

NAME: Tropical Green Building Network

FACILITATOR: Peter Collins

MINUTES: Anna McGuire

DATE: 4th August 2010

PRESENT: See attendance list.

issue	information presented and/or action to be taken	ACTIONS	WHO
Latest News and Announcements			
Greenpainters Association	Painters and paint retailers in Queensland are being offered subsidised training. Check out http://www.greenpainters.org.au/training		
Green Building Council	The September training was cancelled due to lack of interest. At present there are is no incentive for builders to complete the training because sustainable design isn't legislated for, which means there isn't enough demand.		
Australasian Permaculture Convergence 2010	APC 10 will be held in Kuranda from September 24 th to 27 th . There will be a trade display on the Sunday of the convergence, and all TGBN are invited to participate. For further information visit http://www.apc10.org/	Register for stall at trade display	Anyone interested
Trade visit to China	Nicky Swan, Sustainable Regions Officer at Advance Cairns, is helping to coordinate a trade skills visit to China being organised by Cairns Regional Council. They are looking for a 'Green building' expert to join this trip and have asked TGBN if they can suggest an appropriate person/people. The cost is around \$4000 including flights, accommodation and food. Contact Nicky at Advance Cairns		

	for further information.		
Carnival of Collins	There will be an opportunity for Green businesses/groups to hold stalls at Carnival on Collins (on Fathers Day). As the ATA has public liability insurance, TGBN could perhaps share a stall with them.		
Energy Ratings	Michael Plunkett forwarded some information to Anna to share with the group regarding the energy ratings scheme. This included an open letter from Association of Building Sustainability Assessors (ABSA) about the future governance of the National Home Energy Ratings Scheme (NatHERS) program.		
Ecotone, CAFNEC Newsletter	The Cairns and Far North Environment Centre (CAFNEC) newsletter 'Ecotone' comes out every three months. The next edition of this newsletter will be about urban sustainability and renewable energy, and CAFNEC are currently calling for contributors. Articles can be up to 500 words, and can be accompanied by photos. For more information contact Sarah Hoyal on 4032 1746 or email coord@cafnecc.org.au .	Write article for publication	Anyone interested
Wilderness bike ride	The CAFNEC annual wilderness bike ride will be held in September and organisers are currently seeking sponsors. For information contact Sarah (see above).		
Green Start program	The Green Start program has just been announced by the Federal Government. This will replace the Green Loans scheme. The structure is quite different from the old scheme, and will be stricter on who assessors are and participants will be reimbursed for the expenses rather than paid in advance.		
Tablelands Regional Council Planning Scheme consultation	Peter attended a consultation session for the new Planning Scheme for the Tablelands Regional Council, and reported that Council staff involved in this process seemed to be quite aware of sustainability.		
Issues for Discussion			

Sustainable Living Expo 22nd August, TAFE campus	All is going well for the Expo - there will be 31 exhibitors there on the day and a workshop program including presentations by TGBN members. A promotional email has been sent to the group for distribution to your networks.	Promote to networks	
Sustainable House Day, 12th September	Currently we have 7 houses willing to participate in Sustainable House Day. Anna will continue to coordinate the registration of these houses, and the promotion of the event.	Arrange registration of all houses Promote event	Anna
Construction/Demolition waste	It has been suggested that TGBN facilitate the development of a pro-forma for construction and demolition waste. One suggestion is to attach a waste management plan to each development approval that is issued. The Queensland Government has developed a new Waste Strategy, which will see a higher cost for waste disposal. In the next few months the Qld government will also release a Clean Technology Industry Strategy. It was decided that yes, the group should do this. Anna will follow up when she has time, so please forward any information to her. HIA has a Greenskills program that aims to educate building and construction apprentices about environmental protection and waste management. Visit the website forum for the background research on this topic.	Forward relevant information to Anna. Follow up	Anyone with information on this topic Anna
Subgroups			
Greywater mapping group	Emma and Brynn met with TAFE students and GIS teachers for a sneak preview of the Mt Sheridan grey water maps. The project is looking good, and is set to be very useful for Council. It is now waiting on two more data layers.	Get access to the last 2 data layers	Emma & Anna

	This will be a pilot project, which will then be extended throughout the southern corridor.		
Sustainable House working group	This group aims to establish a sustainable display home and establish guidelines for a sustainable home. The main project of constructing the display home is progressing slowly due to other time commitments. Patrick is willing to build the house, and there are two possible blocks of land. The next step is to go through guidelines and legislation.		
Next Meeting	Wednesday 1st September 2010 5.30pm – 7.30pm @ CAFNEC		