



Northern United Forestry Group

Monthly Meeting. Raywood Hotel, 8pm Wednesday 23 February 2011

1 Welcome and Apologies

President Ian Rankin welcomed David Fiskin, Warwick Ragg and members and declared the meeting open at 8:03pm.

Present: Ian Rankin, Tim Johns, Mal Brown, Bill Gallagher, James Williams, Rob Comer, Darren Kerr, Ken Wellard, Howard Perry, Carmel Hay, Andy Hay, Keith Murphy, Anne Murphy, John Childs, Stewart Ayson, Phil Dyson, Warwick Ragg, David Fiskin.

Apologies: Malory Weston, Penny Wall, Andrew Wall, Marg Dack, Ben Boxshall, John Toll, Louise Wellard, Robyn McKay, Megan Ayson, Lindsay Cail.

Motion: "Accept the apologies." Moved AM. Seconded KM. Carried.

2 Minutes of previous meeting held 25 January 2010

Motion: "Minutes of the meeting held at Raywood Hotel 25/1/11, be accepted as a true, accurate record of the meeting." Moved BG. Seconded JW. Carried.

3 Business arising from previous minutes

PD – Poster initiated by Alan Windust, Alan has sent copy to MB.

IR – Education Centre at Kamo to be discussed in "General Business".

MB – Hay family and Kamo project site agreement. Mal has drafted a letter via James Williams and through legal representative as a preliminary undertaking to a formal agreement between NUFG and the Hay family. The letter was presented to the meeting. James also spoke of his discussions with the Hay family and thanked the family and Mal for their contributions.

Motion: "That the letter presented to the meeting be sent to the Hay family toward a formal agreement being put in place." Moved MB. Seconded JW. Carried.

4 Correspondence In

- ♦ VFF Farm Tree and Landcare Association (FLTA) – Annual Forum and AGM, 24 February 2011 11am sharp, level 16 Marland House 570 Bourke St Melbourne.
- ♦ FLTA News and AGM Registration, Nomination Forms.
- ♦ Rhonda Day – Campaspe LC Diary, Biochar Energy Workshop, Biological Farming Seminars (Taree, Forbes, Shepparton- March).
- ♦ MB – FFFM Expo, various items.
- ♦ Australian Forest Grower Summer 2011, Vol33, #4.
- ♦ NCCMA Second Annual Soil Conference, Bendigo Club, 7th April.
- ♦ Agroforestry News, Issue 68

5 Correspondence Out

- ♦ TJ – Invoice and remittance forms for Group Maintenance Grant- 2nd Gen LC grants NCCMA.
- ♦ MB – FFFM Expo, various items.

Motion: "Accept the correspondence." Moved SA. Seconded BG. Carried.

6 Reports

President's report – Not much to report, dealing with floods etc.

Treasurer's report – Rob reported on NUFG's income and expenditure as at 23/1/2011.

Motion: "The Treasurer's report as at 23/1/2011 be accepted, and accounts received approved for payment." Moved RC. Seconded MB. Carried.

Motion: "Movement of some outstanding funds to term deposit and reinvest the term deposit." Moved RC. Seconded MB. Carried.

Social Secretary's Report – Not present. Elmore branch Bendigo Community Bank grant and Northgate grants both current. Robyn has volunteered to apply for both.

Kamo/CC2 report – All groundwater within 80cm of the surface. Rainfall still well above average. GW levels above where they were when the project was started. Saltbush plants were looking like they might be badly affected by the wet conditions, but now appear to be shooting. Stenophylla looking really good – lots of seed pods.

FFFM Expo report – 25 to 26 exhibitors, lots of variety, should be an exciting event. Morning program is regarding bioenergy, afternoon about Farm Forestry. 15 volunteers required. Friday 8th April, 9am to 4:30. Let Ranx know if you can help. Help with set up and training on Thursday 7th at 3pm.

7 General Business

1. The sub-committee made a presentation about the options discussed for an education centre at Kamo. Funding for the proposal is also being sought. Motion: That NUFG continue to advance the steel frame shed proposal, 12x7 and pursue the funding avenues available." Moved BG. Seconded KW. Carried.

2. AFG membership. David Fisker spoke to the meeting regarding the AFG and intimated that NUFG should not be adversely affected by the association. Warwick Ragg spoke about the structure of AFG and how it might affect NUFG. Membership costs \$120, associate membership \$60 (per individual). There are 800 members, 25 branches. NUFG Members asked questions which were fielded by David and Warwick. The MOU example given to the group had caused some concerns around dispute resolution. MOU not a necessity for membership. AFG strategic Plan to be provided by Warwick for circulation to members. Next meeting to include a decision on this question.

Ian presented both David and Warwick with a small gift on behalf of members for their attendance.

Meeting closed: With a joke by BG @ 10:45pm. \$10 fine to JT.

Next Meeting: Raywood Hotel, Wednesday March 23, 2011 at 8pm.