



Coordinating Committee Meeting

Monday 8 December 2014 7-30 pm

Minutes

Present: John Brannan, Warren Bond, Carolynne Parker, Keith Thomas, Denise Hall.

1. Apologies - Vaughn Cox (Pax), Elizabeth Smith

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting / Business Arising

Moved: John. Seconded: Warren; Accepted

Actions from September meeting (see [Attachment A](#))

3. Correspondence in and out / Business arising

In the September - December period approximately 80 pieces of correspondence have been recorded.

The 23 outgoing consisted of responses and coordination on subjects including

- Capeweed on the Pinnacle
- The Jamison Centre Display
- The Spring Walks program
- St John's Wort
- Plant identification
- Hawker School Fete 2015
- The FOTPIN Annual Work Plan.

The 56 incoming correspondence included:

- Spring planting
- Newsletters from various groups including GCG, Friends of Groups, Weeds News, Frogwatch, Scribbly Gum, Vegwatch, Australian Alps
- Park Care and Land Care Conference
- Ngunnawal Plant Use book
- Kangaroo counts
- Hazard Reduction burns
- International volunteers day
- Christmas celebrations and Katy Gallagher's Christmas Card.

There has been a bit of email traffic within the CC re:

- Offset
- Jamison display
- FOTPIN news letter
- Letterboxing and the annual BBQ

All correspondence has been saved to Dropbox and circulated to members.

4. Convenor position

Pax advised the committee by email that, due to other commitments, he was unable to attend the meeting tonight or to fulfill the duties of Convenor until further notice. The Committee

discussed the role of the convenor and decided that together we could cover his duties in the short term. If Pax is to be unavailable for a longer period, the Committee will reassess the issue.

5. Convenor's Report

The Convenor's report was not received for this meeting.

6. Coordinator's Report

John tabled the previously circulated Coordinators Report (see [Attachment B](#)) which included:

- Spring Walks
- Joint Parkcare display at Jamison
- Other events
- Weeding
- Plantings
- Biodiversity monitoring survey

Noted

7. Treasurer's Report / Business arising

Warren tabled the previously circulated Treasurer's Report ([Attachment C](#)) and moved that it be accepted. Seconded: Carolynne. Accepted.

8. Membership Report

Warren reported that our current membership stands at 73 (an increase of 3 since the September meeting).

The number of other people who have requested to be on our email lists is 97.

Noted.

The Committee discussed the need to engage with new members and to encourage people to have ownership.

Action: This item to be added to the agenda for next meeting for further discussion.

9. Weed Management

Warren reported that the first five months (June to November) of this season have seen us notch up 285 hours of effort. This is 28% less than last year and the lowest since our first recorded season (2010-11). This is attributed to a combination of fewer of many of our main target weeds and the unavailability of some key weeders. Despite the lower effort numbers, we seem to be providing adequate weed control thanks to the reduced prevalence.

It was noted that the Autumn spraying had a good effect and St John's Wort was not as big a problem this year

The [effort report for the season to date](#) may be found on our website.

Noted.

10. Website

Warren reported that there had been no major changes to the website in the last 3 months.

The number of unique visitors to the website in each 3 month period continues to increase steadily. Popular pages in this period were "Recent weeding", "About the Pinnacle", the "Walking home page" and the "What's on" calendar of events.

Noted.

11. Native Grass Regeneration Project

The Committee discussed whether further action is planned.

Action: John will seek clarification from Don. Depending on outcome, the Committee may:

- take ownership of the project and develop long term plans for using the plots
- seek input from Members for ideas.

12. Revegetation

John reported that the next stage of the revegetation program will take place in Autumn 2015. Plantings will be along both sides of the Valley Track, using ground covers and shrubs to link trees and add complexity to the existing woodlands.

13. Focal Point

Keith reported that this project had not progressed since last meeting. There is a need to engage with stakeholders including Hawker Primary School and people on Heather's contact list.

14. Information and outreach

- Newsletter (Elizabeth)

The planned November newsletter was not published.

Action: John to expand his Coordinator's report then send out to members as an Update.

- Spring Walks Program (John)

Covered in the Coordinator's report. The Committee discussed the benefits of leaving the posters up as they remind the public about FOTPIN and what we do. Posters will gradually be taken down.

- Jamison Centre Display in September (John)

This item was covered in the Coordinator's report. The Committee will consider erecting a stall at the Hawker Woolworths.

- Letterbox drop (Carolynne)

The recent letterbox drop in Hawker and Weetangera was considered a worthwhile and effective marketing tool for FOTPIN, the Spring Walks and the annual BBQ.

Next year the Committee will consider making the BBQ more visible from De Salis Street to encourage other Park users to join us.

15. Location for proposed seats to be provided by the Parks and Conservation Service (John)

John reported that this is a long term project and that it may take years for the seats to be provided. No further action at this stage.

16. Review of roles of Committee Members

Pax emailed the committee with a list of responsibilities. Warren has updated the web.

17. Biodiversity Offset in North Kama

Warren summarized the currently available information about the Offset area in North Kama to be activated as an offset for a development at the University of Canberra site. The area of about 20 ha comprises the eastern end of the North Kama property, bounded by Bottom Pinnacle on the east and the Kama paddock of the Reserve on the north, and will provide a bridge between the Pinnacle and Kama Nature Reserves. The timing for the offset activation is not yet known to us.

18. Other Business

- Hawker Fete (29th March 2015)

Action: Carolynne to discuss with Elizabeth.

19. Proposed date for next meeting

The next meeting will be held at **7.30pm on 9 March 2015** at John Brannan's home.

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

Attachment A.

