



WAMBA Committee Meeting 9-2013

Date: 18th February 2014

Time Start: 18:30

Location: DSR Leederville

Attendees:

- Jake Hannah – President
- Lindsay Alsop - VP
- Louise Wallace – Treasurer
- Jodie Stembridge – Secretary
- Danielle Stone – DPaW
- Ian Humphrey – KMBC
- Nigel Wade – DH rep
- Sam Russell – PDMBC
- John Roberts – PMBC, Dwellingup/Jarrahdale Trail Advocacy
- Sarah Smith - Westcycle

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1. Apologies

The following apologies were received by email:

- Margaret McIlroy
- Travis Deane
- Martin Shurlock
- Dave Marshall – ACCMTBC
- Kyra Eddy
- Martin Danger

- Dave Willcox – MRORCA
- John Wallace – Collie
- Rebecca Swan – Geraldton
- Ashley Genefaas - PMBC

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

The minutes from 21st January were accepted as accurate and all actions had been completed.

3. Treasurer's Report

From Louise Wallace:

Balance at 21 January 2014: \$35,023.42

Balance at 17 February 2014: \$33,164.33

Received cash from:

- Memberships
- Calendar sales
- Westcycle – last part of NRM grant for Scorpion

Spent cash on:

- Final costs for Scorpion NRM grant / admin / machinery
- Sign posting, green trail / Gunjin trail

Awaiting cash from:

- Alcoa – for Dwellingup work (\$3k)
- Lotterywest – final claim for green trail yet to invoice (\$13,750.00)

We owe:

- Green trails - KMBC to complete and invoice (\$24,580.00)

Planning to:

- Remove John Barton as signatory
- Add Lindsay Alsop as signatory
- Accounts audit before AGM
- Complete annual financial summary for AGM
- **Find a new Treasurer before AGM – any takers??**

4. SW Master Plan

a. WAMBA Consultancy

Jake Hannah had a meeting with Dave Willcox of Common Ground:

Private Land

The possibility of identifying private land for trail development was discussed. It was agreed that:

- Lessens the burden on DPaW estate
- Some excellent opportunities in the SW
- LotteryWest grants are not eligible for private land. Leasing land might be an option to get around this
- There could be litigation issues that private land owners would have to address, even if land, or strips of land, leased
- Private trail developments unlikely to be profitable on their own

Use of Plantations

The use of pine plantations, especially for DH, was discussed. Historically these have been seen as desirable trail locations. However, as a couple of current examples are showing, the relatively short life spans of these forests, which also need thinning every 5 years, do not make them good locations for substantial capital trail investment.

Proximity of Trails to Population Centres

Dave expressed his view that "where possible" trails should be located close to tourism townships. But where there were other significant opportunities, they could be standalone (for example Wellington Dam). I countered that whilst this is highly desirable, the existing mountain biking demographic has excellent access to private vehicles and is willing to drive to trails.

Governance

We were both in strong agreement that the SWMP needs to prescribe a level of governance to implement trail development in the area, market the region and to manage and maintain the trails in the future. This role needs to be performed professionally, with input from volunteers and clubs. Several options were discussed including a new SW management group, WestCycle or WAMBA taking on the role. I indicated that I would prefer it if an additional layer of governance/meetings was not introduced, which would further stretch volunteers' commitments and unnecessary duplication of resources.

Destinations

Dave outlined his vision for unique national and regional destinations being the market drivers with supporting community trails. I was in strong agreement.

Funding Opportunities and Future Project Boundaries

There was some general discussion about funding opportunities. The really big \$ are going to come from the Development Commission, and that is where efforts and project boundaries should be focused.

b. Project Update

From Sarah Smith:

600+ responded to online survey so far. **Deadline is 28th Feb.** First draft SWMP out to Steering Committee by 17th March. Final draft SWMP to Steering Committee and stakeholders 7th April. Final SWMP to Steering Committee for approval by 23rd May. Shires are ok with only a month for consultation (usually 3 mths).

Action: Jake Hannah to send out a final reminder to all clubs that deadline for survey is 28th Feb.

5. Perth and Peel Master Plan

From Sarah Smith:

Has not yet been submitted. Two small \$25,000 Lotterywest grant applications will be submitted to fit the time scales (rather than one big application). Full open tender. Confident will get grant approval. \$20k from DPaW + Lotterywest (2-3 months for approval). Letters of support from PMBC, PDMBC, KMBC.

Working on putting in place a standardised master plan process and format for future regions.

