

NRM Council

Aboriginal Statewide Advisory Committee

Minutes of Meeting No 7. Meeting held Friday 28th November 2006 from 1.00 pm-3.00 pm
At Adelaide Sailing Club, West Beach, South Australia

1. Welcome and Introduction

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged the meeting was being held on the traditional lands of the Kurna people.

Present: Peter Buckskin (Chair), Marilyn Ah Chee, George Cooley, Lynette Crocker, Debra Haseldine, Cherie Heyes (Executive Support), Karina Lester, Frank Young

Apologies: Mitch Dunnet, Donald Fraser, Andrew Johnson, Fred Tanner, Fraser Vickery, Hughie Windlass

In Attendance: Neil Collins (DWLBC), Rachel Coates (RSSA)

2. Minutes

The Committee resolved to confirm the minutes as a correct record. George moved and Marilyn seconded the minutes be accepted.

3. Business Arising From Previous Minutes

Meeting 5

NRM Engagement Reports

ASAC members were asked in July to provide comments on NRM Engagement Reports. The Chair expressed his concern that a number of members have not provided feedback. The Chair asked all members to make it a priority and provide feedback to Cherie as soon as possible.

Photo Approval Form

This item was deferred to next meeting.

Meeting 6

NRM Heritage Agreements/MOU's

This item was deferred to next meeting.

Investigation into Aboriginal NRM funded projects

An investigation into investment of Aboriginal NRM projects in NRM regions is still underway. Item deferred to next meeting.

3. Correspondence

- a. Nomination for membership of the Kangaroo Management Reference Group

A letter was received from DEH on 26/09/06 stating that despite ASAC's request for two members on the Kangaroo Management Reference Group (male and female); the group would be restricted to one representative and a deputy. George Cooley informed the committee he was appointed to the group in October 2006. The Executive Officer or Chair was not informed of this decision, therefore it was agreed the Chair would contact Stephen Forbes, Director- Science and Conservation at DEH and discuss the lack of communication with ASAC Executive.

Action: Peter to contact Stephen Forbes, and follow up on communication issues re: appointment to the Kangaroo Management Reference Group.

4. Meeting Paper

- a. Resource Manual

A paper for noting was prepared by Neil Collins from the Department for Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation (DWLBC) and circulated to members. The purpose of the paper was to:

- Inform the ASAC of progress on the proposed Resource Manual for NRM Officers engaging South Australian Aboriginal communities in NRM

ASAC members noted and supported the updated project brief and project implementation to date. Neil Collins (DWLBC) and Rachel Coates (Rural Solutions SA) provided background information and advised members that the project is at Stage 1, and a draft manual will be produced. Stage 2 involves consultation with key Aboriginal representatives whilst Stage 3

involves the development and presentation of artwork, final revisions and consultations and dissemination of the manual. Neil commented that Stage 2 and 3 are subject to funding from the Joint Commonwealth/State Steering Committee which administers the Natural Heritage Trust and the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality.

Committee members provided a number of suggestions and additions to the manual including. Members would like to see:

- Reference to the Aboriginal Consultation and Engagement Protocols manual developed for the Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges NRM Board
- Acknowledgement to connection to the sea
- Reference to changes in the Crown Lands Act
- Stronger acknowledgement to connection to country
- Reference to Aboriginal use of seasons
- Reference to the State's Strategic Plan
- Reference to Aboriginal intellectual property rights.

The Chair agreed to meet with the project consultants to discuss work undertaken by the University of SA re: intellectual property rights. Lynette also mentioned that Tandanya Aboriginal Cultural Institute may be able to provide information on intellectual property rights relating to Art work.

In summary, ASAC members supported the current progress of the Resource Manual and agreed to write a short Foreword to the Manual. Karina Lester also agreed to be a member of the Resource Manual Working Group.

Action: Rachel Coates to organise a meeting with Peter Buckskin to discuss Aboriginal Intellectual property rights and a Foreword by ASAC.

Action: Karina Lester to become a member of the Resource Manual Working Group. Next meeting 15 December 2006.

6. General Business

a. ILUA's and NRM. Discussions with Peter Hall and Dr Tim Haines, deferred to next meeting.

b. Brainstorm session-Key issues to be discussed with NRM Council

- The ASAC needs time to set the future agenda, and not be driven by other groups, committee's and government department's agenda.
- The ASAC should be more directive
- How well is the ASAC recognised by the NRM Council?
- Has ASAC made a difference? How do we monitor progress?
- The Shift in National Affairs has impacted Aboriginal Communities
- The establishment of a State Aboriginal Program or Unit, for NRM, e.g. "Caring for Country Unit". This unit could be responsible for developing projects/programs e.g. for the \$12 million State's Strategic Reserve NRM funds. Lynette felt that a more strategic approach to developing Aboriginal NRM projects was required.
- More input from Aboriginal people and communities into the State's Strategic Plan.
- Lack of resources for ASAC to undertake activities/research. It would be good to have full time support assigned to the ASAC.

7. Any Other Business

Leonie Casey

ASAC members agreed to send Leonie a thank you letter for her involvement and contributions to the ASAC.

NRM Volunteer Committee

Debra Haseldine informed ASAC members she attended the first NRM Volunteer Committee meeting in November 2006. During this meeting, she was asked about volunteers on Aboriginal Lands in South Australia. To gain further information about volunteers on communities, Debra presented members with a questionnaire and asked members to document current volunteer work and programs and opportunities for partnerships in NRM. Karina Lester suggested Debra follow up with Volunteers SA.

Action: ASAC members to have comments to Debra by 8 December 2006.

8. Next Meeting

TBA

9. Close

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 3.00pm.