



**Friends of the Escarpment Park
(Toowoomba) Inc.**
97/11 Donahue St, Toowoomba

Minutes

General Meeting
Tuesday 21 May, 10:00 am, 2021

1 Declare a Quorum, Welcome and Open Meeting, Apologies

Present:

Bev Yates, Ray Addison, Hugh Krenske,
Rob Brodribb, Kaye Wood-Riley

Apologies:

Kay Krenske

2 Confirmation of Minutes of General Meeting held March 18

Accepted as true record.

Moved: Kaye Wood-Riley

Seconded: Hugh Krenske

3 Business Arising from Previous General Meeting.

3.1 MOU... Hugh will let us know when he and Kay have had a look at it. Main problem appears to be council recognition of it's duties.

4 Correspondence received since the previous General Meeting – inward and outward

Attachment 1.

Correspondence Inward and outward accepted

Moved: Kaye Wood Riley

Seconded: Hugh Krenske

5 Business arising from the Correspondence

5.1 Grant money for Book and Grasses workshop is in bank now.

5.2 Council Volunteer Coordinator, Margo Ross, is supporting FEP with finding a volunteer to do the minutes. It was suggested that this volunteer could also... search and complete grants, complete risk assessments and Action Plans with consultation and other administrative tasks.

Hugh will look into 'Open Office' to use as a word processing platform.

Proposal to purchase a laptop to the value of \$1500.00 to support the secretary.

Moved Kaye Wood-Riley

Seconded Hugh Krenske.

6 Treasurer's Report and business arising from Treasurer's report

Treasurers report accepted

Moved: Ray Addison

Seconded: Rob Brodribb

6.1 ACDC licences to be reimbursed by TRC

6.2 Some grant money to be deposited today or tomorrow thus balance should be \$17 278.1

7 President's Report.

Membership now 90

Redwood Park

DDEC has taken on coordinating a campaign to prevent inclusion of Redwood in the Escarpment Mountainbike masterplan.

Redleaf is carrying out the environmental assessment for TRC. FEP along with other groups met with Redleaf and presented environmental reasons for our opposition.

The environmental Assessment will not be completed until

A risk assessment statement has been updated for each park.

Signs supporting FEP have been finally erected in each park.

TRC is reallocating the bushland levy money. From 2021-2 there will be a formal budget with money allocated specifically to support groups such as FEP so the annual action plans from each park are important to ensure we can access that money.

FEP received two grants from TRC February round.

\$1400 to hold a Native Grass identification workshop.

\$2500 to publish a book of the Rogers Reserve plants produced in pdf form by Greg Spearitt and others.

No meetings of the Quarry gardens advisory committee since last meeting. Next one due 10th June.

I will not be nominating for president at the AGM in August. I am planning to do a lot of travelling in 2022.

8. Park Coordinator reports

Redwood Park Along Prince Henry Drive

A further section along Prince Henry Drive, opposite 336 and 338 PHD (approx 60m by 30m) has been cleared of panic grass, lantana, privet and asparagus fern. Some of this area had been cleared by Nigel Brammer in the past, some was heavily infested with dense lantana and privet.

The native vegetation is mainly kangaroo grass at present. We will see what emerges from the seed bank in the soil over coming months. This area will now be tidied up with mulching of privet and lantana and will go into maintenance phase over the next 6 months to weed out regrowth of invasives.

The section opposite 340 PHD up to Robinson Street which was cleared between Oct 20 and Mar 21 is thriving with abundant native ground covers, vines and tree seedlings emerging after good recent rains. It looks amazing and now only requires occasional weeding of invasive weeds and lantana seedlings.

There is still a lot of privet in this section which I will be gradually thinning out over the coming year.

Leopard Ash

Not much to report from Leopard Ash Bushland Park except I am happy to say that the Council have installed our FEP signage as well as the park ID signage which all looks great and hopefully raise public awareness of the existence of this little jewel and its

important biodiversity of plants, birds and butterflies.