6. MTBWG

a. Update

From Danielle Stone:

The make-up of the group was explained. Will have 6-8 meetings, about one every 6 weeks. Have had two meetings so far – the first was an introduction and setting the foundations for the group's work; the second was getting agreement on the outline of the MTB management guidelines and working on Section 5.1 General Principles (systems, single/dual direction, single/multiple use, flow and technical, sustainability, signage).

The next meeting in on 13th March to discuss technical trail features and classification system. Looking at "best practice" with information from IMBA, DPaW, Dafydd Davies and other sources e.g. Whistler. Aiming to have a draft document in 6 months.

b. Code of Conduct

From Jake Hannah:

WAMBA to draft up a suggested code of conduct (based on IMBA, but relative to WA conditions). Pass the draft code onto the MTBWG to fit into the guidelines and get signed off at 4th meeting. Jake mentioned that Rex Dubois (PDMBC) was keen to take the lead on this. Suggested that we have a look at the codes of conduct in other states.

Action: Jake Hannah to ask Rex Dubois (PDMBC) if he would like to take the lead on this project.

Action: Rex Dubois to meet with Sarah Smith (Westcycle) and Danielle Stone (DPaW) to draft up a WA Code of Conduct by mid-March.

Action: Danielle Stone to take the draft code to the MTBWG to fit into the guidelines, and get signed off by 10th April.

7. DPaW Event Application Requirements

From Jake Hannah and Danielle Stone:

There has been anecdotal feedback that some clubs/entities are struggling to satisfy the new DPaW Event Application processes. It is making their events not financially viable and also is beyond the capabilities of volunteers. Some of the problem is coming from dealing with local Shires (Murray in this case). During the meeting, it was discovered that there was confusion regarding the form due to the club completing a Shire form, instead of a DPaW form. DPaW had not made any changes to the requirements for non-commercial events; the only change to the form is the new department name and logo. Club members advised that the form is difficult to find on the DPaW website. Seems to be private entities, rather than clubs, having the problems (not aware they need event permits).

The process for undertaking events on DPaW managed land is to submit an application form 8 weeks in advance to the relevant district office. The district staff will assess the form and work through any constraints if required. The district staff will advise if a Department of Water form is required.

Action: Danielle Stone to send the link for the form to Jake Hannah, who will put it onto the Clubs and Links page of the WAMBA website.

8. WAMBA Slush Grant

From Jake Hannah:

This grant will provide funding for mountain biking projects run by affiliated mountain bike clubs. These funds have been raised through the efforts of WAMBA volunteers and donations.

Louise Wallace and Jake Hannah proposed the following:

- That up to \$12,000 of WAMBA funds are made available for this scheme (total current available funds approx. \$22,000).

- That WAMBA runs a one off (initially) grant scheme as per application form and conditions (submitted to committee via email), the basics of which are:
 - Max \$1,000 grants.
 - More than one application allowed per club, but only one per project.
 - Applications to be submitted by the end of April.
 - Decisions will be made by the end of May.
- The WAMBA Slush Grant Conditions and Application Form to be approved.

The motions were passed unanimously.

Action: Jake Hannah to email the application form to Sarah Smith and all club presidents.

9. Affiliated Clubs

From Jake Hannah:

Clubs need to be affiliated to WAMBA in order:

- That you and your club members can vote at the upcoming AGM. Every affiliated club member is automatically a WAMBA member.
- To be eligible to apply for WAMBA's new Slush Grant.

To apply for affiliation, club representatives or secretaries must submit the following:

- Written application of affiliation to WAMBA (email is ok).
- List of club office holders.
- Copy of the club's constitution and/or rules.
- The number of current members (instead of full details of each member).

WAMBA's constitution states that a list of all individual members showing their full names, addresses, telephone numbers, ages and dates of birth is required from the club. Due to privacy and logistical reasons, clubs may not be able to supply all this information. There is a clause in the constitution that allows WAMBA to consider club affiliation without all of the required criteria having been satisfied.

Jake Hannah proposed that, instead of the required full details of each individual member, clubs instead supply just the number of their current members. The motion was passed unanimously.

PDMBC and Geraldton have applied for affiliation, based on the criteria listed above. Jake Hannah proposed their applications be approved. The motion was passed unanimously.

Action: Clubs wishing to apply for affiliation are to submit the information listed above to Jodie Stembridge (stembridgejodie@gmail.com) prior to the AGM.

