

# NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF THE ACT INC.

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, 17 May 2018

Uniting Church Hall, Scrivener St, O'Connor

### 1. Welcome, apologies, new members

President Esther Gallant welcomed members, especially Life Members and new member Don Fletcher, and guests to the meeting. She paid respects to the traditional custodians of the land and their elders past and present. Julie May, Chris Emery, Sabine Friedrich, Christine & Michael Goonrey, Judy & Dave Kelly, Jacqui Cole, Rupert Barnett, Bruce & Maria Boreham, and Fiona Brand sent apologies.

### 2. Confirmation of minutes of the 19 April meeting

Esther explained that from now on members with email will receive a link to the minutes of the last general meeting in the monthly *Burning Issues* e-newsletter. A printed copy is available at the entrance so that members can peruse them before the meeting.

The minutes of the general meeting of 19 April 2018 were provisionally confirmed by the meeting. Members are encouraged to read the minutes and pass on any comments or corrections to the secretary.

### 3. Matters arising from the minutes

Esther drew the meeting's attention to the following issues:

- Plans for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary: Following on from last month's ideas forum Esther encouraged members to pass on further ideas to the committee. She also urged members to volunteer for certain tasks arising from the planned activities.
- Easter Ecology Camp: The committee has agreed to again sponsor students next year. The students' report on this year's event will be published in the *June Bulletin*.
- World Environment Day dinner: This ConsACT fund-raising event is on 2 June – there are still vacancies and Esther encouraged members to join the NPA tables.

### 4. Recent NPA activities and reports

- Esther and Rod Griffiths had a discussion with the new Conservator of Flora and Fauna, Ian Walker, on various issues of interest and NPA concerns. Committee members will take him on a Yerrabi Track walk with an afternoon tea stop at Gudgenby Cottage on Friday 18 May.
- Esther participated in a meeting with Snowy Hydro, NPA NSW representatives including their President and CEO as well as Advisory Committee members Di Thompson and Martin Chalk.
- Committee members also met with Brett McNamara and the PCL volunteer coordinator to discuss their new Volunteer Policy.

Submissions currently under consideration (members are always encouraged to send in their own submissions):

- Proposal to make Feral Horses a key threatening process by causing habitat loss and degradation – to the NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee by 21 June; submit by post only;
- Nature in the City – ACT Government through *Have Your Say* by 8 June;
- Warragamba Dam raising – contact the Colong Foundation for information.
- A financial report was available for perusal at the entrance of the room.

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- Kevin McCue informed the meeting that the reprinted butterfly book was about to be delivered – members who have purchased faulty copies can receive replacements from the office or at general meetings if they bring in their old copy. He also mentioned that an errata sticker was available for the *Field Guide to the Native Trees of the ACT* – members can obtain stickers from Adrienne Nicholson or Sonja Lenz.
- Art Week at Gudgenby starts tomorrow; day visitors are always welcome.
- Kevin explained that the pilot study of the Rosenberg's Monitor project was successfully concluded. Photo footage and location data are still being analysed.
- Esther stressed that more volunteers are needed for:
  - the management committee, especially for the treasurer's post;
  - the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary working group;
  - the Publicity Subcommittee; and
  - meeting setup and catering.

### 5. Presentation by NPA member Adrienne Nicholson

#### ***From minute to magnificent: the development of a butterfly***

Since the NPA ACT published the *Field Guide to the Butterflies of the Australian Capital Territory* by Suzi Bond, Steve Holliday and John Stein – our 'butterfly book' - some of our members have become particularly observant of butterflies. Both Esther Gallant and Adrienne have closely followed the development of Orchard Swallowtail and Dainty Swallowtail individuals from being laid as tiny eggs through to emergence as beautiful adult butterflies. In the process only one lemon tree has been sacrificed! Adrienne acquainted us with some of their amazing photographs and observations in a very entertaining presentation. Their photographs were absolutely stunning with minute details clearly showing. The meeting marvelled at the photographic skills and the patience exhibited by the two photographers. An appreciative audience thanked Adrienne by acclamation.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm and the President invited all to enjoy the supper provided.

President:

Date: