



Minutes of Meeting No 27.

Date: August 13th 2009

South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare

Location: City of Belmont Depot Offices, Planet St, Carlisle

Chairperson: Pat Hart

1.1 Welcome:

Pat Hart welcomed all, particularly Diane Mathews and commented that it is pleasing to see people from community groups at the meeting. Pat read out the apologies and introduced Paula Haro from City of Armadale who has replaced Ron Van Delft who has moved to Shire of Collie.

Thanks extended to the City of Belmont for hosting today's meeting.

1.2 Attendees:

Julie Robert	<i>SERCUL</i>	Pat Hart	<i>SERCUL Chair</i>
Amy Krupa	<i>PAG</i>	Sandy Wainwright	<i>SERCUL</i>
Glen Byleveld	<i>SERCUL</i>	Tom Atkinson	<i>SERCUL</i>
Bonita Clark	<i>SERCUL</i>	Debbie Besch	<i>SRT</i>
Nicole Davey	<i>City of Belmont</i>	Matt Grimby	<i>AGLG</i>
Crystal McIvor	<i>AGLG</i>	Melinda Snowball	<i>SERCUL</i>
Cam Clay	<i>SERCUL Treasurer</i>	Ana Terrazas	<i>SERCUL</i>
Paula Haro	<i>City of Armadale</i>	Russell Gorton	<i>WWAG</i>
Diane Mathews	<i>CRREPA</i>		

1.3 Apologies:

Brian Aldrich		Claire Caldera	
Margaret Mathews	<i>Fr of Wireless Hill</i>	Patricia Pedelty	<i>Perth Region NRM</i>
David James	<i>Fr of Forrestdale Lakes</i>	Marc Lane	<i>F of Ellis Brook</i>
Wayne Van Lieven	<i>City of Gosnells</i>		

1.4 Acronyms used in these minutes:

SERCUL	<i>South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare</i>	CRREPA	<i>Canning River Residence Environmental Protection Association</i>
SRT	<i>Swan River Trust</i>	AGLG	<i>Armadale/Gosnells Landcare Group</i>
PAG	<i>Phosphorus Action Group</i>	NRMO	<i>Natural Resource Management Officer</i>
DEC	<i>Department of Environment and Conservation</i>	CSIRO	<i>Commonwealth Scientific Industrial Research Organisation</i>
SALP	<i>Swan Alcoa Landcare Project</i>	PRNRM	<i>Perth Region Natural Resource Management</i>
CFOC	<i>Caring for our Country</i>	WQIP	<i>Water Quality Improvement Plan</i>
NAB	<i>National Australia Bank</i>	CoA	<i>City of Armadale</i>
CoG	<i>City of Gosnells</i>	DOW	<i>Department of Water</i>
WAPC	<i>Western Australian Planning Commission</i>	UWA	<i>University of Western Australia</i>
WWAG	<i>Wilson Wetlands Action Group</i>	WALGA	<i>WA Local Government Association</i>

2. Call for major items that need immediate discussion in General Business:

No major items

3. Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes were accepted as true and correct, moved by Cam Clay and seconded by Diane Mathews.

4. Business Arising from Previous meeting:

Action List – see end of minutes

Discussions on specific action list items from February 2009 minutes are as follows –

- Amy - Turtle protection/policy presentation at a SERCUL meeting; Amy is going back to the Excelsior school next week who have a turtle protection program in place.

5. Correspondence In / Out:

All correspondence was tabled and discussed.

- Pat tabled letters concerning a subdivision in Roleystone which had given 3 lots access to the river. She has received a response from DOW but not from WAPC.

6. Treasurers Report:

Cam Clay presented the Treasurers Report.

- Transfer from NAB to Bendigo Bank is complete.
- Audit is in progress.

Cam Clay moved the Treasurers Report, seconded by Ana Terrazas.

7. Chairs Report:

Pat read her report. If anyone wishes to see a copy of report please contact SERCUL.