10. WAMBA Constitution & Strategy

Jake Hannah and Louise Wallace had a meeting with Westcycle and DSR to discuss strategy as our current one is 5 years out of date. DSR have offered a grant to get a professional to rewrite the

constitution and produce a strategy. With KMBC forming and taking ownership of the Kalamunda Circuit, the huge growth in MTBing in WA recently and the master plans being worked on, it's a good time to get these two documents reviewed and provide the state's peak body with new direction.

11. D50 Parking

From Jake Hannah:

Asked by Tony Tucknott if WAMBA wanted to do the parking for Dwellingup 50 event on 18th May. At the golf course (not the oval). The Dwellingup/Jarrahdale group was asked they wanted to do it, but felt they didn't have enough people available. Margaret and Kyra have put their hands up to do it.

Action: Jake Hannah to speak to Kyra as to whether they might be able to get enough people for the job.

12. AGM

Will be held on **Saturday 29th March** at DSR, Leederville. Starts at **3:30pm** and should last for approx. an hour. All attendees are invited to enjoy a drink afterwards at one of the nearby pubs.

Agenda:

- Apologies
- Minutes from previous AGM
- President's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Election of Positions – President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary
- General Business

Action: Jodie Stembridge to circulate meeting reminders, nominations and proxy forms to all clubs.

13. Terms of Engagement between Private Event Promoters & Clubs

From Louise Wallace:

The issue was raised on the PMBC group email about how the interaction between private entities and clubs around event management should work. With an increasing number of events and promoters operating in WA at the moment, some are competing with clubs for "sales". It's working now, but there needs to be a discussion around how to manage this interaction if things potentially change in the future. A suggestion is for PMBC to come up with some rules of engagement for private event promoters, using PMBC's resources, webpage, volunteers, etc and work out a way for them to either work with or contribute to the club. Or let them go and do their own thing in competition. Maybe WAMBA could also take the lead in guiding promoters toward working with the clubs for their mutual benefit.

Official custodians of certain areas are being worked into the state master plan. Run a test pilot between KMBC and DPaW to firm up the current informal arrangement, and establish protocols.

Westcycle have the potential to provide someone to support WAMBA with organising races. Sarah Smith is available for advice on event management and any other issues clubs might have.

14. Club Updates

a. Albany

From Dave Marshall:

What's been happening?

- Planning Urban Downhill and collecting sponsors, still chasing a naming sponsor, good opportunity going begging. Date for the event is **June 22nd**.

What we are doing next month:

- Lots of planning and design for Urban Downhill.

What's stopping us?

- Time and money.

What we've learnt:

- If your club has a good idea, start the ball rolling and see what happens.

b. Collie

From John Wallace:

What's been happening?

- Not a lot happening over the hot months.
- Trail planning is continuing, will be meeting with DEPaw for an update of the dieback areas.
- Weekly social riding is attracting new riders.
- Planning for an advanced trail workshop continuing.

c. Geraldton

From Rebecca Swan:

What's been happening?

- Discussions with City of Greater Geraldton continue and there is progression to MOU – once the City have provided draft copy of MOU, we will be seeking expert opinion from WAMBA and Sarah Smith for compliance and to ensure the needs of all user groups have been accommodated.
- Consultation continues as to funding application and availability for trails head maintenance in line with IMBA standards. This is being driven by City of Greater Geraldton with the MTB Club having representation.

- Geraldton MTB Club is now listed on MTBA website with membership available online.
- Recent visit from Sam and Mark Rubery of Kalamunda confirmed our trails might be limited in quantity, but they certainly make up for it in quality.

d. Kalamunda Collective

From Ian Humphrey:

What's been happening?

- Numbers are increasing and we have now broke through the 500 barrier.
- Trail adoption is also going well, and we are starting to get organised with this year's trail maintenance.
- We have started to run into issues with Dept water policy 13, in terms of continuing to develop the trail network. We are trying to meet with the relevant agencies to see where we officially stand and if there is any way forward.
- We are starting to look at areas outside of water catchment for future trails and we have opened a dialogue with the Shire of Kalamunda and the Water Corp to try and develop this further.

15. Subcommittee Updates

a. Marketing

From Jake Hannah:

What's been happening?

- Facebook: 22 new Likes (total 1603). FB growth has stagnated - we should consider some paid advertising
- Newsletter: 34 sent. 632 reads. 111 clicks
- Supervising Artifex redesign of the website

What we are doing next month:

- Finish Trails WA website
- Newsletter 36 – **send me some stories!**
- Get WA events promoted (Westcycle website, FLOW, AMB . . .)

Meeting Closed: 19:45pm

Next Meeting: Saturday 29th March 2014 (AGM)