

NAME: Tropical Green Building Network

MEETING: 23

FACILITATOR: Anna McGuire

MINUTES: Anna McGuire

DATE: 4th May 2011

PRESENT: Des Jackson, Kay Bennett, Shaneen Fantin, Christine Doan, Maurice Evans, Trevor Hardwick, Ryan Hampson, Emma Thirkell (skype), Patrick Winter.

APOLOGIES: Sophie Barrett



Issue	Information presented and/or action to be taken	ACTIONS	WHO
Latest news and announcements			
Steering Committee	The TGBN Steering Committee has been formed and will also liaise with Sustainable TNQ and Advance Cairns/Austropex to ensure that network members, and the sustainable built environment sector are well represented and well promoted. The first meeting will include a review of Council's sustainable building design policy and checklist.		
Yungaburra renewable energy expo May 7 th	This looks like a great event, really worth exhibiting at or visiting.		
Renewable energy forum May 12 th	A free public forum featuring a presentation by authors of the acclaimed Zero Carbon Australia report which outlines how Australia can be powered by 100% renewable energy within ten years.		
Greenpainters course May 18 th , Cairns, \$150	There will be a Green Painters course on May 18 th . In addition to this normal course they will also be running a course aimed at how building designers can specify for green paints and finishes.	Send information out to the group	Anna
Sustainable Living Expo June 26 th	This will be held on the Esplanade this year on June 26 th . Registrations are now open. It's free to exhibit and a good opportunity to promote your business or organisation. For more information or registration forms visit www.cairns.qld.gov.au/sustainable-living-expo		
TAFE building tour	Anna has arranged a tour of the new TAFE building (green star accredited project, 5 star). This may coincide with the next TGBN guest speaker night, details to be confirmed.	Send information out	Anna

New ideas/reports			
Web conferencing	There seem to be some technical difficulties with the webconferencing that we're trying to do to link with Tablelands members. The lack of internet connection in the library meeting room is the main problem. It was discussed that we may need to look for another meeting venues. Our main requirements are internet connection and projector (which we have).	Investigate other meeting venues	Anna
Sustainable House Day	This will be held on Sunday September 11 th this year. There will soon be a call out for people wanting to exhibit their houses, so have a think about it and get in touch with anyone you think might be interested in opening their house for the day.	Send out information	Anna
Working group discussions			
Sustainable House	Gave an update on this project – there were two elements being worked on; the Sustainable Display house and the Guidelines for a sustainable tropical house. The display house project is in a lull at the moment as the piece of land was sold and now the economic climate is not promising for this project to go ahead. The group was hoping to work with a local building designer and local builder to produce a sustainable house that would be open to the public for a period of time then sold to recover costs. There was a general discussion about other options for creating a display house or generally promoting sustainable housing. The general suggestions were the following: • It would be good to develop the guidelines for a sustainable tropical house as planned • The sustainable display house may work in the Tablelands with niche market • There are two different ways you could build the display house – work with industry as the group had planned, or work on it as a community project, involving local residents in the building (e.g. earth walls etc). These are both valid project ideas with quite different outcomes. • Is there a possibility of acquiring grant funding? • Problems with a sustainable display house project include that you need to try to keep costs down, but then this makes it hard to make a cutting edge house • Another option would be to re-design a project home to be energy efficient and within cost constraints (approach a project builder company with the offer of re-designing one of their basic homes to be more energy and water efficient) • Group decided that there should be a meeting with existing SH working group and new interested people to work out which direction to go in and who wants to be involved.	Organise meeting Collate all past documents relating to this project and email out	Anna Emma/Anna

Greywater	Members of the Greywater group met with Greg and Shannon-Lee in April. The mapping looks good and the next step is to meet with Council to discuss how this could be used.		
JCU	The group suggested that a JCU working group could be formed to liaise with JCU about the tropical architecture/building design course.		
Next Meeting	Wednesday 6th July 2011 5.30pm – 7.15pm City Library (TBC)		