- Sedimentation
- Currently sitting on other committees which lack funds from federal government.
- Lack of SALP funding, only \$175,000 available when \$800,000 has been requested (excludes large projects). Crisis point has been reached and there is a chance that small groups could be lost once they become aware they have no funding to undertake work onground.. PRNRM are looking at other sponsors, possibly Bendigo Bank.
- LotteryWest are willing to fund a group of large projects, but their selection does not fit with how SALP works so these would be outside SALP process.
- Possibly suggest in future consider SALP for smaller projects of less than \$10,000.
- Will try to put community side into local government (Australian Local Government Association) – point of view to the commonwealth.
- The community would like SERCUL to put them back into local government, with the aim of filling the gap in community groups. There are grave concerns with lack the of funding, SERCUL will look at approaching the commonwealth.
- Integrated water reference group meeting held on Friday 14/08/09. Bruce Hamilton has put forwards a document on options for drainage reform that has previously been signed off by WALGA/Government agencies/communities. Grey water is expensive, \$4.50 – \$6.60 per kL. Department of Water looking at monitoring Bannister Creek and Tom Bateman.
- The Commonwealth are after real forecast figures on N and P reduction in drains for the urban drainage renewal projects..
- Water Corp presentation in Oct/Nov. UWA is researching plant remedial/filtration.

8. Regional Coordinators Report:

Julie read and tabled her report. If anyone wishes to see a full copy of her report please contact SERCUL.

- An Indigenous artefact stone was found during earthworks for new toilet. It is thought that it was used for art, to hold ochre. It is with the archaeologist at the moment, who has offered to present at SERCUL, or run a session at the Eco-education centre. There is a shortage of such artefacts in museums because people who find them don't usually hand them in.

- Team of 4 people from SERCUL at a permaculture¹ course (run by Ross Marrs): Amy, Glen, Melinda and John attending. A permaculture garden for SERCUL is being designed as part of this course.
- Old SERCUL computers were donated to Glenn Dewhurst's Cockatoo Rehabilitation Centre in Gosnells and Friends of Forrestdale Lake.
- Fertilise Wise launch at the Eco-education centre on September 1st 2009 at 9-30am.
- Urban Landcare Field Day is going to be held at SERCUL on March 20th 2010 for people to showcase landcare products and processes.
- No CFOC grants received for region.
- Need to survey the river for Sagittaria while water level is low over the next few weeks. Working with Department of Agriculture to implement hydrogel trials for Hydrocotyl management.
- Canning Plain Management Plan, A coordinator is required to coordinate the implementation of the Plan. Funding for needs to be identified. Motion 'that the previous Steering committee be brought together to address implementation of the Plan'. Pat moved and Cam seconded the motion.
- Staff training at Yanchep went really well, changes have been made and there has been more structure to staff meetings.

9. Licensing of Fertilise Wise Logo – Julie Robert

- It was recognised that an appropriate fertiliser was needed to protect the river. Fertitech was trialling a product down south and it was suggested that it be made available in Perth.
- A variety of products were tested (using soils science) on bare sand. Most fertilisers used on lawn. Fertitech want to protect the environment. Scientists and the Department of Agriculture are happy with the Fertitech tests results.
- Fertilise Wise logo is available to any manufacturer that meets the criteria for endorsement. We are hopeful that the logo will drive change in fertiliser industry.
- Concerned about Nitrogen leaching. State Fertiliser Action Plan is only focussing on Phosphorous.
- The Fertitech fertiliser is a mineralised product which holds the fertiliser to the plant rather than contaminate the soil.
- Presentation of criteria for licensing of Fertilise Wise logo made to Swan River Trust Board this month.

10. NRMO Officer reports – Water, PAG and AGLG:

All reports were tabled and discussed. If you require a copy of any of their reports please contact SERCUL.

