

AGM and GM minutes 27 April 2021

Annual General Meeting

1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies: Marilyn Bruhn, Greg Cashel, Tina Coch, Bernadette Cranwell, Lionel Edwards, Heather Flanagan, John Flanagan, Alan Goldsmith, Bob Herbert, Ros Herbert, Tom Matthews, Barbara Rees, Sandy Schultheis, Kenzie van den Nieuwelaar, Angela Vaughan

2. Acceptance of minutes

AGM minutes 2020

Moved: Richard Smith

Seconded: Geoff Short

GM minutes February 21

Moved: Anne Wheaton

Seconded: Julie Whitehead

Carried

3. Treasurer/Auditor reports

Richard Smith reporting

We will be looking at fundraising and membership fees re our accounts. See website for more details: <http://wacra.org.au/news-events/meetings/>

Move that report be accepted until sent to the auditor in July.

Moved: Richard Smith

Seconded: Jim Douglas

Carried

4. President's report

Paul Laris reporting

The committee made changes to share the load. There are now four teams/groups to deal with recognised issues (delegation). See website for more details: <http://wacra.org.au/about/>

Acknowledgement of work done by coordinators and people in these teams.

Moved: Richard Smith

Seconded: Becky Llewelyn

Carried

4. Membership

Paul Laris reporting

Proposed rule change: That Clause 6(3) of the Association's Rules be altered by deleting the words '31st December' and substituting the words '1st July'.

Explanation: Subscriptions are normally due 31 December although previously we have collected individual subscriptions on the anniversary of the member joining. This is unnecessarily burdensome

for our accounts payable volunteers. Accordingly, it is proposed to adopt **1 July each year** as the due date for all subscriptions. This should make the process easier to administer. For members whose membership expires prior to 1 July 2021, we do not propose to invoice for the unfinancial period but we invite members to make a suitable donation to cover that period.

Moved: Paul Laris

Seconded: Geoff Short

Carried

Attention drawn to the exceptional service of Jim Douglas to WACRA and the community. He is WACRA's inaugural life member (2018). A vote of thanks proposed to Jim for his enormous contribution.

5. Election of officers

Jim Douglas (Returning Officer)

Jim thanks everyone and sees the community as a big part of his life. WACRA's 50 years of history will be launched soon.

Paul Laris appointed as Chairperson. Nominated by Bert Brown, seconded by Richard Smith. Carried
Bert Brown appointed as Vice Chairperson. Nominated by Julie Whitehead, seconded by Anne Wheaton. Carried

Richard Smith (Secretary/Treasurer) nominated by Fernando Gonçalves, seconded by Geoff Short. Carried

Andrea Rankin (Assistant Secretary/Minutes) nominated by Julie Whitehead, seconded by Marg Easson. Carried

Anne Wheaton (Membership Officer/Assistant Treasurer) nominated by Richard Smith, seconded by Becky Llewelyn. Carried

Appointments to the Committee:

Marilyn Bruhn nominated by Bert Brown, seconded by Geoff Short. Carried

Geoff Short nominated by Anne Wheaton, seconded by Kathryn Smith. Carried

Julie Whitehead nominated by Geoff Short, seconded by Marg Easson. Carried

Jim Douglas nominated by Richard Smith, seconded by Fernando Gonçalves. Carried

Paul Acfield nominated by Julie Whitehead, seconded by Geoff Short. Carried

Sandy Ball nominated by Julie Whitehead, seconded by Kathryn Smith. Carried

People can be co-opted without holding a position on the committee. There are also some people who are 'go-tos' for information and support.

Don Lewis (Public Officer) nominated by Richard Smith, seconded by Fernando Gonçalves. Carried

Refer to the WACRA website for the list of officers: <http://wacra.org.au/about/who-we-are/>

Guest speaker

- Coastal planning update - Damian Moroney (Green Adelaide)

PPT (PDF format) is available on the website: <http://wacra.org.au/news-events/meetings/>. Green Adelaide encompasses 17 local government areas of metropolitan Adelaide, replaces the NRM board. The area has shrunk as of mid 2020. More water under their control than land.

‘A cooler, greener, wilder and climate resilient Adelaide’

Question: Is St Kilda area in Green Adelaide? Reason is because of migratory birds.

Answer: Yes. Different species of invertebrates in ponds have encouraged birds coming into the area. It is now a very important migratory bird habitat. Green Adelaide has no authority over mining etc. They can only provide advice. Engagement with the community is key.

Question: Why the Barcoo Outlet?

Answer: Our beaches are highly modified. This is difficult to address. For example, the killing of seagrass from the Glenelg and Port Adelaide treatment works was an accident but has done enormous damage. Green Adelaide takes an environmental approach.

Question: Seagrass restoration is an important program. Is there a timeline and set of goals for this?

Answer: There is not enough knowledge around this so it's a guessing game, not a simple process. It's also very expensive with lots of risk factors.

Question: Is there regular reporting on this process?

Answer: Yes, someone is employed to do this and they are supported by Green Adelaide.

Question: Green Adelaide and the Planning and Development Code – what relationship does GA look at when they look at future development, and what is GA's relationship with the State Government to implement the GA Plan?

Answer: GA adopts a science evidence base to influence planners, and talks to planners. The GA board works for the Department of the Environment and can put in submissions/comments but not sure how much influence they have.

Question: GA had a role in negotiating the Coast Park past Glenelg. Has GA had a role in our Coast Park?

