

Minutes of Mangakotukutuku Streamcare Group meeting 10/10/12

Present: Dave Stagg, Kevin Collier, Grant Blackie, Skye Sloper, Dean Miller (Tonkin and Taylor), Joel Gilmore, Elaine Iddon, Dave Byers (WRC Biosecurity), Diane June, Hamish Smith, Tim Newton (HCC Parks and Open Spaces), Mike Lake, Bala Tikkisetty (WRC), Brian Harvey (marae), Ian Williams

Dean Miller: Wetland and stream restoration plan starting this summer. HCC supplying plants. Goal is fish habitat enhancement. Looking at introducing mudfish if water quality suitable. Using bank structures and wood - black wattle available at marae.

Grant - what is group interested in? Urban development pressures - if do nothing things likely to decline.

Dave B - opportunities for other activities including pest monitoring for rats, stoats and cats. The ship rat is the main predator of nesting birds. Cats remain as a predator but large trees provide some protection from these. Pest control would involve bait stations that target rats and possums that need to be maintained by group members. Need care with toxins. Bats also present. Baseline monitoring requires tracking tunnels with ink pads. Ian Williams said "Stoats common in Peacockes Area". First find out what pests are there. HCC and public health need to give approval.

Discussion of possible areas; lower reach of the M stream, the reach by the Collins Rd marae and on Ian William's farm.

Tim (filling in for Gerard Kelly) - community groups important partnership for achieving biodiversity outcome and become more important as HCC budgets are being reduced. Small natural areas team (3 staff) looking for partnerships. Plants need to be planned for in advance - talk to Gerry. Also partnerships in funding. HCC also promoting stream restoration. Can use planting scheme as a partner for funding application.

Bala - WRC believe in community partnerships. 46 care groups in Waikato listed on WRC database with most focused on farming issues in rural semi urban areas. Suggest need a good structure - president, secretary, treasurer. Funding not a problem if project is good but need a group structure. Most groups are incorporated for financial transparency but need officers as a minimum. Most groups meet monthly or bimonthly. See publication "From Eyesore to Asset". Tabled list of funders. Funding applications due end of Feb. for Honda Tree Fund. Also help with networking.

Group currently keen to focus on action primarily and avoid unnecessary bureaucracy. One option to stay informal but other activities also important, eg submissions.

Brian - involved in Mangakotukutuku Puna Koiora Trust set up by Collins Rd marae. Taken out wattle trees and other non-indigenous plants. Planting 3,500 ecosourced plants in May next year over 200m of stream. Also interested in enhancing eel habitat and having a viewing platform. Want flax grove. Stanley Heather park (ex-rugby ground Saxby's Road) sold to developer.

Dean - could apply to WRA for funding Project C to fund works below Peacockes Rd.

Greater ownership by Melville and Glenview community desired - more public use of parks. T&T have funds for public outreach. Opportunity with open day after works completed next year. Diane produces

newsletter through neighbourhood support to access people who back on to gully- potential to use existing 'neighborhood watch' network to communicate about MSG activities. Need more members. Tim keen to run tours to get more public engagement. Education and interpretation.

Goal and vision - needs something about community. Swap goals and vision. Also need tasks for each year.

Possible wording for vision suggested as amending current goal to

‘Our vision is to enhance the native biodiversity and ecological health of the Mangakotukutuku Stream by working with the community’

Our Goal is for.....

- Diverse and abundant stream, bat and bird life
- Aquatic habitat enhanced

- Safe nesting/roosting for native birds and bats

- Native vegetation predominates

- High level of community use and ownership

Key issues

- New development does not degrade habitat
- The impact of existing development reduces
- Fish passage
- Erosion
- Pest control

Action points:	Who to action/co-ordinate	By When
1. Put together membership growth plan		
2. Decide on whether want structure		Consider at next meeting ?
3. Discuss with Marae Trust - Brian to raise at next meeting with view to discussing at next meeting	Brian	2 nd Tues Nov ?
4. Identify planting for new season (need to put in plants around restoration work by T&T)		
5. Weeding to commence	Kev email to members ?	last weekend in October then every second Saturday in month
6. Pest monitoring/ management underway – progress with Dave B WRC	GrantB	31 Oct

7. Application to WRC (Bala) Honda Tree Trust	GrantB	by end February 2012
8. Submission coordinator	Mike Lake	As required
9. Develop a 5 year plan		
