NAME: Tropical Green Building Network

FACILITATOR: Julie Zieth

MINUTES: Anna McGuire

DATE: 3rd November 2010

PRESENT: Daryl Douglas, Anna McGuire, Brynn Mathews, Christine Doan, Sarah Douglas, Tony Lawson, Peter Zieth

APOLOGIES: Peter Collins, Emma Thirkell, Nick Skutenko

Issue	Information presented and/or action to be taken	ACTIONS	WHO
Latest news and announcements			
Green Painters Course	GreenPainters Association course will be held free of charge in Cairns in early 2011. The program will involve a one day course for managers to become qualified in sustainability. Apprentices will also be able to receive the training for free, thanks to Construction Skills Queensland. After completing the course they will be listed on the government web-site, and become GreenPainters Accredited. Participants will then have 8 months to implement and monitor the changes in their business. Interested? register now or Call 0402 312 234 for more information.		
Guest speaker			
NA			
New ideas			
Revisiting survey	When the TGBN was formed an inaugural survey was conducted. The 11 priority areas identified are listed on the forum website under mission, aims and objectives. The suggestion is that TGBN conduct another member survey to reevaluate priority projects.	Write and circulate member survey Consider priorities for 2011 and fill in survey	**Anna** **All TGBN members**

	Issues arising from this discussion were: Has the group been supplanted by STNQ and Townsville group? Has a lack of business opportunities led to drop off in attendance? Are there opportunities for STNQ to contract TGBN to do research/work? How do we ensure that people are rewarded for their efforts in the network? (Personal/financial) *Is interest in the group waning?* Early projects were successful. Greywater project is nearly complete, Rainwater tanks is complete. At early meetings there were around 30 people, but now meetings are usually about 10-15 people. It was decided that another survey be conducted to assess what members want to work on and what the priority projects should be.		
November meeting strategy session	It was agreed that the next meeting on 1st December will focus on strategy and prioritising projects for 2011, based on discussion of the survey results.		
Planning scheme	There was discussion of whether TGBN should engage in the formation of the news planning scheme. The issues are complex because of Fed, State, Local overlap of laws etc. *May be worth engaging to improve heritage and sustainability aspects:* Character precincts aren't currently protected, large unit blocks are approved despite being inappropriate. Drive for densification leads to poor planning and approval process. Bike storage at ground level should be provided. *Comments:* Malanda Area Reference Group seems to be effective in the Tablelands. Planning Schemes are often pre-determined by Council and the consultants selected to create it. EDO – may be useful information source for distinction between Community Plan and Planning Scheme		
Renewable Energy Now! for FNQ	The group decided not to support the renewable energy campaign that was discussed at the October meeting.		
Guest speakers	Someone from a large building company – why do they build box houses? Dr. Nicky Moore – planning scheme Dr Lisa Law – planning for urban sustainability		

	Council staff – Planning scheme Nigel Crumpton – Waste		
"Work in progress" discussions			
Greywater mapping project	This project is progressing well, though there is still some difficulty in getting the final data layers needed. A full update will be provided at the next meeting.		
Construction and Demolition Waste	Anna has drafted a 'Waste Management Plan' that could be a requirement for all development applications. Anna and Emma are working on how to encourage Council to go down this path to reduce construction and demolition waste. *Ideas discussed:* Pre-cut materials could be used to minimise offcut waste Renovations create a huge amount of waste (2 or 3 x 6m skips for a $100,000 renovation) Difficult to sort it. Limited market for recycled materials as many builders aren't willing to use recycled materials.		
Stormwater management	Stormwater management and the RDA – Emma suggested that TGBN raise the issue of Stormwater management at the upcoming RDA public meeting on November 9th. There was discussion of the need to greater areas of porous surfaces, green roofs, and stormwater treatment systems in new developments. Emma, Anna, and other interested TGBN members will research past stormwater studies and collate some information for the RDA session.	Research stormwater management plans Collate suggestions for stormwater management	**Anna** **Emma/Anna/Others**
Subgroup summaries	Anna is compiling an update on what all of the subgroups are working on. This will help new members in understanding what the group is doing.		
Next Meeting	**Wednesday 1st December 2010 5.30pm – 7.30pm @ CAFNEC** ***This will be a Planning and Strategy Session***		