

DRAFT MINUTES
ACT RED HILL BUSH REGENERATORS INC
Annual General Meeting 2015
10.00 am, 6 December 2015 at Red Hill

1. Attendees

Ross Kingsland, Michael Mulvaney, Paul Ratcliffe, Sue Ross, Sue Parr, Fred Knowler, Fiona Blackburn, Angela Ivanovic, Geoff Thompson, Paul Davies, Andrew Arch, Robin Miller, Trish Munro, Robyn Tulloh, Andrew Zelnik, Megan Cook, Miranda Gardner, Rob Parnell

Apologies: Wayne Fletcher, Norm Pushak

2. Acknowledgement of Country

The President acknowledged that the meeting was being held on Ngunnawal country and paid his respects to the Elders past and present.

3. Minutes of the 2014 AGM

The President noted the draft Minutes were available on the RHRG website and copies available at the meeting. No comments made and they were therefore accepted without dissent. Moved Fred Knowler, seconded Robin Tulloh.

4. Business arising from the Minutes

All business arising was dealt with elsewhere in the meeting

5. Correspondence addressed to the AGM

Correspondence details was not provided but advised that it would be included in the Minutes.

The following are formal letters only between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2015, and do not include emails and media releases

Date	Subject	From / To	Comment
9 July 2014	Offsets Policy	RHRG / EPD	General concerns
17 November 2014	Red Hill Toilets	RHRG / Minister Rattenbury	Toilets remained open
15 December 2014	Red Hill toilets	Minister Rattenbury / RHRG	Red Hill public toilets to remain open
5 May 2015	FGC potential offset area	RHRG / Minister Gentleman	
15 June 2015	FGC potential offset area	Minister Gentleman / RHRG	Referred to EPD to explore. No further advice
21 June 2015	FGC proposed development	RHRG / Minister Rattenbury	Outlining initial concerns. Subsequent meeting held

6. President's report

The President spoke to the report at Attachment A.

7. Treasurer's Report

The Financial Statement for 2014-15 is on the RHRG website, redhillregenerators.org.au.

Opening balance:	\$1,915.75
Income:	\$125.16, including generous donations of \$75.
Expenditure	\$479.72
Closing balance:	\$1,561.19

No major expenditure is foreseen for 2015.

8. 2014-15 Activities

M Mulvaney noted that Red Hill is NCA designated land and that the NCA has generally restricted its interest to the landscape. TAMS is now being much more stringent about infrastructure installations. While the number of infrastructure developments per annum on the reserve, by Telstra, ACTEW etc, is decreasing there is a proposal by Optus to lay a fibre optic cable from the base of the summit road to the Optus Tower. Much of the route will be underbored, with about 300m of trenching from the base to the bend where the gully comes in and on the top for about 100m near the tower. Basically the trenching will be in footpad areas. If it goes ahead Optus will provide about \$5000 for follow up weeding along the trench. This amount will be allocated by TAMS to the Red Hill Regenerators.

The group known as the Concerned Residents of West Kambah has raised significant concerns about the Murrumbidgee Golf Club's proposed development of some of the club leased land for housing. This issue is similar to that on the FGC lease. This raises the broader issue of private sporting and other organisations receiving benefits from publicly owned resources and whether the future of these resources should be determined by the community and for the community through other mechanisms. The Conservation Council is planning to hold a forum on this issue in 2016.

In respect of the FGC proposal, Michael noted that objections may be able to be made under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, and the ACT ACAT. Other possible actions include a phone poll, letters to politicians and shopping centre stalls.

Trish Munro and Robyn Tulloh reported that their signs work is going well. A refreshed Regenerators sign has been placed at most entry points and the Parkcare noticeboard is being kept clean and up to date.

Paul Ratcliffe noted that a contributor to the Regenerators, Roy McDowall, who cannot make the Sunday gatherings, has provided photos and a donation of \$50, and undertaken research on the heritage of the callistemons plantings on the east face below the restaurant. This information may be enough to seek heritage listing of the callistemons.

Ross Kingsland sought feedback on what the group would like to do and what needs to be done in the future. Suggestions included:

- tree plantings
- the same – variety has been good
- possibility of another book, similar to *Moments of Red Hill*
- a pamphlet. Miranda Gardner explained that the Regenerators has a grant of \$770 to produce a pamphlet but that work has been held up by the lack of a satisfactory map. There is some hope that this may be resolved in the not too distant future
- rutidosis counting
- social get togethers
- Ranger talks
- Special topic talks such as the indigenous one

- mid week work
- encouraging new members.

9. Election of office bearers

Paul Davies was nominated as the returning officer. He declared all positions vacant.

