**Murramarang Community Garden**

**MINUTES**

**MCG General Meeting**

**Following AGM**

**Saturday September 10, 2022**

**10.30am–at the garden**

**Chair:** Klas Johansson

1. Klas welcomed attendees to the meeting, noting that this was the first opportunity for us to hold a general meeting since April 2021, due to Covid restrictions on meetings, etc. Klas especially welcomed Ewen Sussman as our Patron and Life Member of MCG.
2. **Apologies:** Marg Hamon, Maggie Mance, Elizabeth Begg, Graham Begg,Noel Barwick,Cornelia Ersson.
3. **Present:** Klas Johansson, Neil Brown, Robyn Johansson, Judith Carroll, Sybille Davidson, Don Davidson, Richard Lake, Cathy Delves, Harley Delves, John Tapsell, John Hudson, Rob Evens, Ewen Sussman, Jocelyn Sussman, Jenny Longstaff, Beric Cowley, Lynn Cowley, Doug Howarth, Steve Ford, Jenny Ford, Barbara White, Marie O’Connell.
4. There being no General Meetings held through last year because of Covid restrictions, it was moved that the Minutes of the last General Meeting, held on Saturday 10 April 2021, be accepted.

**Moved:** Klas

**Seconded:** Judith

**All in favour:** Carried

1. **Presidents Report:** Klas Johansson(attached)

**Moved** that the Presidents report be accepted: Don

**Seconded:** Neil

**Carried**

1. **Treasurers Report – Robyn**

Robyn tabled the MCG Quarterly Financial Report (attached). After discussion it was moved that the Financial Report be accepted:

**Moved:** John Hudson

**Seconded:** Neil

**All in favour:** Carried

1. **Any other business**
2. Don reported that new wire guards are required to protect crops from marauding birds, especially the resident bower bird. He is making new wire guards for use on plots. He asked if people could think about better ways to store these frames.
3. Klas suggested that most items listed on the 2021/22 document – Way Ahead – had been substantially achieved. He suggested that we should now take another look at our priorities for the coming year, including continuing the “plot re-build” project that has progressed over the last 12 months. Robyn is currently working on a grant application that focuses on the continuation of re-building old plots. She is waiting to hear the outcome of another grant that will be announced in December.
4. Don and Klas explained to the meeting that the cut-down tanks that have appeared at the site, especially those sited in the southwestern corner are intended to be used as raised plots because that area is usually water-logged and unsuitable for our usual timber plots. It is intended that they be partially filled with the degraded wood chip that is now covering the weed mat laid on the paths between plots in the western outer area. Barbara cautioned that the woodchip is full of seeding weeds and must NOT be emptied into the new plots until the weeds are removed. Sybille supported Barbara’s concern, noting that a weed known as “White Root” or “Pratia” must be removed by hand before the degraded material is placed in the new plots. Klas proposed that the next Saturday working bee be dedicated to doing this work.

**Moved**: Klas

**Seconded**: Barbara

**Carried**

1. John Tapsell reminded us that the Kioloa Tip is accepted green waste for no fee at present, in advance of the coming bushfire season. He explained that although he has constructed many “nests” made of windbreak prunings, it’s an opportune time for the next load of pruned material to go to the tip.

**Moved:** John

**Seconded:** Klas

**Carried**

1. Jocelyn and Ewen spoke of their confusion about the “correct” protocols for disposing of their composable garden waste. Barbara noted that the compost system requires everyone to deposit composable material into the *correct* bins, i.e., the “In Use” bin, especially now that ANU has recommenced catering for visiting student groups and have offered MCG their kitchen waste. She reiterated that seeding weeds and vegetables (especially tomatoes) must not be put into the “In Use” bin. Don agreed and suggested that we re-visit clear labelling of bins to assist gardeners in disposing of material appropriately. Cowpats from the grazing cattle can be deposited into the “In Use” compost bin.

**Moved:** Don

**Seconded:** Barbara

**Carried**

1. Beric and Lynn have taken over the job of laying rat bait in the bins scattered over the site. They have undertaken research into baiting that doesn’t result in the bi-kill of raptors and other birds that might feed on the rat carcass. They recommend that we only use rat bait containing the ingredient Coumatetralyl. It was moved that this bait be purchased.

**Moved**: Don

**Seconded:** Lynn

**Carried**

1. Harley noted that he and Col Keating’s son in law Ray have extracted a quantity of honey from our hives. This honey will be decanted into jars at a working bee. He reported on the success of the last garlic crop and his expectation that the current crop will be equally successful.
2. The rhubarb patch was discussed. It was decided that the present communal bed be raised by another plank height to optimise growth. Ditto for the adjacent asparagus bed.
3. Co-Garden Managers reports were delivered at the General Meeting held on 28 August and are attached to these Minutes.

**Moved** that the 2 reports be accepted: Sybille

**Seconded**: Robyn

**The meeting closed at 12.15 AM**