



BRTB Draft Minutes August 2013 Meeting

Date: Meeting type:
Attendees: D Wilmshurst, B Powyer, W Goonan, A Williams, S Rees

Apologies: S Brett

Absentees: L Watson Conflict of Interest: No

Agenda item/ R no. Discussion / Resolution

1.1 Welcome

Mr D Wilmshurst, Deputy Chair, opened the meeting and welcomed attendees, in the absence of the Chair.

1.2 Additional items

Additional items were added to Opportunities and Correspondence.

1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None were made

1.4 Previous minutes and matters arising not already on agenda

130801

A Williams W Goonan *The Minutes of the July meeting be accepted*

2.1 Trees

130802

W Goonan tabled quotes from All Terrain tree services for removal of trees overhanging the Burruga track and neighbouring tennis courts

A Williams B Powyer *The quote for removal of tree fallen on Burruga track be accepted subject to the tree being made secure for continued access and safety of pedestrians*

3.1 Projects Underway Funds Committed

W Goonan reported on each of these matters.

3.2.1 Conservation Volunteers Australia project with Leightons

W Goonan reported on this project, which will begin on Sept 10

3.2.2 Bidjigal Education Centre

130803

Discussion was held about the latest details of the proposal to move a demountable building to Ted Horwood Reserve and install it to become the Bidjigal Education Centre. Several issues were considered, including the following: That the condition of the demountable building was unacceptable; the original offer was more attractive and included more value. The costs for the Trust associated with this proposal are too high, considering the PRMF grant application was for essential items to make the place workable rather than complete the basic installation. Further investigation is warranted as to more suitable sites, given the plans to establish a depot at Ted Horwood Reserve would severely limit access to the current proposed site for the education centre and reduce its appeal as a place for other groups to meet. The isolation would also make it unattractive for potential school and other group users, especially in wet weather. The proposed building does not appear structurally suitable, given its age of 25 years. The meeting suggested more investigation be made of potential sites at Eric Mobbs Reserve especially the 4th Castle Hill Scouts Hall (not presently being used) and the land adjacent to that hall and Ferguson Ave.

A Williams B Powyer

The Trust continue discussions with Council with the view that the current proposal presents a number of difficulties associated with location, cost, building suitability, and that further options should be explored including the Eric Mobbs Scout Hall.

130804

A Williams B Powyer

That the Secretary investigate the option of the scout hall.

3.3.1 History Week walk

This walk will not go ahead as proposed this year

3.3.2 Caring for Our Country EOI

This grant application was still pending at the time of the meeting. The Trust has since been advised the application was unsuccessful, although it was rated "good" under all criteria.

3.3.3 Ropes Course in Cumberland State Forest

B Powyer reported the Trust was approached to make a submission on the Adventure Forests development in Cumberland State Forest. Considering the effort and funds expended by the Trust for the conservation of habitat of Powerful Owls, and the significance of the Great North Walk, the Trust will make a submission seeking to ensure these aspects are well considered.

3.3.3 Veterans Association volunteers

An idea was put forward by P Price recently suggesting that the Veterans Association may be able to manage members who, being engineers, could inspect tracks and offer advice as to required works, possibly carry out maintenance on bridges etc. The idea was well received by the meeting: Veterans would be welcomed in the Reserve.

3.4.1 Unauthorised Activities

130805

B Powyer A Williams

The Policy and Procedure on Unauthorised Activities be ratified by the Trust Board.

4.1 Crown Lands Division Report

Agenda item/ R no. Discussion / Resolution

S Rees made the following points: The Commonwealth is still investigating whether the Rifle Range can be added to Bidjigal Reserve; Trust members should nominate themselves and others for the positions of Trust member (applications close August 30). Mr Rees also inquired whether council had offered to match funding to the PRMF grant for reserve management.

4.2 Chairman's report

The Chair, S Brett was absent and did not make a report.

4.3 Treasurer's Report

B Powyer A Williams ***The Treasurer's Report be accepted***

4.4 Correspondence Report

Additional correspondence received at time of meeting was mentioned by the secretary: an invitation to comment on the Crown Lands Website by way of an online survey. The link to the survey will be sent to Board members

4.5 Volunteer Activity Report

As noted in the agenda

4.6 Bushfire Report

As noted in the agenda

5 Next meeting

The next meeting of Bidjigal Reserve Trust Board will be held in Parramatta on Tuesday September 24 at 1:30pm.

Signed as a true record by

Date