A reminder that my team are still waiting for an appropriate container to store our tools, sprayers and herbicide securely.

Regards, Michael – Acting Coordinator

Hancock St

Since the recent rains, Green Panic has proliferated in the Park and is taking up a lot of our time. Poison Peach (*Trema tomentosa*), although very attractive, also has increased and we feel is in danger of creating a monoculture. We are weeding out some of the new growth. Our planting programme will resume as soon as we conquer the Green Panic.

Duggan Park

Update on Duggan Park. The group has been working through the millennium forest area. There is lots of Lantana, passiflora moth vine and the like regrowing. The ground cover is also completely matted with the exotic *einadia*/wire weed and Warrigal greens. Many of the young NTD plants of 2016 were being overgrown so these have been uncovered. In general there has been a huge growth in most of these plants over the past season.

I need to advise the committee that the time has come for me to retire as co-ordinator of Duggan Park. I am proud of what has been achieved and we always get lots of good comments from the park users. But if the group is to continue it needs to be under the leadership of someone else. I have mentioned this from time to time but it is always pushed straight back at me. I would like to continue working with the group but that will need to be at some stage in the future.

The team is small but all are very capable people.

I will finish up on the first Tuesday in July.

I wish FEP and all of you well.

Panorama Park

Most woody weeds, especially lantana, privet and celtis, have been overcome in the northern and central sections of the park. Work in those sections has concentrated on weeding smaller invasive weed species. Occasionally, we have been able to source free mulch from a local tree lopper. So, we have also mulched areas adjoining neighbouring properties to make easier TRC's mowing of a small area in the northern section. TRC has more regularly mowed this area. Work has commenced on the southern section to remove woody weed species and green panic. Mulch has been spread to control re-emergence. The chain vehicle access barrier installed by TRC was stolen and has now been replaced by a cable that remains in place. Volunteer numbers remain low, confined to neighbours adjacent to the park plus Greg Lukes and Coral Sharrock.

Nielsen Park coordinator report May 2021

Ongoing weeding.

Bike trails currently under control.

Plan to complete construction of nesting boxes this month

Business Arising from Park Coordinators

Leopard Ash

Need a new container. Raise this with council at June meeting. Is a garden shed secure enough?

Duggan Park

New coordinator needed.

Move Duggan Park Container to Redwood when it needs to be moved.

Hancock

Need to emphasis the need for only local native plants in parks.

There are people collecting firewood form Hancock Park. To be raised at June council meeting

Need new signs for parks saying Dogs on Leads.

Redwood

Hugh keeping a special file for Redwood Mountain Bike documents

Farmers Market June 5 Cobb and Co Park...Hugh and Kay setting up a stand to raise awareness of FEP and Mountain Bike issue in Redwood.

Redwood Campaign Funding

Paul King is getting a Go Fund Me page set up

Proposal of 'Save Redwood Park Stickers'.

Motion...

FEP will allocate up to \$500.00 from membership funds for educational purposes about our escarpment parks.

Moved... Rob Brodribb

Seconded... Hugh Krenske

8 General Business

- 8.1 Duggan Park...send out a note to members requesting a new coordinator.
- 8.2 Environmental Assessments (Flora) should be completed by June. The (Fauna) assessments will be completed next year due to budget.
- 8.3 Risk Assessments... Add thunder and lightning. Hugh will put RA's on website.
- 8.4 Native Grasses workshop... 30 people, Venue to be announced. Close to Duggan would be best. Library, St Barts a possibility. Proposed cost of venue \$80.00.
- 8.5 Thought for Wattle Day.... Convoy around to parks to look at wattles.

9 Other Items

- 9.1 text
- 9.2 text
- 9.3 text

1 Next meeting

- 0** AGM
26th August, 6.30
Toowoomba City Library
Guest Speaker... Diane Guthrie. Topic... Great Eastern Ranges Initiative

1 Close meeting

- 1** 12.15pm

FEP Secretary

Kaye Wood-Riley

FEP President

Rob Brodribb