Actions arising from the meeting of 19 September 2014

10. Native Grass Regeneration Project

Action: Pax will follow up and report to the next meeting.

Pax's email reported that Don is unsure of the future of the project. John attended the Grasslands Conference where it was discussed that strategies to restore grasslands included burning in Autumn and cropping and removing grass to remove nutrients.

14. Location for proposed seats to be provided by the Parks and Conservation Service (John)

Action: John to send an email to members seeking input.

John reported that this is a long term project and that it may take years for the seats to be provided. Still on long term plan. No further action at this stage.

15. Review of roles of Committee Members

Action: Pax will review the governance rules out of session. He will include that emails to members will be sent from the Convenor or Coordinator. To be discussed again at the next meeting.

Completed. Pax emailed the committee with a list of responsibilities. Warren has updated the web.

17. Other Business

- **Pinnacle Clean up**

Action: Follow up in the next 3 month period.

Attachment B. Item 6. Coordinator's Report

1. Spring Walks Program

This year's program broke all previous records for attendances. We had an unparalleled 25 people for Craig's post-settlement history walk, an unprecedented 30 people for my bird walk, and an unbelievable 50 people for Wally and Tyronne's Aboriginal Heritage Walk.

All three were also highly successful by any other measure, with universally positive feedback from everyone who attended. I made a few enquiries at Wally and Tyronne's walk to try to find out what brought people to the walk, and the responses indicated various sources, including the Thunderstone website, notifications circulated through TAMS and other areas of government, and even (in one case) the posters on the reserve entrances (!).

Another notable outcome was Tyronne's identification of another scar tree (probably used to make a canoe) along the southern edge of Weetangera paddock.

Wally and Tyronne are happy to run more AH walks in the autumn, and I am considering timing it coincide with the ACT Govt's Heritage Festival which runs from April 11-26.

The BBQ was also very successful and was the perfect way to end an interesting walk. It gave people a good chance to chat and find out more about the Pinnacle. I would recommend repeating this for future walks as the events complement each other well, I think.

2. Joint ParkCare Display at Jamo, 26-28 September

This event was again quite successful and gave many fotpins a chance to contribute in a way that did not involve weeding or planting. As with last year's event, fotpin did most of the heavy lifting in terms of staffing the stall, though not quite to the same degree as last year, I think.

Our display materials are slowly improving, but more needs to be done in that area.

3. Other events

There were a couple of quite exciting events in our area of interest this spring, namely a 2-day forum celebrating the 25th anniversary of ParkCare in the ACT on October 17-18, and the 3-day Friends of Grasslands Forum that ran from October 30th to November 1st.

Both events were very well organized and well-attended, with interesting speakers, events and displays at both.

The ParkCare Forum was held in an excellent venue at UC (Anne Harding Conference Centre) and brought together politicians, academics and scientists as well as ParkCare/Landcare volunteers and PCS staff (who did most of the heavy lifting in organizing the event). I was a member of the organizing committee and learned a great deal from the experience, particularly the importance of bringing people from different disciplines together when addressing common problems.

The current plan is to have ongoing, smaller annual events among the same lines, to be held during July when the reserves are generally fairly quiet.

4. Weeding

Fotpin's weeding effort has been largely covered in Warren's report, and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank him and the other weeding teams for the enormous amount of hard work they've put into the weeding effort this Spring. Following on from Pax's thistle spraying over the winter, we've had to tackle a late flush of Patersons Curse followed by the inevitable appearance of St Johns Wort. While nowhere near the levels we've seen in previous years, it is still fairly widespread in the reserve and the recent rains may trigger another flush, so the job is far from over.

5. Vegwatch Program (Biodiversity Monitoring)

With the expert plant ID skills of John Fitz Gerald and the able assistance of Elizabeth, this year's surveys of the biodiversity monitoring plot in Kama paddock were completed in good

time. Despite the rampant growth of oat grass in the plot, John and I were able to identify virtually all the plant species we've found in previous years. The encouraging finding this year is a jump in the amount of natural regeneration that is happening in the plot. It will be interesting to see how this develops further in years to come.

6. Plantings

It is still my intention to hold another complementary planting this Autumn. The site and the plants will be as discussed in my previous report. I'll be pursuing this with Greening Australia and PCS in the new year.

John Brannan

Attachment C. Item 7. Treasurer's report**Statement of Receipts and Payments
for the period 01-Jul-2014 to 01-Dec-2014**

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Opening balance on 01-Jul-2014 | | | \$517.60 |
| Receipts | | | |
| Membership and donations | \$10.00 | | |
| Interest | 0.02 | | |
| | | <u>\$10.02</u> | |
| Payments | | | |
| fotpin domain name renewal | \$30.00 | | |
| | | <u>\$30.00</u> | |
| Surplus of receipts over payments | | | <u><u>-\$19.98</u></u> |
| Closing balance on 30-Jun-2014 | | | <u><u>\$497.62</u></u> |
| Reconciled to: | | | |
| "Beyond Bank" Account 03356841 | \$314.72 | | |
| Petty Cash | \$182.90 | | |
| | | <u>\$497.62</u> | |
| Less unrepresented Cheques | \$0.00 | | |
| Total | | <u><u>\$497.62</u></u> | |

Notes:

1. Funds to the value of \$241-78 (at 30 June 2014) are also held by The Ginninderra Catchment Group for general use by fotpin.
2. Ginninderra Catchment Authority holds and administers in fotpin's name residual funds from the Commonwealth Caring for Country Grant and the Labor Club Grant (both for the Native Grass Regeneration Project) and Spicers (for the 2011 tree planting project).

Warren Bond
Treasurer
01 December 2014