Answer: Currently no. Minda Dunes had unique vegetation and GA was asked to be involved by Council. More work of this nature is to be done.

Thanks to Damien Moroney from Paul Laris for his presentation.

General Meeting

Presentations by groups

Refer to the reports (PDF format) on the WACRA website: <http://wacra.org.au/news-events/meetings/>

1. COUNCIL CONNECT GROUP

- SA Planning and Design Code
- Groundwater loss Henley Square
- Library/community hub
- Henley Square shading

Group has regular meetings with the mayor and the CEO.

SA Planning & Design Code

Iris Iwanicki, Community Alliance (CA) reporting

How are we finding the online site (those who have used it)? General consensus is that it's not user friendly, very complicated. There is a lot of concern about the way applications are being dealt with.

Policies have been simplified – 3 phases: outback, country towns, complete activation of the code. There is now a Planning and Design Code (8000 pages). Many issues will need to be dealt with and fixed. Applications will be approved quicker, less notifications and opportunity to challenge decisions. Heritage is being treated poorly. Much comment received from organisations like WACRA has not been heeded.

- Concern about reduction of democratic process – distances planning from local councils, the state has taken over
- Restrictive means everything is up for consideration – fluid, flexible and discretionary
- Assessment managers – these are the relevant authority and will be subject to appeal by developers
- Request of information is once only within a short timeframe
- Council assessment panel only has one council member on it
- Little guidance on what is sought in different areas, it is performance assessed, which has failed in other places
- 'Don't blame the council, talk to the minister' – it's a state-based system

Has WACRA got any issues that Iris can represent? The code will have to be improved, so if WACRA spots any problems there can be follow through.

CA are collecting many examples over the next few months, but they won't really know how the code is working until it has run for at least 6 months. A public forum will be run around October with people from interstate, and a workshop will be run by CA in June. Hopefully there will be the opportunity to make changes later in the year. CA will meet with the department and find out what are the main changes in terms of policy.

Question: With the role of private certifiers? There seems to be a risk of corruption

Answer: There is a code of conduct and you need certain skills.

Groundwater loss Henley Square

Paul Laris reporting

With a state election coming up in 2022, residents can put pressure on Matt Cowdrey (local member) to see if something can be done.

Question: Can WACRA draft a letter that can be used by locals to write to Matt Cowdrey?

Answer: Yes – to go on the website.

Library/community hub

Paul Laris reporting

Council did not win their bid for extra money from State Government to proceed with this project. This money may become available prior to the state election.

Question: Apparently the RSL got money from the Commonwealth for a redevelopment. Any information on this?

Answer: This is correct, and the RSL is confident that they will get funding.

Henley Square shading

Paul Laris reporting

WACRA proposed that trees be included in shading design.

2. COASTAL MANAGEMENT GROUP

- Coastal sand replenishment project
- Coastal Linear Pathway
- Torrens River Breakout Creek wetlands
- Parliamentary inquiry into Coast Protection Board

Coastal sand replenishment project

Geoff Short reporting

Question: Given the government refuses to do an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) why doesn't the Community Reference Group refuse to consider anything until this is done?

Answer: Many have accepted that the project will go ahead so are just happy that they will be involved in some way. There was no option – stay with it or opt out.

Question: To what extent is there a united voice in the reference group?

Answer: It isn't united but the Doug Lord report will hopefully be objective and he will identify issues that may support an EIS.

Coastal Linear Pathway

Bert Brown reporting

See slides on website: <http://wacra.org.au/news-events/meetings/>

Torrens River Breakout Creek wetlands

Bert Brown reporting

Spoke to Nadine Kelly (Green Adelaide and Dept of Environment) – still in design phase. Hoping work will commence in September. They have reached an agreement with the riding club. Natural attrition agreed upon.

Parliamentary inquiry into Coast Protection Board

Geoff Short reporting

WACRA has made a submission. We want to be in that space when there are public hearings.

3. CLIMATE EMERGENCY GROUP

- Events (meetings, workshops etc)
- Projects (Verges Alive, 'My tree' etc)

Question: Are CEG going to make a submission to Council's Business Plan on behalf of WACRA?

Answer: CEG to check with Kate Denton re sending her submission to the Committee by email so they can approve it and submit on behalf of WACRA. Paul Laris is happy to coordinate the submission.

Question: Could this include regulated trees?

Answer: This should go in the submission.

Question: Does this include on the property and on kerb?

Answer: This is the part outside the property.

Question: What if you are living in a Torrens title property?

Answer: This is not referred to in the policy for verges:

https://www.charlessturt.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0024/159225/Community-Verge-Development-Guidelines-and-Checklist.pdf

Question: Is there an Action Plan for the Climate Emergency?

Answer: Needs to be part of our submission to the Budget – WACRA to make sure it's included.

4. ADMINISTRATION GROUP

Saturday 9 October – Quiz night, save the date (fundraiser)

AOB

SOS Grange re Telstra Tower

Meg Backhouse reporting

Group wrote a letter to Nicola Spurrier to ask her to call a halt to the 5G rollout. Various studies are being done internationally to be completed by 2024.

Group is putting together a petition – Stephen Mullighan to table it.

Nobody wants it in their backyard!

Question: Telstra van has a new logo 'More towers'!

Answer: This goes back to a federal level. They get precedence as to where they think they are needed. Grange is a precedent that will be set because it is on bowling club land not residents' land.

Conservation SA

Members forum this Thursday 290421 6.15pm.

Meeting closed 9.45pm