time to deal with them all.
- The auditors sent a draft of their report today but only the financial aspects. They won't provide the commentary until the Committee signs off on it.

6.2 Vice-President's Report – Karen Williams

- Is attending the ACT Heritage Grants announcements on Thursday with Tyronne and expects to hear whether successful in 2014-15 round for more Ngunawal Walks and Talks.
- Will discuss with Bernie about organising the first of the advisory group meetings on the Block 2 Section 128 Restoration and Rehabilitation project.
- Oaks Estate Master Plan – not much change from last month but the Progress Association has made comment (see attached report).

6.3 Treasurer's Report – John Bridge

The financial reports were circulated by email prior to the meeting.

- A significant income from grants has been received resulting in a considerable amount in the bank account. Some cash management is needed.
- The terms of some grants require that the interest be used for the grant. Lynton advised that the interest from the Caring for our Country grant is used for the project.
- There is \$212K in Cash Reserve and \$65K in Accounts Receivable. The Balance Sheet shows grant funding in advance.

6.4 Staff Report – Bernie Bugden

The full report was circulated by email prior to the meeting.

- The closing date for the NLP 25th Anniversary Landcare Grants is Monday, 20 October at 2pm. Proposals are being developed for Friends of Jerrabomberra Wetlands and Royalla Landcare.
- The Lower Molonglo Nature Reserve project has been completed. ACT Parks and conservation Service contributed approximately \$12K.
- Pest Animal Management project for feral pig control is progressing.
- Woody Weed Removal in Upper Molonglo – the NSW Environmental Trust (Restoration and Rehabilitation) has provided almost \$100K over 3 years to protect Snow Gum grassy woodland and the Green and Golden Bell Frog.
- Managing Threats to Biodiversity on Black Mountain, Mount Ainslie and Mount Majura – the Advisory Group will start up in late November.
- Great Eastern Ranges Landcare Grant – Mel has started on the process and trees have been ordered.
- RIS – the weed management target has been met and we are well on the way to meeting other targets. Now looking ahead to next year's grants and forward planning.

6.5 Friends of Black Mountain – Linda Beveridge

- Another successful weeding day on 4 October removing non-local native melaleucas.
- Have been invited by ANBG to write a 2-page spread on the weeding project for *Fronde* magazine. *Fronde of* X
- 92 people turned up for the Spring Wildflower walk last Saturday.
- The joint Parkcare display at Jamison Plaza 26-28 September was very successful.
- Have put in a submission about dogs. Black mountain is still designated as prohibited. FoBM also supported that dogs be on-leash in and around Wetland areas. Need to be assured about resources for compliance, etc. Have now received an invitation for excerpts to go into the report.
- The student bird project is going well.
- Vegwatch, weeding and a Plant ID workshop are coming up.

6.6 Royalla Landcare – Maryke Booth

- Greening Australia has restored the tree guards on the she oaks along the ridge for the Glossy Black Cockatoo project. The trees get blown over and kangaroos eat to the top of the guard.
- Thanks to MCG for the left over plants. Greening Australia planted them in Swainsona Reserve.
- Bernie met with Maryke today about a grant application for a chain of ponds on Jerrabomberra Creek and Whisperer Creek.
- Going to do Frogwatch and Vegwatch.

6.7 Queanbeyan Landcare – Tom Baker

- Working with MCG on the Great Eastern Ranges Landcare Grant projects, constructing and planting fenced stepping stones for small bush birds.
- Rolling out mites for St John's Wort. Queanbeyan Landcare is also distributing potted St John's Wort plants to landowners. The plants are inoculated with the microscopic mites that are an effective biological control agent for this invasive plant.
- Queanbeyan Landcare members intend to survey the 1.8hectare Fairlane Flora Reserve in River Drive for the presence of the threatened species, the pink-tailed legless worm lizard, *Aprasia Parapulchella*. This was to happen on 18 or 25 October.
- Alan Jones, President of the Artists Society of Canberra, wrote to all three catchments seeking financial prize sponsorship and information for the Catchment Groups art prizes for the exhibition in April 2015. The theme of the exhibition may be native grasslands, to fit in with events marking the finalisation of the major 3-year Myer Foundation funded Grassland Project.

Tom moved that MCG provide prize money of \$500. Carol seconded the motion. The meeting accepted the recommendation unanimously.

6.8 Oaks Estate – Karen Williams

See paragraph 6.2 Vice-President's Report – nothing further to add.

6.9 Carwoola Landcare – Lynton Bond

- Mel is organising a Land for Wildlife workshop for 25 October at Carwoola, replacing the usual wildflower walk.

7. Other Business

7.1 Office Furniture

Now that there are 3 permanent staff and occasionally two to three volunteers in the office, the old furniture is proving unsatisfactory and is no longer suitable. Lynton has sought quotes and replacement

office chairs, guaranteed for two years, will cost approximately \$200 each. New conference chairs will cost approximately \$100 each. The total cost would be \$2,000 + GST.

Lynton moved that this amount be expended to purchase new chairs. Maryke seconded the motion. The meeting accepted the recommendation unanimously.

7.2 Small Grants

MCG will call for applications earlier so that groups can think about their projects over summer and tackle weeds now.

The Committee agreed that \$5K will be provided for small grants up to \$600 (typically) and the membership is to be advised.

7.3 Membership

John had emailed a copy of the membership register to Lynton and the Committee. As agreed some time ago, Carol will maintain the register and Lynton will send out the membership renewal notices for the 2014 calendar year.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting and will be held at 5:00pm on Monday, 10 November 2014 at the MCG Office, Unit 13, Cassidy Arcade, 72-76 Monaro Street, Queanbeyan.

9. Meeting Close

As all business was concluded Lynton declared the meeting closed at 6:46pm.



President

10 November 2014

Date