



MINUTES

ACT RED HILL BUSH REGENERATORS INC

Annual General Meeting 2012

11 am, 4 November 2012 at Red Hill

1. Attendees

Ross Kingsland, Michael Mulvaney, Paul Ratcliffe, Sue Ross, Andrew Zelnik, Fred Knowles, Sue Parr, Miranda Gardner, Julie Toms, Robert Coggins, Peter Coggins, Vikki McDonough, Peter Franklin, Anne Marks, Tony Chan

2. **Apologies:** Fiona Blackburn, Helene Stead, Wayne Fletcher, Yvonne Best

3. Minutes of the 2010 AGM

The draft Minutes were accepted without dissent

Moved: P Ratcliffe

Seconded: M Gardiner

4. Business arising from the Minutes

All business arising was dealt with elsewhere in the meeting

5. Correspondence addressed to the AGM

Correspondence tabled as at Attachment A.

Moved: P Ratcliffe

Seconded: M Gardiner

6. President's report

The President spoke to the following report:

It's been another active year for the Red Hill Regenerators (RHR) with some significant achievements.

Highlights

- A number of monthly weeding sessions – removing verbasicum and thistles near Davidson's Trig and south of Tamar Street, Red Hill; removing Cootamundra wattle behind Glasgow Street in Hughes; and woody weed removal moving gradually eastward above Deakin towards Red Hill.
- The annual kangaroo counts that showed a significant increase again, this time to 884 kangaroos residing on the reserve and the golf course. A doubling in numbers in just two years means that this issue will have to be watched.
- The Red Hill trail and interpretation signs were finally completed after a number of years. RHR contributed \$5,000 towards the cost of this project.
- The nesting boxes established some years ago on various sections of the reserve were examined and recorded and a program of box checking was initiated with individuals each taking responsibility for a number of boxes.

- A two-day Chemcert training course was undertaken by a number of members to enable them to use the spray equipment.
- Further weed mapping in the reserve was undertaken by Michael Mulvaney and others and was finalised by Andrew Zelnik. Mapping of the trees in the area proposed for Embassy development was also undertaken by Michael and others.
- Michael led an interpretive walk in the reserve on 2 October 2011 and will be leading a Wildflower walk before the AGM on 4 November 2012.
- The removal from plans of the proposed roads running through the reserve. This included an extension of Carruthers Street connecting to the suburb of Red Hill. Thanks to Sue Ross for her work on this achievement.
- The creation of a Flickr site with Red Hill images by Paul Ratcliffe.
- Media coverage of the Red Hill Nature Reserve and our work including a Canberra Times feature story by Tim the Yowie Man, a Prime Possum story on nest boxes and interviews on ABC radio.

The Committee and members were involved in two major issues:

- The proposed construction of Embassies encompassing the full 15ha of the undeveloped section of the Federal Golf Club lease. This year, the National Capital Authority (NCA) removed this option from its list of possible Embassy sites, acknowledging the community's concern over this issue. There was a range of meetings, reports and correspondence by the RHR executive and other members that helped achieve this outcome. A sincere thanks to all involved. Following the NCA decision, the President and Secretary met with the President of the Golf Club with the aim of maintaining a dialogue, particularly in relation to further developments proposed by the Club close to its club house;
- The proposed Centennial Trail that includes a path through the Red Hill Reserve. The RHR executive was involved in a number of meetings and correspondence about the proposal but despite expressing concerns about sensitive areas, when each planned route was produced, the path traversed some of the most secluded and important parts of the park. Representatives of several park care groups including RHR met with Chief Minister Katy Gallagher, who was most sympathetic to the concerns expressed. As a result of many representations, including those from RHR, the ACT government decided not to create any new paths for the Trail in nature reserves and this decision was warmly welcomed.

Volunteer hours

Activity	2011-12	2009-10	2008-09
Working bees	10	11	10
Average number of participants	9	10	12
Total number of volunteer hours*	533	439	346

* These hours represent on-reserve work but not meetings, preparation of submissions, etc.

My sincere thanks to all members for your time and effort in helping us achieve a better nature reserve. Thanks to the Executive of Michael Mulvaney, Paul Ratcliffe, Sue Ross and Andrew Zelnik. The Executive's wealth of experience and strong dedication has enabled this group to again be strong and productive over the last 12 months. Specifically, thanks to:

- Michael Mulvaney as our "guru", writer of submissions and authoritative reports, running our Sunday work and much more.

- Paul Ratcliffe for his work as Treasurer and for his continued maintenance of the excellent RHR website as well as his extensive work with the Red Hill Trail and the RHR Flickr site.
- Sue Ross for her role as Secretary, major conduit to many groups that RHR links with and supporting the group's work in many ways.
- Phillip Selmes, ACT Parkcare Coordinator and Steve Welch, Coordinator Southern ACT Catchment Group for their support.
- .
- Miranda Gardner for looking after our interests in relation to the ACT government.
- The Red Hill rangers and others in the ACT government who work with us to achieve our objectives.

Ross Kingsland
 President
 Red Hill Regenerators
 4 November 2012

The President's report was accepted without dissent.

Moved: A Zelnik

Seconded: J Toms

7. Treasurers Report

The Treasurer spoke to each item of revenue and expenditure in the financial statement at Attachment B, and noted that the cost of many other items of equipment and services were met by volunteers, the ACTG parkcare co-ordination and ranger services. The meeting agreed that the Treasure will investigate obtaining better interest rates with other banks.

The Treasurer's report was accepted without dissent.

