

Friends of Melaleuca

Minutes of Meeting 25.7.2024

Board Room, Derwent Sailing Squadron, Marieville Esplanade, Sandy Bay.

Meeting started 7pm.

Present: Mark Holdsworth, Peter Marmion, Janet Fenton, Geoff Fenton, Tony Fenton, Nell Tyson, David Mitchell, Stephen Mattingley, Marina Campbell, Chris Creese, Mel Jack, Rob Banfield, Marianne Gee, Will Oliver, Erika Shankley, Barbara Willson, Ian Marmion, Janet Stephens, Ally King, Andrew Boon, Simon Ward, Robyn Delaney, Ann Wessing

Apologies: Tony Osmund, Helen & Jim Thyne, Helen & Mick Statham, Robyn Marmion, Justin Marshall, Jannie Chin, Claire Marmion.

Acknowledgement of Country: Rob Banfield

Minutes of Previous Meeting 16th May, 2024: moved Rob, seconded Andrew, accepted.

Treasurer's Report: presented by Tony, moved Mel, seconded Marianne, accepted.

Business Arising:

Heritage Mining interpretation – progress at last! Janet thanked those who had helped edit the text for the signage which is now ready to go to the printer.

Rallinga Mine application for heritage listing - the application has been reviewed and accepted by Heritage Tasmania. The application now will go to a Heritage Council meeting for review before it can be officially listed. As the Heritage Council has a full agenda at present, this listing will not occur in the current financial year.

Marine Bio Security team report – a copy of the information to be included in the September edition of *Afloat* magazine was circulated for comment. Peter asked that people read the article and provide feedback. He thanked Oscar Wyatt and Ally King for their work on the preparation of the page for publication. Work on the pamphlet will be undertaken by Ally and Oscar.

A meeting was recently held with Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Huonville office (Jennifer Mudge, Emmalene Maher and Dan Rowe). Friends of Melaleuca was represented by Janet, Stephen, Rob, Andrew and Chris. At this meeting, the program and works plans were updated. The Moth Creek track will be renovated during the March 2025 Working Bee.

Stephen suggested that we apply for more funding for the Mt Beattie and Clyde's Lookout tracks through Wildcare's Tasmanian Nature Conservation Fund moneys allocated for remediation on level 2 and 3 tracks. The plan would be for two teams to work simultaneously on these tracks under the leadership of Parks and Wildlife staff. Stephen Mattingley and Ranger Dan Rowe will take responsibility for the funding application.

Museum – the laminate on the interpretation display boards is beginning to peel and the map of the waterways is faded. Geoff proposed we purchase a new map from *Geographica* and ask *Fast Forward* to put a UV resistant laminate on it.

Broken window in smelter – this repair will be done during the March 2025 Working Bee. Chris suggested also assessing and measuring the complete window and frame, with a view to total replacement in future.

Wheelbarrow – a wheelbarrow to store and transport the fire pump will be purchased by Chris Creese. It was suggested the wheelbarrow should have a non-inflatable tyre.

Port Davey Marine Reserve – Andrew Boon and Peter Marmion wrote letters to Jason Jacobi alerting him to the need for information regarding the Reserve to be more accessible to the public. Andrew also suggested changes to be made to the waterways map. Both Peter and Andrew have received replies from Jason and some action has occurred. The Marine Reserve video is now back in the public domain and work is being done on the wording regarding the Marine Reserve to go onto the website. Andrew would like to see the map in a downloadable digital image format for ease of use by mariners and probably best provided through TASMAR eShop. <https://www.tasmap.tas.gov.au/>

The biennial circumnavigation crews are currently not briefed about the fragility of the marine environment. We need to lobby the Royal Yacht Club to ensure this is undertaken. It was suggested that at our next meeting, we invite a member of Parks & Wildlife staff to inform us of guidelines for monitoring the TWWHA and progress in updating the management plan.

General Business:

Vale Mick Lawrence – Janet wrote an article for Wildcare News highlighting Mick's love of Port Davey and his efforts to protect it.

Latest burn Melaleuca – in autumn an area east of the airstrip and across Moth Creek was burnt by Parks & Wildlife. A photo was shown illustrating the extent of the controlled burn.

Donation box – Parks & Wildlife service are not supportive of donation boxes and are pressing the case for a QR code for fundraising. Rob Banfield informed the meeting that the Friends of the Bruny Island Quarantine Station are conducting a review of this matter. He will report on his findings to our next meeting.

NRE have called for caretakers for Melaleuca and Orange-bellied Parrot observers. Details can be found at NRE Tas Get Involved webpage.

<https://nre.tas.gov.au/about-the-department/volunteering/get-involved>

Wiles shed – there have been positive discussions with Parks & Wildlife about the installation of the replica shed at Claytons. The shed which is currently stored at Mel's place in Margate, requires some maintenance. Rob will research suitable paint products and we will call for volunteers to help with surface prep and painting in the near future. This could be a good way to involve new members.

Giveaways – Peter brought some surplus Wildcare polar-fleece jackets to give away (green, bearing the Wildcare logo). Still remaining after the meeting, an XL long-sleeved jacket and a 2XL vest.

Social event idea October/November – Janet suggested that we invite marine biologist and author Justin Marshall (who volunteered at our 2024 working bee) to give a presentation about his new book *Color in Nature*. An invitation could be extended to all Wildcare groups. A possible venue could be the Fern Tree Tavern.

The next meeting will include the AGM and is scheduled for 19th September at the Derwent Sailing Squadron. Glennys Jones from Parks & Wildlife will be invited to share her work on developing guidelines for monitoring the TWWHA.

Guest Speaker: Marine scientist, Ally King, gave a dynamic talk on the fragility of the marine waterway at Port Davey/Bathurst Harbour and outlined a plan for a group of stakeholders to meet to further the conservation causes of this area.

Meeting closed 8.40pm.