

MINUTES OF MEETING OF SOUTHERN ACT CATCHMENT GROUP

16th February 2016 at Wanniasa office.

Present: Clive Hurlstone, Marine Franco, Martin Lind, Jann White, Brian Butler, Wendy Rainbird, Miranda Gardner.

Apologies: Glenys Patulny, Jenny Horsfield, Fiona Spier, Mike Sims.

Minutes of last meeting were approved by Wendy and seconded by Brian.

Matters arising from Minutes:

1. There was a Special Meeting regarding the changes to the SACTCG Constitution.
2. The two books: "World of Tidbinbilla" and "Labour of Love: Celebrating Landcare in the ACT" need follow up regarding sales places. Jenny Horsfield was to contact the National Library and we will wait until she has seen them. Wendy did not need to contact Jon Stanhope as Patron of the National Arboretum for their bookshop Curateum to sell the two books, as Wendy was able to track down who the Director is, and they accepted 3 copies each of the two books. They need an Invoice from the SACTCG Office to proceed with sales. Wendy had suggested, and the Director agreed, the books sell for \$20 each, and with 40% off that would mean about \$12 for SACTCG.
3. The proposed idea from Zed Sesjelda that the western side of the Murrumbidgee River corridor should be developed, raises the threat to the river corridor, and that years ago when a similar proposal was put forward, Allan Fox (now deceased) was commissioned to report on the natural values of the river corridor. We believe that the NCDC commissioned that study, and there might be a copy in their Archives.
4. New insurance policies: this was raised at the recent ParkCare coordinators' meeting. See below under new business.

Treasurer's Report was tabled by Jann White, who said that not much had changed. Report filed.

Correspondence: Letter to Clive as Public Officer from the Office of Regulatory Services, about accepting the SACTCG Constitutional changes, and a receipt of \$39 to lodge the changes was provided.

Letter addressed to Glenys awaits her.

Martine raised that most correspondence comes into the office digitally and is distributed this way. She said any relevant information requiring discussion would be raised at a meeting.

Coordinator's Report was tabled by Martine, and filed. The Green Army has been successful in the ACT with the three Catchment Groups working collaboratively and for the ParkCare, Landcare and Waterwatch groups. There will be an additional 2 teams under the next round due to start on 21st March. One team is planned to be an Aboriginal Land Management Team, due to start in 2017, but due to the low salary paid to supervisors, it might be difficult to attract a leader who is also an elder. The 3 Catchment groups are working to get sufficient funding for this. The success of the Green Army in the ACT is due to the coordination from the three Catchment Groups.

Waterwatch Report: Martin said that new teams are constantly starting. His report was filed.

New Business:

1. Insurance update. ParkCare and Landcare insurance has changed over time as TAMS has provided insurance, and PCS has paid for the cover. Now ACTIA through TAMS/RCS will provide insurance for everyone, including volunteers, who work on government land. Recently, the issue has become controversial, as PCS provides induction and risk assessment training, but urban groups do not have rangers nor that coverage. ACTIA should still cover them if they are working on government land. Ginninderra urban groups say they work for the Ginninderra Catchment Group that provide induction and collect the sign-on sheets. ACTIA require that all individual members register after 5 days volunteering.

Catchment groups need public liability and personal accident insurance anyway but the cover would need to be increased from \$380 to about \$2,000 if the Catchment group covered all its members, and the executive would have to follow up any claims.

2. The ACT Investment Prospectus was spoken about by Tim Wong at the ParkCare Coordinators' meeting on 9th Feb. It is an NRM prospectus about how to spend \$6 million of Commonwealth money.

Tim spoke about "blue sky" projects, and not funding baseline positions and moving away from the concept of capacity-building. This means there could be a change in the funding model to funding of the being spent through ACT government positions and other non-government organisations, with the chance that core funding of the three Catchment Groups (CGs) to undertake capacity building activities and on-ground projects will be reduced and/or more projects based.

CGs are working with Landcare ACT to ensure funding continues to the groups in the next round, and are to meet on Wed 17 Feb, with ACT NRM Regional Body. It should clarify priorities, the timelines, improve consultation, and clarify the structures that have been established.

Governance: this was covered by the Constitutional changes noted above in the Minutes, that the ORS accepted.

Meeting closed about 6:25pm.

Next meeting Tuesday, March 15th at 4:30pm.