

MINUTES

NSW Wildlife Council Inc.

General Meeting #30

26th November 2013

Room 1.04, 43 Bridge St

HURSTVILLE

CHAIR: *Audrey Koosmen*

MEETING OPEN: 09:30

First	Surname	Group	Comment
IN ATTENDANCE			
Geoff	BARTLETT	HKPS	
Jan	BRAZEL	Wildlife Arc.	
Sonja	ELWOOD	SMWS (Alt)	
Rochelle	FERRIS	ASR	
Peter	GRAHAM	LAOKO	
Naomi	HENRY	Wildcare Queanbeyan	
Audrey	KOOSMAN	NATF	
Shirley	LACK	NARG	
Shona	LORIGAN	ORRCA	Arrived @ 13:50
Jackie	MAISEY	NTWC	
Julia	MCONNELL	IGL	Arrived @ 9:40
Meredith	RYAN	FAWNA	
Kathrina	SOUTHWELL	ASR (Alt.)	
Caroline	SUTHERLAND	NRWC	
Lorraine	VASS	FOK	Left @ 13:15
Richard	WOODMAN	WRSC	
Lorraine	YUDAEFF	WINC	
APOLOGIES			
Helen	KENNEDY	SMWS	
Duan	MARCH	Dolphin Marine Magic	
Ian	McKENZIE	NATF (Alt)	
Jane	MILLS	WRSC (Alt)	
Denise	SINGLETON	RRANA	
Crystal	SPENCER	TVWC	
GUESTS			
Ron	HAERING	OEH/NPWS	
Rachel	KATHRINER	IFAW	

INTRODUCTIONS:

The Chair introduced Ron Haering, OEH/NPWS and Rachel Kathriner, IFAW

1. REPORT ON OEH/NPWS ISSUES: Ron Haering

Ron Haering explained the need to have a standardised reporting system; format, terminology for species and sub-species identification etc.

NTWC (J. Maisey) suggests a meeting be convened of all member groups' database officers with OEH to discuss standardisation of record keeping. R. Haering agreed with this idea.

MOTION:

"That accommodation and travel costs for Database Officers to attend a 4 hour meeting Wed 22nd January 2014 from 10.30 a.m. – 2.30 p.m. be covered by NWC. Lunch to be hosted by NPWS/OEH."

Proposed: A. Koosmen

Seconded: J. Maisey

Carried.

2. MORNING TEA: 10:45 – 11:05

3. SMART PHONE "APP" UPDATE: Shirley Lack + Rachel Kathriner

Rachel Kathriner, IFAW Communications Team, Oceania Region, briefed on how IFAW and NWC have developed a Wildlife Rescue App that will officially launch on Sunday 1st December '13. Apple has supported and done some pre-launch publicity with 1500 downloads. IFAW will be actively promoting the launch and all groups can start promoting through their own media networks. A Handbook will be distributed. IFAW has put together some social media "posts" for use prior to and after launch. A. Koosmen, on behalf of NWC, thanked IFAW for this wonderful App that can only benefit wildlife and help rehabilitators. Rachel asked to provide R. Haering with the IFAW/NPWS contact.

There was a Q&A session after the presentation.

Apologies from Josey Sharrad, Native Animal Officer, IFAW (Aust.) who was unable to attend.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING #29 on 24TH AUGUST 2013:

MOTION

"That the Minutes of the General Meeting on 24 August 2013 be confirmed"

Proposed: R. Woodman

Seconded: P. Graham

Carried

5. BUSINESS ARISING:

5.1 Grant Opportunities: Rochelle Ferris

A list of open grant opportunity links has been placed on NWC Facebook page. Thanks to R. Ferris.

5.2 Wombat Best Practice Guidelines: Audrey Koosmen

R. Haering advised he has sent it for outside comment.

5.3 NWC Auditor (OLGR compliance) Update: Meredith Ryan, Shirley Lack

Approval given by Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing to use a non-compliant Auditor.

5.4 State-wide telephone options for Single Number Wildlife Rescue: Peter Graham

Peter Graham tabled his report which was discussed.

