

Batavia Coastcare Network (BCN)

Meeting Minutes

Vanessa McGuinness | Secretary

Meeting location: City Hive (184 Marine Terrace)

Meeting Time/ Date: 5:30pm 23rd February 2017

Meeting Commenced at 5:38pm

<u>Present:</u> Dave O'Meara, Heike Witt, Mic Payne, Sean Hickey, Wendy Payne, Vanessa McGuinness
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<u>Apologies:</u> Mike Dufour, Mark Canny, Mark Reid	<u>Chair:</u> Mic Payne
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<u>Guests:</u> Alice Bishop and Pauline Winrow (Birdlife Mid-West)	<u>Secretary:</u> Vanessa McGuinness
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1 Agenda

- 1.1 Minutes from previous meeting
- 1.2 Actions from previous minutes
- 1.3 \$3k Coastwest funding and group name
- 1.4 Birdlife Mid-West Shorebird Zoning in Greenough
- 1.5 Management strategies for more immediate success with the beach revegetation/dune stabilisation projects
- 1.6 Corporate volunteer partnerships for events
- 1.7 Possible Functions of Regional Coastcare Group

2 Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the 19 January 2017 meeting were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting. Moved by Mic Payne and seconded by Dave O'Meara

3 Actions from previous minutes

1. Name selection for the group
2. Media consultant and branding
3. Chair's discussion with Mark R and Mike D regarding Point Moore ORV closures

4 \$3k Coastwest funding and group name

Suggestions from community:

- Batavia Coastcare (BC) x 5 *alternatively* Batavia Coastcare Group (BCG)
- Batavia Coastal Alliance (BCA) x 1
- Geraldton Regional Coastcare Group (GRCG) x 2
- Friends of Batavia/Geraldton Coast (FoBC/FoGC) x 1
- Batavia Coastcare Network (BCN) x2 *alternatively* Batavia Environment and Coastal Network (BEACN)
- Others: Geraldton Community Coastcare (GCC), Coral Community Coastcare (CCC), Central West Coastcare (CWC), Midwest Coral Coast Care (MCCC), Geraldton Regional Ocean Protection (GROPR), Coastal Resources Action Community Enablement Network (CRACEN)

The committee voted on the official name of the group: **Batavia Coastcare Network (BCN)**

5 **Birdlife Mid-West Shorebird Zoning in Greenough** – Vanessa McGuinness

Rory Chapple is planning to meet with the CGG to protect migrating shorebirds by zoning areas from ORVs and recreational activities. Rory has asked if the Geraldton Coastcare Group would provide a letter of support.

Pauline's update from the CGG meeting on Monday (20th Feb): Areas where there is ORV users in Greenough are on private property or already illegal areas. CGG currently doesn't have any funding for signage. Potential funding through NACC's Coastal Quick Step Grants. NACC also hosts "Dog's Breakfast" events to educate community on the importance and protection of shorebirds.

Mike D: Perhaps a City/NACC/Shorebird Coastwest - shorebird signage grant application

Committee happy to provide a letter of support to Birdlife Mid-West on grant applications for signage.

6 **Management strategies for more immediate success with the beach revegetation / dune stabilisation projects** – Sean Hickey

Sean expressed his desire for the BCN to act as a leading body in the area of best-practise coastal management. Various ways to achieved this were discussed with the first action to be investigation of high quality interpretative signage for trail heads to the beach.

Mike D: Would like to hear feedback on the sand trapping fencing. Would like to know what 'immediate' is. Always willing to try new things. I believe the group should be empowered to describe how they would do things differently, why they would do it and give consideration to the resourcing and costs of their alternatives

ACTION:

- MP: Find examples of Point Moore's signage
- WP: Find photos of Hangover Bay signage
- VM/MD: CGG Signage Policy on Geraldton beaches
- All: Desktop browse for examples and ideas of successful dune restoration signage

7 **Corporate volunteer partnerships for events** – Mic Payne/Vanessa McGuinness

NACC NRM Project Officer Sarah Samulkiewicz-Taylor has started up a project called "Elevate Your Impact" to assist all local community groups for any upcoming projects and/or events.

