

MINUTES OF ECCO COMMITTEE MEETING February 10, 2010

PRESENT: Jenny Smith, Tony Smith, Brian Phillips, Peter West, Neil Jones, Susan Sanders, Nick King, Col. Foster, Stephen Nugent, Phil. Stephenson

APOLOGIES: Yvette Black

Moved Nick King, seconded Tony Smith, that the minutes of the committee meeting of January 13 be accepted. Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING: ECCO Pamphlet: As agreed at the above meeting, Stephen Nugent has developed a pamphlet designed for general distribution for the purpose of advertising ECCO to the general public. Stephen tabled the pamphlet, which was approved by the committee. Moved Tony Smith, seconded Col. Foster that quotes be obtained for the printing of 500/1000 copies of the pamphlet. Congratulations and thanks to Stephen for his excellent work .

Local Environment Awards: Moved Stephen Nugent, seconded Jenny Smith that the ECCO local environment awards be changed to a more flexible format. The normal nomination processes will still apply, but awards will be given as appropriate nominations are received, rather than on a strict seasonal basis. It was also agreed that more flexibility of award categories was necessary. Nominations have been received and will be discussed at the next general meeting.

Website: Stephen Nugent reports that he continues to liaise with ECCO's website designer. He will be seeking greater access to the website to enable important changes and updates to be made quickly and independently, to provide a dynamic and up to date website. ECCO has received excellent feedback for our website, thanks to Stephen's excellent work.

Clean Up Australia Day: (March 7) Peter West has met with the Tidy Towns committee, who will also be involved with the organization of Clean up Australia Day.

ECCO has registered 5 sites, which are: Moulder Park, Elephant Park, Somerset Park, Gosling Creek Reserve, Hill Park. There will be cleanup sessions at Elephant Park, Moulder Park and Somerset Park from 10am to 12pm, followed by a barbecue from 12pm to 1pm. From 1 to 2.30pm cleanup sessions will be conducted at Gosling Creek reserve and Hill Park.

Media advertising for Clean up Australia Day will be organised through ECCO's Earth First column, ABC radio, commercial radio, community radio, Orange photo news. Flyers advertising the event will be distributed .

Negotiations are underway for a representative of Orange City Council to thank participants at the barbecue. Thanks to Peter for organizing this event.

Carbon Conversations/green drinks: As previously advertised, ECCO members and friends are invited to meet at the Union Bank wine bar today at 5.30 to informally discuss issues related to personal carbon reduction. See you there.

Earth Hour: (see previously circulated minutes). Council has been approached to obtain permission for the use of Rotary Park for Earth Hour 2010 “Picnic under the Stars” on Saturday, March 27. We have not as yet received notification that the proposed venue is available. Individuals and groups have been approached to provide acoustic entertainment and members have undertaken to approach organizations and businesses within the community concerning the advertising and observation of this event. To be discussed at the next general meeting.

ECCO theatre party: A very successful theatre party for the screening of “Bran Nude Day”, attracting an audience of 100 members and friends. Many thanks to those who assisted with the organization of this event.

Moved Brian Phillips, seconded Tony Smith that ECCO gratefully acknowledge Phil Stephenson’s very generous donation of wine for the theatre party. Carried with acclaim.

It was agreed that ECCO make a donation of \$100 to Buralgang Aboriginal Dance, and that ECCO invite their manager to address a future ECCO meeting.

Orange Community Radio: Neil Jones has negotiated with Orange Community Radio to have a member of ECCO be a guest of community radio every Tuesday fortnight at 4pm. This radio opportunity is open to all ECCO members who feel they can contribute.

University of the Third Age: The University of the Third Age would like 2 speakers to participate in a forum on different aspects of the environment. Dates are Monday March 22, Monday March 29. Nick to participate on Monday March 22.

Earth First: Peter West, Earth First co-ordinator is working on an Earth first calendar of contributions for 2010. This will be made available to the membership. Peter would like more members to contribute to this column. Those interested in providing a column for Earth First should contact him through our ECCO Gmail address. Tony Smith has volunteered to approach the Orange Field Naturalists to invite interested Field Nats. to contribute to Earth First.

BCANN Liaison: Nothing as yet has been done about liaising with BCANN concerning the Cadia mine’s energy use. To contact Bob Hill, who is our liaison with BCANN.

ECCO priorities 2010: The ECCO priorities discussed at the last general meeting to be further developed and discussed at the next convenient committee meeting. To be posted on the website in final form.

Rotary Enviro Expo: No set date at this stage. The first planning meeting for this event will take place on Tuesday, February 23 at 6pm at a venue to be announced. Neil and Nick to attend. Other interested members welcome.

Bloomfield Bushland: The first consultative meeting is to be held shortly. No further details available. Neil Jones and Yvette Black will be involved, and members will be informed about future developments on this issue.

General Meeting agenda: Neil to contact NSW Office of Water to engage a hydrology expert to address a public meeting on the issue of groundwater. A full agenda to be made available closer to the general meeting:

Orange Community Garden project: ECCO members and friends are invited to assist with harvesting and bagging Community garden produce for distribution at the Orange Farmers' Market on Saturday, February 13th. The harvesting and bagging will commence at 4.30 this Friday, February 12. Assistance with the distribution of produce and an accompanying pamphlet advertising the community garden would also be appreciated. Saturday's Farmers market will be at the North Court of the Orange Civic Centre. Distribution of produce will occur between 8 and 10 am. Those interested in assisting please contact Stephen Nugent on mobile 0429 655 739

Nick King Secretary.