Tom Atkinson

- Wharf Street hasn't been finalised, waiting for earthworks.
- DNIP progressing well, learning as we go.
- Enrolled in Masters with Murdoch Uni focus on Liege Street Constructed Wetland.
- WAPC has erected a shed (recycled) on site next to SERCUL. It is a compound/office/meeting room for SERCUL to run on - ground work teams, space for lock up, rainwater tank and small nursery/plant areas. Suggested that there could be break-in issues. WAPC are going to install wind turbines for power.
- Composting toilet installed at SERCUL.

Glen Byleveld – Sedimentation and Staff Report

- Sediment working group on the Canning River, but scope is getting broader than Canning. Sedimentation is an issue for Local and State Government. Call for a review on local government procedures/policy for control sediment and erosion for their works. The group is working on how to engage local government and identify gaps in these policies. Currently at the primary stages of doing research, with help from PRNRM and research from SRT looking into State Government regulations. Brief at CoA last week.

¹ Permaculture (permanent agriculture) is the conscious design and maintenance of agriculturally productive ecosystems which have the diversity, stability and resilience of natural ecosystems.

- Sediment presentation at last SERCUL meeting got a good response. Julie suggested that they talk to Water Corp about their earth works that dig up sediments that wash into Wilson wetlands. Pat suggested that photos be taken of the site to show build up.
- Debbie Besch commented that Planning has taken a much stronger interest since the last SERCUL due to the Sediment presentation. Currently legislation requires a Court to enforce compliance with sedimentation protection. Need to discuss with SRT Board to get a better outcome.
- Diane Mathews commented that loose sand put down by City of Canning to stop erosion actually washes into the river. It needs to be retained and the area is difficult to revegetate. City of Canning need to consider setting aside areas (fenced off) to trial where impact is occurring.
*SERCUL will encourage City of Canning to work with CRREPA to protect rehabilitation and recovery work in eroded areas. Moved by Pat.
- Glen's role is changing because the CFOC business plan targets are now clear, Glen will focus on weeds and river restoration. He should be getting on ground funding from SRT and LotteryWest.
- Has been networking and meeting with groups, such as the Environmental Weed Action Group.
- Working on a concept plan for a swale at Bertram primary school, with plants and weed control. A National Tree Day event was held there.
- Focussing on blackberry weeds in the next year..
- Workshops: What Does Your Garden Grow with Joondalup, Native Tree Workshop with GreenSkills.
- Helped write grants for Brixton St Wetland Group and Black Cockatoo Rehabilitation Centre.

Melinda Snowball

- Hawkesbury project site started 2007 is going very well. Sedges took a while to grow.
- Vellgrove Water Corp waterway has been revegetated and also going well (started in 2007), a concrete drain removed and plants put it. Still planting this year with schools.
- Extension of bund along Roe Hwy.
- City of Canning gave \$5000 for plants.
- Edgeware Lake is a new project for the City of Canning, it is a compensating basin like Hawkesbury – planting day with river guardians.
- In May Melinda ran a community needs workshop and is close to finishing a report to go to Pat before going to the community.
- Assisting John with Tracy's work while she is away. A lot of volunteers are currently working with John at SERCUL.
- \$5000 SGIO community grant for Waterwise garden at SERCUL.
- Waiting to hear back from DEC for funds.
- Recently completed a group skills course, currently doing the permaculture course.

Ana Terrazas

- Discussed and showed a map of water quality testing sites over the past three years. Water quality reports from last year are available from Ana at SERCUL on CD.
- Helping community groups doing clean drain river gains, such as Friends of McDougall Park – will try to have a planting day with Friends of McDougall Park.
- Glen and Ana have been helping Attadale Foreshore, who were unsuccessful with funding. They need \$15,000 for projects, possibly considering grants from Holden.
- Going to SERI conference, will report back next meeting.

Amy Krupa

- Working on the Fertilise Wise launch and promotion.
- Organised the 'Taste of Science' fair this Sunday at Eco Centre.
- Doing school talks and did 10 planting sessions last month.
- LGA survey has been completed, will look at results soon.

10.1 AGLG – Crystal McIvor:

Crystal read her report, if you require a copy please contact SERCUL.

