



Minutes of Meeting held Wednesday 11th February 6:00 - 8:30pm
Mountains Community Resource Network Meeting Room
San Jose Ave, Lawson

Apologies:

Mike Purtell; Maeve Dunnett; Barbara Harley; Clive Barker; Linda Thomas; Steve Barratt; Margaret & Warwick Tafe; Neil Stuart.

Attendees:

Ray Richardson (North Lawson; Popes Glen Steering Committee); Paul Vale (Convenor; Popes Glen, Centenary Reserve, Chairperson); Jenny Hill (Leura Falls Creek Working Group, Vale St); Lachlan Garland (Valley of the Waters, Coates Park); Neil McGlashan (Glenbrook Lagoon); David Rae (Upper Kedumba); Susan Jalaluddin (Cumberland Walkway, Vale St, Leura Falls Creek Working Group); David Porter (Glenbrook Lagoon); Monica Nugent (Bushcare Team Leader, minute taker).

1 Confirmation of last minutes

Minutes of meeting held 12th November 2014 were confirmed; moved by Paul and seconded by Ray.

2 Actions arising from November meeting:

- i. Post confirmed Minutes - actioned.
Monica has posted those already confirmed; Paul has thoroughly examined records of past minutes and provided a table outlining the confirmation and publication status of past minutes of the Network to date. We agreed that it is not feasible to fully conflate all the missing details but that the table could be posted as a reference accompanying advice that the minutes as posted on the website are incomplete and there are some inaccuracies. **Action: Paul to revise and issue a blanket advice and post to the website.**
- ii. Birdwood Gully rock engraving - carry over.
- iii. Bushcare for singles - carry over.
- iv. Network meeting reminders - actioned. Notice of meetings will be included in monthly email bulletins.
- v. Post fire community education project - invitation to Linda Thomas to discuss - carry over.
- vi. Letter on behalf of network to express congratulations & acknowledgement to Linda Thomas for conduct of Community Conservation Plan Review - actioned.
- vii. Review of Network's aims - Ray Richardson put that the meeting accept the Draft Aims and objectives document prepared by him for the Network meeting of Feb 11 2015. Susan moved, Paul seconded.

Monica clarified what insurance cover applies to the Network. Advice from BMCC Acting Operations Manager is that those attending Network meetings are doing so as interested community members, not as volunteers, therefore BMCC Insurance is not applicable. However, Council's public liability insurance applies while at the meeting when it is held on Council managed premises. In any case, Work Cover insurance is not available to employees for travel to and from work any longer, so there would be no policy to cover travel to and from the meeting. It is also advisable that the Network retain autonomy from Council as it is a community group independent of Council intended to represent the community.

- viii. Network Conference - see agenda item 11.
- ix. 10/50 review - actioned, copy attached.
- x. 2015 meeting dates - actioned. Dates are: Feb 11; May 13th; August 12th; Nov 11th. MCRN meeting room is confirmed for all these dates except for November, venue to be decided. Lawson Bowling Club was suggested.

3 Network Representative on Popes Glen Project Committee

Ray advised that Jenny Hill had been nominated and accepted to represent the Network on the Popes Glen Swampland and Bush Regeneration Project.

4 BCN Header usage and design

Monica tabled the new Bushcare Network Header for use on website posts regarding the Network. Copy attached. The use of this Header and Logo was adopted by the meeting; moved Ray, seconded (???)

5 Seed collecting

Jenny suggested that the Network could be involved in formalising or incorporating seed collection and biodiversity monitoring in ordinary Bushcare activities. Suggestion received favourably.

6 Biodiversity monitoring

See item 5.

7 Support from Environment Education Officer

Jenny announced that she is now employed by BMCC as Environmental Education and Community Engagement Officer, part-time, job shared with Emma Kennedy. Jenny volunteered her services to the Network in that capacity, offering support for the Network with promotion and education relating to Bushcare.

8 Living Near the Bush

Susan advised that she has revised and updated the Bushland plants and Gardens chapter of the Blue Mountains Conservation Society publication "Living Near the Bush" and that Connie Ellwood (Sutton Park Bushcare) has agreed to revise the presentation and develop a template for the ongoing update of the entire publication. This project is progressing, for practical purposes this element of it is complete. As a Conservation Society publication, its ongoing development is dependent on the Society. The Network had hoped that commencing the review of this chapter would accelerate the revision of the whole

publication. Paul will be the conduit between the Network (Susan) and the Conservation Society.

9 Picnic

Ray suggested a promotional announcement be made about the Network at the upcoming annual Bushcare Picnic. **Action:** It was agreed that Paul, as current convenor of the Network, would be the appropriate person to **speak and he will liaise with Monica regarding the timing of that.**

10 Oral history program

Monica announced that the BMCC Library is planning to hold "Oral History" workshops in the near future, and that this might be a useful skill for some Bushcarers to develop, so that the history of Blue Mountains Bushcare volunteering could be captured. Jenny advised that the Environment Trust has just announced the 2015 round of Research Grants. This could be an opportunity to obtain funding for a Bushcare Oral History Project. **Action: Jenny Hill will investigate the potential of an application, possibly with the Library as a partner, with assistance from Ray Richardson.**

11 Network Conference plans

The theme could be "living with fire".

Paul tabled a draft running sheet. Margaret Baker is confirmed as keynote speaker, subject to her continued good health. Suggestions for a second or back-up keynote speaker were discussed. **Jenny offered to enquire with Nature Conservation Council regarding potential speakers,** perhaps someone from the Hotspots program. Ian Brown and Kate Hammil were also suggested.

Bill Dixon; Kate Smolski (??) on Nature Conservation; Phil Koperberg; David Lindemeyer (recovery) names also mentioned.

Suggested presentations and activities referred to the Conference Sub-Committee included: The Great Pittosporum Debate; Fitzgerald Creek; Use of fire in land management. Kate (??) on Nature Conservation; Phil Koperberg; David Lindemeyer (recovery)

The intention of the Conference was: How we better prepare the community for fire and recovery from such events in an environmentally responsible way.

Parallel workshops for the afternoon session are dependent upon space available. Action: Monica to check availability of other rooms.

Action: Monica to extend an invitation to the mayor to open the conference on the Network's behalf.

Other business arising

Susan asked whether a previous offer by BMCC Bushcare to subsidise volunteers' First Aid Training is still valid. Several attendees expressed interest in participating in training (Susan, Jenny, Neil, Ray, Paul, David R). **Monica will discuss with Erin and managers.**

Monica distributed copies of BM Bushcare “Bushland Restoration: Training Guide for Bushcare and Landcare Volunteers”, and requested that anyone interested in participating in the updating of Bushcare’s procedures in line with the outcomes of the CCP review to begin by reading and annotating this document with any changes needed.

Meeting Closed 9:00pm. Next meeting will be May 13th, 6pm, same venue.

Actions Summary Table

item	action	who
2. i. confirmed minutes	Revise and issue a blanket advice and post to the website.	Paul
8 Living Near the Bush	Act as conduit between Conservation Society & Bushcare network	Paul
9 Picnic	Make promotional announcement & liaise with Monica re: timing	Paul & Monica
10 Oral history program & research grants	investigate the potential of an application, possibly with the Library as a partner.	Jenny + Ray
11 Network Conference	extend invitation to the mayor to open the conference on the Network’s behalf	Monica
11 Conference	Enquire with Nature Conservation Council regarding potential speakers,	Jenny
Other business	Discuss possibility of First Aid Training for volunteers with Erin and managers.	Monica