OEH is supportive of the idea and agrees with IGL (J. McConnell) that a cost analysis be done. Secretary to write to Phil Machin requesting him to prepare a cost-analysis. Meeting to take place with RMS for ongoing funding and including signage for the phone number. Suggested that the App reference is also included if RMS agrees to any future wildlife rescue contact signage.

- 5.5 Paid Secretariat:** Audrey Koosmen
Report tabled by J. McConnell (IGL) of meeting held on 25th November '13 with some Executive members and Mr. C. Lloyd.

MOTION

“That when the Wiyanga contract is returned to NWC that it be circulated to the full council for perusal”

Proposed: J. McConnell Seconded: N. Henry Carried.

MOTION

“A vote of thanks to Julia McConnell for her tenacity in continuing to progress this long-held need.”

Proposed: L. Vass Seconded P. Graham Carried

6 REPORTS

- 6.1 Chair:** Audrey Koosmen
Discussed the need for standardised training courses. Queensland and Victorian Wildlife Councils discussed NWC Disaster Plan of Management to be discussed at a future NWC meeting.

- 6.2 Secretary (Acting):** Richard Woodman
Correspondence - Folder tabled of pertinent AUG-NOV correspondence. Members expressed interest in receiving a Correspondence Register of incoming and outgoing mail, emails, etc. including From/To and Subject.

- 6.3 Treasurer:** Shirley Lack
The Treasurer’s Report was tabled as previously circulated.

Treasurer asked to investigate higher interest rates on deposits at last meeting. ANZ offering 3.35% for 3 months deposit.

MOTION

“That A. Koosmen, S., Lack and R. Woodman become signatories on the NWC bank account and that J. McConnell be removed as a signatory”

Proposed: S.Lack Seconded: R. Ferris. Carried.

MOTION

“That S. Lack place \$30,000 into a 3 month term deposit investment with ANZ Bank.”

Proposed: L. Yudaeff Seconded: J. Brazel Carried.

- 6.4 Insurance:** Shirley Lack
Report tabled. WINC has been included in the NWC insurance.

- 6.5 OTHER Reports:** L. Vass
L. Vass tabled the NCC 2013 Annual Report.
NWC members encouraged to attend future NCC conferences – a great opportunity to network.
Conference report tabled.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Welcome Package for New Members:

This was a proposal from the 25th August '13 GM that new NWC members be provided with all pertinent NWC information on a CD/DVD as a ready reference to all information new member groups may need. Jane Mills will progress this proposal and report back. Suggested that existing and new members be provided with this information.

7.2 Casual Vacancy – NWC Secretary / NWC Acting Secretary: Audrey Koosmen + Meredith Ryan

MOTION

“That Richard Woodman be confirmed as NWC Secretary to take the Casual Vacancy created by the resignation of J. Mills from that position.”

Proposed: M. Ryan

Seconded: J. Maisey

Carried

7.3 NWC Code of Conduct:

J. Mills (not present)

Carried over to FEB '14 General Meeting.

7.4 NWC Code of Conduct for Employees & Contractors:

J. Mills (not present) & J. McConnell

Carried over to FEB '14 General Meeting.

7.5 Carer Organisation's Member Authorisation Card – Required Information:

Meredith Ryan

Meredith Ryan (FAWNA) drew the NWC's attention to the "Conditions of Authorities".

Member groups do not appear to understand that the conditions must appear on the members' Authorities issued.

7.6 NWC Webpage listing of various Wildlife Training Courses:

Meredith Ryan

MOTION

“That Member groups interested in listing their own training courses on the NWC Website should provide the details to Julia McConnell for inclusion on the Website.”

Proposed: M. Ryan

Seconded J. Maisey

Carried.

7.7 OEH – NSW Wildlife Rehabilitation Licensees – Boundary Map (Revision Req.):

Richard Woodman

R. Haering asks all groups to be specific about any problems with boundaries shown on the OEH published map and to provide written details of any errors. An update of the map is a work in progress.

7.8 WRI Call Centre operation:

Open Council discussion

R. Haering likes the idea of a single call centre. There are privacy issues about individual numbers being given outside the group. Suggested that a protocol be prepared about handling calls from WRI, and sent to all groups asking if they agree.