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

Office	Office Bearer	Nominated by	Seconded by
President	Ross Kingsland	S Ross	P Ratcliffe
Vice President	Andrew Zelnik	S Ross	P Ratcliffe
Secretary	Sue Ross	P Ratcliffe	R Kingsland
Public Officer	Sue Ross	R Kingsland	P Ratcliffe
Treasurer	Paul Ratcliffe	R Kingsland	M Gardner
Conservation Officer	Michael Mulvaney	M Gardner	R Kingsland
Southern Area Catchment Group rep	Miranda Gardner	R Kingsland	S Ross
Parkcare Coordinators Rep	Sue Ross	P Ratcliffe	A Zelnik
Task Coordinator	Michael Mulvaney	P Ratcliffe	R Kingsland
Equipment officer	Paul Ratcliffe	R Kingsland	A Zelnik
Chemicals	Sue Ross	P Ratcliffe	T Munro
Signs and notices	Trish Munro, Robyn Tulloh	P Ratcliffe	R Kingsland
Web Manager	Paul Ratcliffe	S Ross	A Zelnik
Conservation Council rep	No longer required		
Nest box coordinator	Not filled		
Plantings Co-ordinator	Miranda Gardner	R Kingsland	S Ross
Myna traps location point of contact	Rob Parnell	M Mulvaney	A Zelnik

10. Other business

No other business proposed

Meeting closed at 11 am

ACT Red Hill Regenerators – President’s Annual Report 2015

Red Hill Regenerators (RHR) has again this year used much of its time and energy addressing the threat posed by the Federal Golf Club’s plans to establish a housing development adjacent to the reserve. However, there has been a pleasing level of attendance at our working activities and events and we have achieved a great deal.

Highlights

- We removed Cootamundra wattle on the northern slopes of Red Hill. Having completed the lower half of the hill, we started on the upper half working from the summit carpark and trialled the frilling of large trees. At various locations, we removed woody weeds, thistles, blackberry shoots and focused on verbascum in Spring. We again removed woody weeds from the heritage Callistemon plantings near Red Hill summit.
- We lobbied successfully for the Red Hill summit public toilets to remain open after a review by TAMS of the need for toilets in various reserves proposed their closure.
- We continue to gain new members and are still attracting a pleasing level of 10-15 for monthly activities but undertook fewer weekday sessions due to other commitments. In 12 group activities last financial year, we put in 363 hours but that figure climbs to 521 hours when we add individuals working in addition to their Sunday activities plus other activities by members of our group. This calendar year, we have taken part in:
 - two most welcome days of work by the Green Army in 2015
 - mapping of erosion sites to enable a remediation program to be developed
 - preparing for and taking part in the indigenous walk on Red Hill
 - tube stock planting and watering from water cube above Tamar Street
 - assisting the Hughes/Garran Woodland Group
 - various mappings and assessments.
- The indigenous walk was well attended and identified scar trees where implements had been made from the tree bark and important women’s places.
- The Federal Golf Club engaged a new developer with a proposal to build up to 150 3-bedroom houses and 2-bedroom apartments on their lease. We are opposed to any housing development as it will impact on the Red Hill reserve but we are particularly concerned about the current proposal to build up to 80 houses adjacent to the reserve alongside the entry road near the large pine trees. This development would impact greatly on plants and animals in the reserve, not least because this would require fire control measures including clearing a significant amount of vegetation in high value woodland on the golf club lease – and in the reserve! Despite our opposition to the proposed development, we are trying to communicate openly with the Club and we appreciated the opportunity provided by the Club to meet the new developer. We would like to maintain a working relationship with the Club even though we clearly have opposing views about this development. We hope the Club can achieve its financial objectives but without relying on the proposed development. We will keep working to achieve the best outcome for the reserve.
- Michael Mulvaney gave a talk about the history of Red Hill to the Canberra and District Historical Society.

- The ACT government held a second ParkCare and Landcare forum and it was a pleasure to hear about the amazing work of our counterparts in other ACT reserves – we are not alone in our passion!
- Michael Mulvaney led a walk at the 2014 AGM and will again lead a walk at the AGM on 6 December 2015 from the Parliament House Lookout on Red Hill.
- A donation by a ‘friend’ of the group enabled 11 Allocasuarinas to be planted.
- Our shared ranger, Craig Wainright, has been made permanent in his position. He worked many hours on a variety of tasks on Red Hill including transporting Acacias that we had cut down and placing them around plantings to reduce the number eaten and trampled by kangaroos.
- We made representations to the ACT government about the completion of the path down the hill from the Parliament House lookout and also about the steep section of the Centenary Trail south of the summit towards Davison Trig.
- We currently have 54 financial members and 155 members and friends on our group email list.

Volunteer hours

Activity	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Number of Sunday and mid-week Activities	10	11	13	12
Average number of participants	9	10	9	11
Total number of volunteer hours*	323	314	480	521

* These hours represent on-reserve work and education of members for the financial year but not meetings, preparation of submissions, etc.

My thanks again to all members for your time and effort in helping us achieve a better nature reserve. Thanks particularly to the unchanged committee from the previous year. Other committee members are Michael Mulvaney, Paul Ratcliffe, Sue Ross, Andrew Zelnik, Miranda Gardner and Fred Knowler. The Committee’s knowledge and commitment has ensured the RHR continues to be effective in caring for the Reserve and making a significant contribution to its long-term wellbeing. In particular, thanks to:

- Michael Mulvaney who spends a lot of time working individually on the reserve and still provides an inspiring passion for us all.
- Paul Ratcliffe for his work as Treasurer and for many other contributions including the RHR website and Twitter account and his individual work on Red Hill.
- Sue Ross for her role as Secretary and supporting the group’s work in so many ways including many hours of individual work on the reserve.
- The Red Hill rangers, our PCS contact Jasmine Foxlee and Philip Selmes, our shared Ranger, Craig Wainwright, the Southern ACT Catchment Group, especially Martine Franco, and many in the ACT government who work with us to achieve our objectives.

Ross Kingsland
 President, Red Hill Regenerators
 6 December 2015