

MINUTES
ACT RED HILL BUSH REGENERATORS INC
Annual General Meeting 2010
11 am, 3 October 2010 at Red Hill

1. Attendees

Peter Franklin, Julie Toms, Margaret Bennetts, Katlyn Bennetts, Toni McLeish, Robert McLeish, Ross Kingsland, Paul Ratcliffe, Anna van Dugteren, Sue Ross, Andrew Zelnik (part meeting)

2. Apologies: Michael Mulvaney Ian Smith, Sandy Berry, Collette Barton-Ross

3. Minutes of the 2009 AGM

The draft Minutes were accepted

Moved: P Franklin

Seconded: P Ratcliffe

The motion was carried.

4. Business arising from the Minutes

- a) Red Hill interpretation signs – T McLeish reported that the last information from ACT government was that the signs would be installed in August 2010. The meeting agreed that these signs should be installed before the RHRG 20th anniversary in November 2010. T McLeish to action.
- b) Membership – S Ross has updated the membership list and will send a reminder about membership to all on the RHRG email group and include electronic bank transfer details and reference to the RHRG website.
- c) Web site – the meeting noted the excellent work done by P Ratcliffe to establish and maintain the RHRG website.
- d) Tools – Peter Franklin has received a number of new tools, hats and shirts from the ACT government.
- e) The Conservation Council membership subscription has been paid.
- f) Insurance for RHRG volunteers was identified and circulated to members and others.
- g) Bank account bearing better interest to be actioned by the new Treasurer.
- h) Documents held by I Smith and proposed for transmittal to the Heritage Library – P Ratcliffe to consider with a view to placing some on the RHRG website if appropriate. Anyone else interested in seeing the documents to contact I Smith.
- i) Revegetation plan – M Mulvaney to advise later.

5. Correspondence addressed to the AGM

- a) Nil reported, but listed subsequently at Attachment B.

6. President's report

"Red Hill's rejuvenation since the bushfires is progressing very well. Members have spent over 430 hours weeding out the verbascum on this side of Davidson's Trig, spraying blackberries, working on the nesting boxes and surveying kangaroo and rabbit warrens. It is good to see the gradual return of native grasses and juvenile trees and no obvious decrease in animals or native plants on the Hill.

RHR now has an informative and functioning web site, steady membership and the support and good will of many of the surrounding community as displayed by the over 2000 signatures to the petition against the Federal Golf Club proposed housing development.

A special thank you to:

Peter Franklin for organising the working mornings;

Paul Ratcliffe for developing and maintaining the website (redhillregenerators.org.au);

Sue Ross for tidying up our membership records and organising this AGM;

Michael Mulvaney for the detailed submissions to planners and particularly the fight against the deconcession of the Golf Club lease and to everyone who spent so much time on the flyers, petitions, lobbying and meetings and lastly to Ian Smith for being the Treasurer and custodian of the RHR records for the last twelve years and for the work he and Sandy have done over many years for RHR.

I look forward to seeing the inaugural marked walk and new signs that celebrate 20 years of Red Hill Regenerators and pass my best wishes to the next President."

7. Other Reports

- a) Indian Mynas: P Franklin reported that the recent Canberra Indian Myna Action Group reported that Indian Mynas are now the 14th most prominent bird in the ACT, down from the 3rd most prominent. 32,000 removals have been registered with probably another 8,000 not registered. CIMAG has 1,000 members, 800 traps (400 made in the Alexander Maconachie prison) and 100 nesting boxes have been built and are ready to be installed.

- b) Activities: P Franklin reported

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

*The total hours do not include the considerable amount of work involved in developing and presenting the RHR submission in relation to the proposed

development at the Federal Golf Course or the on-going work to develop a network of interpretive signs for Red Hill.

**The rabbit warren survey and kangaroo count surveys contributed significantly to the total hours.

8. Treasurer's report

- a) The Treasurer's report was emailed to all members on 17 August 2010 and is included at Attachment A.

Motion: That the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Moved: S Ross

Seconded: P Franklin

The motion was carried.

- b) P Franklin noted that the strong financial position of the Group was because of a \$7,000 award by the National Bank several years ago following a submission by Michael Mulvaney.
- c) Payment of approximately \$5,000 for signs yet to be made.

9. Election of office bearers

The following office bearers were elected unanimously

Office	Office Bearer	Proposer	Secunder
President	Julie Toms	T McLeish	R Kingsland
Vice President	Andrew Zelnik	R McLeish	P Franklin
Secretary	Sue Ross	J Toms	T McLeish
Public Officer	Sue Ross	J Toms	T McLeish
Treasurer	Paul Ratcliffe	S Ross	R Kingsland
Conservation Officer	Michael Mulvaney*	J Toms	R Kingsland
Southern Cross Catchment Group member	Peter Franklin	J Toms	S Ross
Task Coordinator**	Peter Franklin	S Ross	J Toms
Web site manager	Paul Ratcliffe	T McLeish	S Ross

*In his absence, and subject to his agreement

** including tools management

Note "Indian Myna Trap Coordinator (Robert McLeish) is no longer an official position. The secretary will keep any necessary records.

10. Other business

- a) Program of activities – there was general agreement that persevering at one site over two or more months is good.