- Riverbank 2010 application submitted and Riverbank 09 report completed.
- SALP applications submitted for Mary Carol Park (revegetation works), CoG and AGLG (for 7 sites).
- AGLG won the Keep Australia Beautiful award in the Protection of the Environment section.
- Green Jobs application submitted for salary funding \$200,000 but still awaiting a response.
- Attended 9 planting sessions with school groups, girl guides and scouts at various AGLG sites.
- AGLG National Tree Day at Roley Pools where 50 volunteers planted 3000 trees.

10.2 AGLG – Matt Grimbley:

- Planting community days at Wright Brook and 2300 plants were put in on National Tree Day by the scouts group.
- Girl Guides put in 1000 plants. Other plantings with mainly school groups and Rotary clubs.
- LotteryWest grant received for equipment has been spent on augers (posthole diggers) to get through hard ground. Also bought a trailer, plant tools and equipment.

11. Local Government Officers & Stakeholder Reports:

11.1 City of Belmont – Nicole Davey

- Planting at Century Park and Garvey Park.
- Had some problems with vandalism.
- Corporate planting days.
- Buddhist youth group planting once a month.
- Bird sculptures installed in Century Park.
- Milestone 4 of Water Campaign completed.
- Biodiversity Plan with Bassendean and Bayswater.
- Endorsed travel smart work plan with a bicycle fleet for staff.

11.2 City of Armadale – Paula Haro

- Community service LotteryWest grant \$10000, plan for Canning foreshore in Kelmscott.
- Draft Local Biodiversity Strategy is out for public comment
- Wungong Management Plan is ready to go to Council to release for public comment.
- Forrestdale Lake boardwalk cannot be progressed due to lack of funds from DEC.

12. Urban Renewal Funding Projects Discussion – DOW/SRT. Ken Macintosh, Bill and Sandra.

- Update on projects on list.
- Wrote to Federal minister Penny Wong in April with a proposal to put up existing programs for funding.
- Response received from Penny Wong, who agreed with approach, saying they were worthwhile. The projects focus on the Swan Canning WQIP.
- Prepared project brief – a spreadsheet on this is available.
- Proposal that \$2.64 million be spent looking at the basin in Kelmscott, Seville Grove, Riverside Lane living stream, revegetation and weed control (Southern River Projects).
- Travelled to Canberra and went over the Swan Canning WQIP, in line with election promise.
- *Russel Gorton proposed an action to write to the Water Corp regarding works in the WWAG/Millstream area. Pat Moved.

13. Community Group Reports

13.1 WWAG – Russell Gorton

- 4 major planting events in June, 8000 trees planted with 2 primary schools.
- WWAG AGM will be held on 1st September at the Eco-education centre.
- WA Environment Awards, WWAG asking for help from SERCUL to help WWAG to put in for an award in 2010.

- Rehabilitation project on Fern Road between the depot and Millstream main drain is progressing.

14. Next meeting – the next general SERCUL meeting will be held on November 12th 2009 at the City of Armadale, 7 Orchard Ave, Armadale. 9am till 12 noon.

15. Closure: Pat Hart declared the meeting closed at 12.10pm

Action List:

Date & Original point #	From which minutes	Action	Who & by when	Outcome
9	<i>May 2009</i>	Possible turtle presentation at a SERCUL meeting, Amy to ask researcher to attend.	Amy	
12	<i>Aug 2009</i>	SERCUL to write to the Water Corp on behalf of WWAG re: Works in the WWAG/Millstream area.	Pat	
10	<i>Aug 2009</i>	SERCUL will encourage City of Canning to work with CRREPA to protect rehabilitation and recovery of eroded areas.	Julie	
8	<i>Aug 2009</i>	Canning Plain Management Plan steering committee needs to be brought together to address implementation of the plan.	Julie	
13.1	<i>Aug 2009</i>	SERCUL help WWAG put in for WA Environment Awards.	SERCUL staff	

Approved and accepted: Chairpersons signature.....

Date.....