The "Elevate Your Impact" project aims to:

- Engage corporate partners to help out with local community group events and provide assistance (eg. man power)
- Potentially provide (via NACC or corporate partners) some resources/materials to help with the community group event
- Help the community group engage with businesses or schools
- Any other suitable way to assist community groups

If interested please see Vanessa for more details or contact Sarah at Sarah.Taylor@nacc.com.au

8 **Possible Functions of Regional Coastcare Group** – Heike Witt

Regional representative coast care group could function as a "centre of expertise", proving expert advice and support to individual coast care groups and NACC as an aspiring body

- *Grants*

Researching Grants regional/ federal/ international and create a time line/list and strategy, access to Geraldton/WA wide coast care grants rather than small separate projects for each community group (this would optimise planning projects and access to bigger funding), access to coast west grant program.

- *Sustainability*

Liaise within regional/national/International Coastcare projects/groups, educate coast care representatives of each community group, networking with climate change researchers international

- *Science/engineering*

Compiling/review scientific reports/studies and filtering relevant information to community groups, education, climate change projects

- *Planning*

Developing/reviewing plans in liaison with CGG planning in context with State planning

- *Finance/laws*

Finance strategies and support of community groups, reading/understand relevant policies

- *Project management*

Creating an overall strategy plan in liaison with all community Coastcare groups/CGG as overall long term strategic plan ideally for the whole WA coastline

The community coast care groups could be focused on groundwork, clean-ups, planting, community consultation and ideas. The Geraldton regional Coastcare group as a representative body bringing all the individual coast care groups together and is networking with national wide Coastcare organisations and scientists.

The Chair pointed out that it is still early days in the formation of BCN and objectives will develop over time. The above function are desirable, however they will require committee members to step up to take on responsibilities for some of these roles, and this in turn depends on the desires and capacity of committee members. Most committee members do not have time to undertake these tasks. NACC already undertakes some of these objectives (eg notification of grant rounds) and it is hoped that the new BCN webpage and Facebook page will become important resources for disseminating information and networking.

Heike reported that the Sunset Beach Community Group has recently completed a strategic plan, the Chair requested a copy of the plan components that relate to their Coastcare subcommittee.

ACTION: Heike to provide committee with SBCG Strategic Plan for perusal

9 Reports

9.1 Chair

- Media consultant has been engaged to complete website, Blaze Digital is working with the Secretary to complete this
- As per previous minutes Chair and Mark Reid discussed ways forward regarding ORV management at Pt Moore. This discussion will continue between NACC and Pt Moore Coastcare and not involve GCCG
- As per previous meeting, a LOS will be provided to CGG upon request for Coastwest funding for boxthorn removal.

9.2 Treasurer/Secretary

- Working with Blaze Digital to set up the website. If the committee has photos from the region that they'd like to see go up please send them through.
- Quotes for tear drop banner has come through and is ready to go once we have artwork / mission statement.
- Local designer has been engaged to create the logo. Expect logo designs for approval mid-March.
- When the website is up and running I will be managing the minutes, agenda and membership from a new email eg. geraldtoncoastcare@gmail.com

9.3 City of Greater Geraldton Rep

- The Cape Burney to Greys Beach inundation study has been published and available on the City's website
- The RFT for CHRMAP is live and will close on March 7. Evaluation will take place soon thereafter.
- Finalising a consultant's brief for the and Environmental Impact Statement for the mountain bike trail
- Applied for RecBoatFacilitiesScheme RBFS22 for boat facility at Drummonds. Will apply for CAP grant to supplement this grant
- In current receipt of CMPAP grant so not sure whether new funding can be granted. Happy for suggestions.

10 General Business

NIL

Meeting Closed: 6:24pm

Next Meeting: Thursday 5:30pm 30th March 2017