

## **MINUTES OF ECCO MEETING SEPTEMBER 24<sup>th</sup> 2008**

**PRESENT:** Marie Hammond, Joan Hammond, Bob Hill, Jeannie Pearce, Dick Neale, Ron Winterton, Sandra Robinson, Owen Robinson, Pat Gersbach, Chris Kelly, Amit Tripathi, Colin Young, David Williams, Phil Stevenson, Meg Brannigan, Tina Howie, John Howie, Mark Hopcraft, Denis Marsh, Peter Baxter, Kathleen Bruce, Tony Smith, Jennifer Smith, Terry Brannigan, Stephen Nugent, Nick King, Neil Jones, Graeme Duncan, Ian Pearce, Margaret Weaver.

**APOLOGIES:** John Gill, Carol Gill, Peter West, Yvette Black, Margaret Carroll, Colin Foster, Fiona Hawke, Susan Sanders.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF ECCO MEETING AUGUST 27<sup>th</sup> 2008.**

Moved Steven Nugent, seconded Ian Pearce that the minutes of the August meeting be accepted. Carried.

**BUSINESS ARISING:** Business arising from minutes of the August meeting to be dealt with in general business.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Letter from Russel Turner MP for Orange noting that the proposed Forensic Unit will remain on the original recommended site, requiring the removal of the disputed trees and buildings. There has been an undertaking to replace removed vegetation with appropriate species. Proposed Tony Smith, seconded Nick King that ECCO makes further contact with the Hospital Project Manager on the issue of future landscaping.

Letter from Michael Mc Fadden, Engineering Development Manager, Orange City Council concerning the removal of trees in William Maker Drive for the purpose of widening the road. Three trees are to be removed with one to be retained if possible. ECCO replied to this letter expressing regret that three trees must be removed, but expressing appreciation of Council's efforts to retain the one remaining tree. ECCO to monitor this situation to ensure that all care is taken to retain this remaining tree.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Phil Stevenson reports that ECCO's current balance stands at \$2 944.94 .

**GENERAL BUSINESS: Membership renewals:** Membership forms will be sent to all registered ECCO members inviting them to renew membership. These will be sent out in October. It would be appreciated if those members who wish to renew membership of ECCO would do so by the end of November.

**Rotary Enviro Expo:** To be held at the Orange Function Centre on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> and Saturday October 18<sup>th</sup>. ECCO will be launching its Environmental Awards program at a reception on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> of October. Moved Colin Young, seconded Tony Smith that there should be two awards- the ECCO Environment Award and the OCAN Climate Action Award. Recommended prizes being \$100 gift vouchers from either Windy Hill, Book City, or Mitre 10. The Awards to be presented quarterly. Moved Colin Young, seconded Tony Smith. Carried. ECCO also to have a stall which needs to be manned on Friday and Saturday. ECCO to seek volunteers for this.

**CWD Earth First Column:** ECCO to take over the Earth First Column as a regular feature in Saturday's CWD. ECCO to draw up a roster of people who could regularly contribute to this.

**Neighbourhood Parks Program:** Members of ECCO have met with the Orange City Council Presentation Officer, Nigel Hobden re. this project. Details concerning the roles of ECCO and Orange City Council to be discussed at a future ECCO meeting.

**Orange Summer Slow Food Festival:** To be a family festival to be held at Robertson Park this coming summer. ECCO's involvement has been sought. The nature of this involvement to be discussed at a future meeting. There will also be a schools' competition involving growing vegetables. Possible support required from ECCO to assist with this venture also.

**Community and School Kitchen Gardens:** ECCO involved with the ELF community Garden, Cootes Estate community garden run by the Department of housing, and Glenroi Heights school kitchen garden. ECCO to support these garden projects through attendance at working bees when advertised. Many members have extensive horticultural experience, and their input is greatly appreciated. ECCO will advertise working bees.

**ECCO President:** The meeting congratulates Neil Jones on his recent election to Orange City Council. Moved Tony Smith, seconded Nick King that Neil continue to remain as president of ECCO, but be permitted to resign if council duties made it too difficult for him to continue in both roles. Carried.

**GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Graeme Dunstan from "Cyanide Watch"**  
Graeme Dunstan spoke about the chemical cyanide. He gave a comprehensive presentation about the chemical itself, its composition, its uses in the extraction of gold, its manufacture, transportation and the dangers it presented to the environment. How ECCO follows up the issues presented by Graeme will be explored at a future general meeting.

Meeting concluded at 10.pm.

Nick King, Secretary.