

Batavia Coastcare Network (BCN)

Meeting Minutes

Vanessa McGuinness | Secretary



Meeting location: City Hive (184 Marine Terrace)

Meeting Time/ Date: 5:00pm 29th June 2017

Meeting Commenced at 5.05pm

Present: Dave O'Meara, Mark Canny, Mic Payne, Sean Hickey, Wendy Payne, Mike Dufour, Vanessa McGuinness, Mark Reid.

Apologies: Heike Witt

Chair: Mic Payne

Guests:

Secretary: Vanessa McGuinness

1 Agenda

- Minutes from previous meeting
- Actions from previous minutes
- Dune Signage
- Coastal Hotspots
- Reports
- Correspondence
- General business

2 Minutes from previous meeting

Moved by: Mic Payne

Seconded by: Mark Canny

3 Actions from previous minutes

1. Dune signage: committee member to take project on board
2. Wendy P to write an article for the Geraldton Guardian regarding ORVs with photos (squished birds, crabs) – ongoing.

4 Dune Signage Update – Work in Progress

Sean H:

The issue of increasing erosion makes it relevant that money is spent in community education - perhaps with appropriate signage.

Accordingly the information should 'cover' things like:

- the role of sea wrack, the importance of fore and frontal dunes.
- the role of vegetation
- the fragility of the dunes
- reference to storm and surge events, cycles etc.
- reference to problems - vehicles, drains, road base and concrete, grass and weeds.

I would hope therefore that this overview can be condensed and that if and when we end up with signage that it comes from signage that has both professional and community input.

Committee:

There is the need to nail down our message for interpretive signage and that focus is around keeping people off the dunes and changing people's behaviour (ignorance to awareness). The committee agrees that fun, interesting, positive and simple messages are the best way to "hook"

people into reading signs. Positive reactions have come from NACC's cartoon beach wrack posters. The post on which the signs stand also can attract attention (art display, colourful display, sculptures etc.). Interchangeable signs is also a suggestion to allow for information to be spread across the region.

ACTIONS:

Mic P: Gather information on "what dunes can do for you." Contact Mike D for capital nomination forms for coastal signage to be taken into consideration out of CGGs 17/18 budget.

Vanessa M: Add examples of coastal signs on the resources page of the BCN website.

Sean H: Provide objectives for coastal dune signage, ie what is the target audience and what is the specific outcome to be achieved by installing the completed signs (e.g., stop people walking off the paths onto dunes).

All: Search for more good examples of beach signage.

5 Coastal Hotspots

Sean H:

- Keeping of a diary that is designed to store information on 'hot spot' coastal areas - images and events of note; statements of concern relating to public activity, erosion, damage, comparisons of areas, historically neglected locations etc.,
- We meet at an area of concern (agreed on Thursday next) and essentially have our meeting there with the aim of getting a feel for the area,

Committee:

- NACC's Photomon App can be set up to monitor problem areas along the coast (eg. weeds, area's affected by people and ORVs).
- For other issues along the coast that need immediate attention there is the **Snap, Send, Solve** App that reports information to the City.
- The City's CHRMAP process has already started.

Reports

5.1 Chair

The planting day was a huge success with about 40 people attending to plant 320 fore dune species. CGG's community nursery supplied 100 nitre bushes which are excellent fore dune species for resisting erosion and so these have been placed closest to the sea and will be monitored closely to see how well they perform this function. This is the first year that the nursery has produced large numbers of this species and with the growing technique now sorted we can look forward to planting more of this useful species.

NACC has invested in a 400 l watering tank and pump which is available to community groups for supplementary watering of coastal plantings, the proposed deal is that upon request NACC will bring a full tank to a site for community members to do the actual watering. We will be seeking volunteers from the BCN membership to help water the Cape Burney planting, soon if it does not rain. Supplementary watering will become increasingly important in our drying climate.

5.2 Treasurer/Secretary

Seconding the Chair's comments – it was a fantastic day. Well done all! There will be an article released in NACC notes out next week and I have been in touch with Geraldton Guardian who also want to do another cover of the story.

BCN banners almost ready.

BCN Facebook group is steadily growing. Any events that you wish to share in our region please forward them on to me and I can post them on the page.

5.3 City of Greater Geraldton Rep

CHRMAP: Project Steering Group had inception meeting. NACC attended. Mark Canny as community rep 2 attended (apologies from Mark Reid community rep 1). Scope was confirmed (Cape Burney to Drummond Cove). Management Units were confirmed (coastal localities). Development of Community engagement plan was confirmed. Next Milestone will be Project Steering Group meeting to agree community engagement plan. Community values workshops anticipated for October preceded by survey. Notice to all Geraldton ratepayers will be included in annual rates notice.

City's budget released and publicly available on the City's website.

6 Correspondence In & Out

Nil

7 General Business

- 7.1 NACC's Coastal Community Grants Program (projects \$2000 to \$10,000) will be opening mid-July, start thinking. Quick Step Grants Program (up to \$2000) renews on 1st July.
- 7.2 Friends of Point Moore's Tree Planting Day on the Sunday 23rd of July. Meet at Greys Beach 10-12noon.
- 7.3 Sunset Beach Community Group Tree Planting Day planned for Sunday 30th of July 10-12noon. Meet at the end of Triton Place, Sunset Beach.

Meeting Closed: 6:01pm

Next Meeting: 27th of July 2017 5pm CityHive