Moved: R Kingsland

Seconded: A Zelnik

8. Election of office bearers

The following office bearers were elected unanimously. No other nominations were received.

Office	Office Bearer
President	Ross Kingsland
Vice President	Andrew Zelnik
Secretary	Sue Ross
Public Officer	Sue Ross
Treasurer	Paul Ratcliffe
Conservation Officer	Michael Mulvaney
Southern Area Catchment Group rep	Miranda Gardner
Parkcare Coordinators Rep	Sue Ross
Task Coordinator	Michael Mulvaney
Web Manager	Paul Ratcliffe
Conservation Council reps	Andrew Zelnik, Julie Toms
Nest box coordinator	Fred Knowles
Mynah Traps Coordinator	Fred Knowles

9. Other business

- a) P Ratcliffe sought agreement to establish the Flickr photo web site at \$25 per annum. Accepted without dissent.

Moved: P Ratcliffe

Seconded: M Gardiner

- b) P Ratcliffe sought consideration of seeking funds for a project to clean up around the red callistemon bushes near the summit as a heritage project. A 1917 map on the RHRG Flickr site shows the original planting site. Discussion included the principle of not conserving introduced species, appropriate approvals and staging the project. The initial stage could be to remove weeds from the area. There was general agreement to removal of weeds, including seeking assistance from Steve Taylor for blackberry spraying and then to seek relevant approvals.
- c) M Mulvaney spoke to the priorities for the coming year:
 - i) Working with the Federal Golf Club -towards an agreed position for future developments at the Club.
 - ii) Monthly activities will include ad hoc monitoring and regular weeding which will focus on the eastern side adjacent to the Red Hill suburb. Michael noted that a number of Marist Bros students can be made available to help with verbascum removal around Davidson's trig. Monitoring will include mapping rare plants in November and December and a Rutidosis count in January. May need to survey rabbit warrens if requested by Parks and Conservation Services. M Gardiner advised that Sthn ACT Catchment Group has mapping / drawing devices for loan; and battery operated sprayers.
 - iii) Bat watch –using a recorder to monitor bat activity in the suburbs. This may be a good project to use to encourage interest from the community – eg by leading walks showing where bats are.
 - iv) Projects associated with the extra resources resulting from the Greens Agreement with the Labor government.
 - v) The ACT G also has \$3 million allocated for woodland restoration. This year the project will begin to focus on the Callum Brae area which includes Red Hill, Isaac Ridge and down to the Mugga tip. Will be done in Autumn / Spring.
 - vi) Continuation of nest box monitoring and Indian myna trapping. Kangaroos do not need to be surveyed this year
- d) P Ratcliffe commented on the planting done in May 2011 – most plants are doing well but the casuarinas have been eaten - P Ratcliffe arranging bigger guards.
- e) P Ratcliffe proposed the producing of a pamphlet about the Red Track. RHRG to apply for a grant to do this. A Zelnik to provide a map. Work to included boxes under at least some signs to hold the pamphlets. Pamphlets can also be left at the Red Hill Café. P Ratcliffe and S Ross to do this.
- f) Peter Franklin proposed better signage for working bees-. M Mulvaney to initiate. Signs can be on corflute and should be put up a week before the activity. To be funded from money in the RHRG bank account. It would also be useful to have a (second) Parkcare notice board at the summit near the cafe.

The meeting closed at 12 noon.

Red Hill Bush Regenerators AGM 4 November 2012 – Correspondence 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012

Centenary Trail

Date	To / From	Content
24 Nov 2011	To ACT Minister for TAMS	Objection to new trails for Centenary Trail
18 Dec 2011	From Minister for TAMS	Response to letter of 24/11/12 – noted
28 January 2012	To Centenary Trail project group	Submission on Ground Truthing Report

Plus various meetings and emails

Federal Golf Club development

Date	To / From	Content
28 Oct 2011	From NCA	Response to RHRG submission on diplomatic estate locations
9 Nov 2011	To ACTPLA	FOI request re development proposals at FGC
9 Nov 2011	To Minister Burke, cc Minister Crean	Request for information about referral of issue to the Dept of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities
15 Nov 2011	From NCA	Initial response re FOI request of 14/11/11
1 Dec 2011	From Dept of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities	Dept anticipates referral of site for assessment only if it is selected
7 Dec 2011	From NCA	FOI documents provided in response to RHRG letter of 9/11/11
8 Dec 2011	From ACTPLA	FOI documents provided in response to RHRG letter of 9/11/11
1 Feb 2012	To ACT Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development	Request to add significant woodland within Federal Golf Club lease to the Red Hill Nature Park
15 May 2012	From ACT Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development	Response to RHRG letter of 1/2/12. Matter referred to EDD and TAMS.

Plus various meetings and emails

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2011 - 2012

INCOME

DATE	ITEM	AMOUNT (\$)
2011-2012	Membership fees	35.00
2011-2012	Account interest	1.41
16/09/11	NSW Landcare Grant (balance)	600.00
6/11/11	Parkcare award	500.00
30/06/12	Total income for year	1,136.41

EXPENDITURE

DATE	ITEM	AMOUNT (\$)
10/05/12	ACTG – Red Trail signs	5,000.00
30/02/12	CASE Membership 2012	20.00
15/2/12	CASE web hosting 2012	132.00
18/02/12	Internet domain name renewal	18.00
30/6/12	Total expenditure for year	5,170.00

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

1 July 2011	Opening balance	\$6,571.00 (credit)
30 June 2012	Closing balance	\$2,537.41 (credit)

Paul Ratcliffe
Treasurer, Red Hill Bush Regeneration Group
1 July 2012