THE MYALL KOALA & ENVIRONMENT GROUP INC.

Minutes of Quarterly Meeting held on 17th May 2022

The meeting, chaired by President Richard Streamer, was held in the Silver Dolphin Room at the Tea Gardens Hotel. There were 17 members present. The meeting commenced at 8:27pm following the Annual General Meeting.

PRESENT. Jill & Peter Madden, Kit & Richard Streamer, Ian Morphett, Trish Blair, Jane

Collison, Lyn Mealey, Ann Woods, Debbie & Colin Wood, Marilyn & Dudley Mercer, Christian

Patteson, Judy & Rob Hughes, Adrienne Ingram.

APOLOGIES. Gail Morphett, Bev Dunbar & John Duffield, Lynn & Chris Stevenson, Di &

Colin Ayers, Leigh Allen, Christine McMaster, Kevin & Robyn Green, Colleen & Rob MacSween,Laurie Collison.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.

Minutes of the February quarterly meeting were distributed prior to the meeting.

MOVED Marilyn Mercer

SECONDED Trish Blair that the minutes be taken as read.

CARRIED.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.

 None.

CORRESPONDENCE. (Incoming and outgoing.)

 Ian Morphett read the list of correspondence

MOVED Kit Streamer

SECONDED Deb Wood that the correspondence be accepted.

CARRIED.

TREASURER’S REPORT.

 Trish Blair presented the Quarterly Financial Report for 1 April to mid-May (see below).

 Our operating account at Regional Australia Bank closing balance as at 17th May 2022 was

$9,782.59.

 Our Bankwest investment account balance is $ 17,185.68.

 Our total assets at 17th May 2022 are $ 26,3968.27.

 The only significant outgoing in the period was the Bitou Busters farewell to the Maddens

$147). Significant incomings were Donations ($431), Raffle ($890) and Stall Merchandise

Sales ($762).

MOVED Jane Collison

SECONDED Jill Madden that the Treasurer’s report be accepted.

CARRIED.

SENIORS EXPO WRAP-UP

 It went well for us.

 The new display stands donated by the Stephenson’s worked well.

 We got quite a few donations

 We sold a lot of raffle tickets.

 We got 3 new members.

 We will participate if it runs again next year.

COUNCIL COMMUNITY MEETING

 It was held in the Baptist Church last Thursday and ran from 6pm and didn’t finish until

nearly 9pm.

 The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, two other Councillors, the General Manager, the Director of

Liveable Communities and three other Council managers attended.

 There were about 100 community members present.

 Most concerns from the public were about development, particularly the Sanderling Avenue rezoning. Council said it is a done deal and the only way it could be reversed is if the state Minister for Planning does it. Objections to proposed DAs must only be written in

objective terms on planning grounds. Emotional pleas because “you don’t like it” will

never succeed. Richard asked that Council provide feedback on the progress of

controversial development proposals.

 The Director advised that:

 the Marine Drive DA has been resubmitted with significant changes. The revised

DA will go on exhibition shortly with submissions until 27 June.

 Council has asked the developers for some changes to the Yamba Street DA behind

the Hawks Nest shops.

 Council has asked for more information from the proponents of the “caravan park”

DA (manufactured home retirement village) which has been outstanding for more

than a year.

 A DA has not yet been lodged for the Sanderling Avenue development.

 Other issues discussed included swimming pools and relocation of the Skate Park.

MYALL RIVER FESTIVAL

 The Festival, normally held in late October, has not yet been confirmed by the Chamber of

Commerce.

 If it is on, we will book a stall.

 We will order trees from Council’s tree nursery (Dingo Creek) irrespective of the festival

proceeding and will use similar methods and venues as last year to give them away.

GENERAL BUSINESS

 Richard Streamer advised that the Winda Woppa lagoon viewing platform has been

removed because it is unrepairable. Council is concerned about vandalism. There are

currently no Council funds to replace it. However, Richard, as President of the Winda

Woppa Association, is negotiating with Council to build a replacement and access path on

the opposite (river) side of the lagoon out of recycled plastic material. They are hopeful of

obtaining a grant for the cost. The new platform may be called “The Pritchard Lookout” in

honour of our past President Randle and Pat, of course.

 It was discussed whether we should “adopt” Princess at the Port Stephens Koala Hospital

involving regular annual donations in increments of $50. We decided we would rather just

make a straight donation, possibly annually at our AGM time.

MOVED Ian Morphett

SECONDED Deb Wood that we donate $500 to the Port Stephens Koala Hospital.

CARRIED.

 It was decided to offer an end-of-yearbook prize to a student for “environmental

Conservation” to the Tea Gardens Public School. We would also donate a book about the

environment, koalas or wildlife for addition to the school library. Ian Morphett to contact

the Principal.

 Adrienne Ingram has been working on the designs for two sides of a portable A-frame that

Glen Henry will create. Some discussion had occurred about this at the recent committee

meeting and one side’s design was a bit cluttered Adrienne has reworked the design and is to send the final designs to the committee before sending them to Glen to make sure we don’t have any final revisions.

 Marilyn Mercer advised that she had received 50 Koala Toast Stamps that were donated tous by Nuttelex. To use as we like. Marilyn sold some at the Seniors Expo and the tree

giveaway and we sold/gave some away at the Easter raffle ticket sales table. She would like

to send Nuttelex a thank you letter. The Secretary to send one.

 Jill Madden advised that she has been volunteering for 20 years for the local dolphin count

in HN/TG and whale count at Treachery headland, Seal Rocks. She would like to hand both

jobs over to someone as she leaves. Judy and Rob Hughes agreed to take them over. Jill

will advise the coordinators of these counts about the new volunteers.

 Richard Streamer suggested that we have guest speakers at our Quarterly meetings (Except AGMs). Talks would be for a maximum of 20 minutes and would be at the beginning of meetings. Meetings would start at 7pm instead of 7:30. For the August meeting he

suggested a speaker from the Natural Systems Branch at Council to talk about dingoes. For

the November meeting, he suggested Ann Woods to talk about shorebirds.

Meeting concluded at 9:50pm.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th August 2022 at 7.30pm in the Silver Dolphin Room in the Tea Gardens Hotel.

Richard Streamer Ian Morphett

President Secretary

Date: 17th May 2022 Date: 17th May 2022