- i) Proposal to arrange work on both sides of the fence Golf Club / reserve near Garran. P Franklin to write to the FGC seeking assistance once the current dispute has been settled..
 - ii) A Zelnik and P Franklin to map out the location of principal weed infestations.
- b) Need for better integration of activities between RHRG and Parks, Conservation and Lands, eg when spraying is done.
- c) There was some discussion about surveys:
 - i) Revisit areas previously weeded areas to assess native plant regrowth, especially along the signed visitor track.
 - ii) Weed mapping (with GPS) – survey in iii) below to be carried out first.
 - iii) S Ross to email members and others asking them to nominate their favourite spots and those which they think are in most need of attention. It was noted that the SW area around Garran is still looking good following earlier work there, and that residents can be interested in working on Red Hill when the work is in an area close to their residences.
 - iv) Cootamundra wattles especially between Gowrie Drive (Red Hill access road) and Deakin. P Franklin is seeking support of Conservation Volunteers in eradicating these wattles.
 - v) Button wrinklewort also needs to be surveyed again.
 - vi) Nesting boxes need to be surveyed. This should take into account the PhD work being done by Kate Grarock.
 - vii) Bird survey – Toni McLeish to check what COG has done so far.
- d) New plantings – to be guided by the Revegetation Plan (refer 4. i above). R McLeish to discuss with M Mulvaney and perhaps do a ‘walk over’ Red Hill with P Franklin and A Zelnik. R Kingsland advised he may be able to involve school students who are undertaking a relevant project.
- e) Cyclists on unformed tracks. P Franklin raised this at the Parkcare coordinators’ meeting on 30 September 2010. It is a widespread issue. Although it is an illegal activity it is practically impossible to police. NFA pending sufficient appropriate signage and capacity to manage the issue.
- f) Steve Taylor (Ranger) is organising Chem Cert qualified people to spray African Love Grass and Chilean Needle Grass etc in areas of high conservation value but not covered by reserve management regimes.
- g) Sarah Sharpe will be running Vegetation monitoring training workshops – J Toms to send email to all on RHRG email group.
- h) The Friends of Grasslands have four more activities between October and December 2010. Details available on RHRG website.

- i) The meeting agreed that the following positions would be formal for the purposes of reporting committee members as part of the annual return to the Registrar General: Website Manager, Conservation Officer, Activities Coordinator. Proposed J Toms, Seconded S Ross.

**ACT Red Hill Bush Regenerators Inc
ANNUAL RETURNS 2009-2010
INCOME**

DATE	ITEM	AMOUNT
1 December 2009	Interest on Commonwealth Bank account	\$1.03
1 June 2010	Interest on Commonwealth Bank account	\$0.80
15 June 2010	Donation – Sue Ross	\$5.00
1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010	RHR membership payments	\$60.00
30 June 2010	Total income for year	\$66.83

EXPENDITURE

DATE	ITEM	AMOUNT
17 August 2009	Conservation Council of the ACT Region – Membership subscription 2009-2010	\$50.00
20 August 2009	Environmental Defenders Office (ACT) – Membership subscription 2009-2010	\$50.00
26 November 2009	Alex Sipinkoski – Graphics for proposed Red Hill signage	\$1,000.00
26 February 2010	CASE Inc. – RHR website hosting 10 Feb 2010 to 28 Feb 2011	\$132.00
12 March 2010	Paul Ratcliffe – registration of RHR website domain name and annual membership of CASE Inc.	\$38.00
30 June 2010	Total expenditure for year	\$1,270.00

For the 2009-2010 financial year there was an operating loss of \$1,203.17

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

DATE	ITEM	AMOUNT
1 July 2009	Opening balance	\$8,370.68 (Credit)
30 June 2010	Closing balance	\$7,167.51 (Credit)

Red Hill Bush Regenerators Inc Incoming and Outgoing correspondence 2009-2010.

(Note regarding correspondence: I have only included what I think is formal RHRG correspondence, not other material that we have (eg letter from the woodlands experts which isn't addressed to RHRG. I also haven't included various emails such for example one from a Hughes resident commenting on the flier, emails from Sally McIntosh about insurance, and emails supporting the petition. If you think correspondence should be reported differently, please let me know. Also, if you know of any other correspondence which should be here, again please let me know)

Incoming correspondence 2009-2010

Date	From	Topic	Comment
17 March 2010	Chief Officer, ACT Fire Brigade	Fire protection associated with proposed Federal Golf Club development	
6 May 2010	Caroline Le Couteur MLA	Response to Michael Mulvaney's email of 31 March 2010	

Outgoing correspondence 2009-2010

Date	To	Topic	Comment
15 December 2009	Chairman, National Capital Authority	Rezoning of Federal Golf Club lease	
19 February 2010	The Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment	Investigation into Canberra Nature Park (nature reserves); the Molonglo River Corridor reserves) and Googong Foreshores	See website
29 March 2010	Chief Planning Executive	Response to draft EIS for the proposed Federal Golf Club development	
31 March 2010	Caroline Le Couteur	Seeking support against the proposed Federal Golf Club development	Michael is this from RHRG or yourself separately??
31 March 2010	Andrew Barr MLA	Submission against proposed Federal Golf Club development	With attachment (submission to ACTPLA on same topic) Michael is this from RHRG or yourself separately??
??	Chief Planning Executive	Response to draft EIS for the proposed Federal Golf Club part lease deconcessionalisation	Attached to letter to Barr above Michael is this from RHRG or yourself separately??
??	Various woodland experts	Seeking support to help protect the area adjoining the proposed Federal Golf Club development	