Secretary to prepare draft rescue call protocol for distribution to groups.

7.9 Political Information Sent Out For Info Only:

Naomi Henry

Discussion on distribution of information about politically based groups.

MOTION

“That NWC members should be advised on an information-only basis of activities of groups/bodies that are relevant to our groups' objectives.”

Proposed: N. Henry

Seconded: S. Lack

Carried with 3 against and 1 abstention.

7.10 Review Action Lists from AGM 25AUG13 + GM 24AUG13:

Report tabled. The Action List will be updated in accordance with this meeting.

7.11 Donations Received by NWC:

J. McConnell & M. Ryan

Donation button on Website – needs an explanation of what donations will be used for and stress at this stage, donations are not tax deductible

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 First Responders Guide to Seabird Emergencies: Rochelle Ferris

Guide circulated at meeting. In 2010, the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill in US generated a lot of donations and there was money left over which was used to invest in Oil Spill research. It is now a legislative requirement to include oil spill response. Funding offered for production of response manual, DVD, Z card. Manual is a collation of everything written about seabirds and handling in NSW with references in back of document. The manual will be going to print in January – 300 copies with a life of 2 years. Copy available on completion of feed-back form in back of manual. R. Ferris congratulated by applause for this initiative.

8.2 Request for Assistance with Research Project – “Cataracts in Hand Reared Macropods”:

Vet (presenter) attendance did not eventuate due to a short notice. More information to be gathered and distributed.

8.3 NCC campaign – “Our Land, Our Water, Our Future”:

L. Vass

FOK (L. Vass) asked whether NWC wants to be formally associated with the NCC campaign. Could member groups be canvassed via email whether they feel NWC should participate by providing logo and endorsement of campaign?

MOTION

“That NWC support the NCC Our Land, Our Water, Our Future campaign.”

Proposed: A. Koosmen

Seconded: L. Vass

Carried.

Secretary to advise NCC that L. Vass is the NWC NCC representative and give her contact details.

8.4 Carer Grants:

MOTION

“That the Wildlife Carers Grants process remains unchanged for the 2013 – 2014 year. i.e. \$1000 grants to each of the 5 successful applicants totaling \$5000.

Proposed: J. McConnell

Seconded: J. Maisey

Carried

Secretary to follow-up groups that have not responded to the Grants request for photographs for the Website.

8.5 Transmission of NWC information to Member Groups:

J. Maisey

NTWC (J. Maisey) questioned what information coming from NWC can be passed on to the group committee. Minutes are on the Website. Jane Mills is preparing a package as guidance for all reps.

8.6 Hunter area bushfires:

NATF (A. Koosmen) gave a most comprehensive briefing on the events surrounding these bushfires.

8.7 Australian Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference (AWRC) 26th to 30th May 2014, Hobart Tasmania:

The AWRC 2014 Conference website <http://awrchobart2014.org> has all the required information.

The AWRC general website <http://www.awrc.org.au/> under "Past Conferences" has an excellent library of papers presented at the successive conferences.

Secretary to distribute information to Reps.

8.8 Name change of Member Group:

P. Graham

LAOKO (P. Graham) advises the new name is; **LAOKO-Snowy Mountains Wildlife Rescue.**

8.9 Proposed destruction of 3 Moreton Bay Fig trees at Randwick Racecourse:

N. Henry

NARG (N. Henry) alerted the NWC of the proposed destruction of 3 Moreton Bay Fig trees at Randwick Racecourse to accommodate the stabling of rolling stock for the proposed light rail system between Sydney City and the Eastern Suburbs. The fig trees, amongst others form a critical and integral part of the local flying-fox habitat.

Request that NWC draft letter protesting this action – N. Henry to draft letter and forward to Secretary.

8.10 Fundraising Authority:

Member organisations with fundraising authorities need to ensure they know their conditions attached to that authority. There have been instances involving unscrupulous members of the public conducting spurious and illegal fundraising, supposedly for bushfire victims.

NEXT MEETING:

18th or 25th February 2014 at 43 Bridge St, HURSTVILLE (Date cannot confirmed until after 1st Jan. '14)

MEETING CLOSED:

3:20 pm

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