

Tropical Green Building Network Steering (TGBN) Committee

Minutes: Meeting 2, Wednesday August 31st, 10am-11.30am, Cairns Regional Council, Spence St

Present:

Organisation	Representative present
Housing Industry Association (HIA)	Peter Collins
Building Designers Association of Queensland (BDAQ)	Sophie Barrett
Planning Institute of Australia (PIA)	Nikki Huddy
Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI)	Kathy Rankin
Advance Cairns/Australian Tropical Expertise (Austropex)	Nicky Swan
Greenbuild and Recyclebuild	Emma Thirkell
Australian Institute of Architects	Edi Piagno (Total Project Group)

Apologies

Engineers Australia	Daniel Kennett (ARUP)
James Cook University	Dr Lisa Law
BlueScope Water	Nick Skutenko
Cairns Regional Council, Planning and Environment	Peter Boyd

Meeting chair: Nikki Huddy

Minutes: Anna McGuire

Topic	Content	Actions
1. Introductions		
2. News and announcements	Edi – the Institute of Architects have been talking to JCU about starting up a tropical design/architecture degree/Masters program at the Cairns campus. It looks like starting with a Masters program, then developing a degree may be the way to go. It hasn't been decided yet whether it will be architecture, tropical built environment or something else. IA will continue meeting with JCU to develop the idea. It was suggested that TGBN, PIA and BDAQ could sit on a panel to advise in the creation of the program. For now Edi will keep the group informed of progress. The next TGBN meeting will be on the theme of education to continue this discussion. Nikki Huddy – The Qld state PIA conference will be held in Cairns next October. It's aiming to be a 'policy-free conference' along this lines of 'reinvigorating my place, my self and my future'. Kathy – There will be a major projects forum in Cairns on 28th October, possibly on the topic of indigenous housing. Anna - Sustainable House Day is coming up on September 11th.	Arrange next TGBN meeting on theme of Education (Anna). Continue to keep the TGBN informed of progress on this project (Edi). Keep TGBN informed of progress (Nikki H).
3. Arising from last meeting	Chairperson - It was suggested at the last meeting that the Steering Committee have a Chairperson to chair meetings and to act as a spokesperson for the group. Nikki Huddy volunteered to do this for this meeting. Land surveyors – at the previous meeting it was suggested that we need land surveyors on the Steering Committee. Anna contacted one company and they weren't able to take part due to time constraints.	Contact Jemma at Terra Modus about joining the

	Anna then invited another company and has had no reply. Nikki Huddy suggested a contact at Terra Modus who may be interested, Jemma Picoe. Nikki will contact her about joining the committee. Energy representative – Sophie suggested someone from Ergon be involved in the committee as energy is not represented in the group. Kathy will advise how the regional energy advisory group progresses and we may be able to use a contact from that group.	Steering Committee (Nikki H) Suggest a contact from regional energy advisory group (Kathy)
4. Austropex conference report back	Nicky Swan – The Austropex conference was held in Cairns on August 12th. There has been positive feedback from conference attendees who liked the 'streams' of presentations. There was good inter-industry networking at the event. It will continue next year. There may be a 12th industry group added to the list – disaster management. A municipal planning body is being set up by Alan Dale/RDA board to export tropical expertise in municipal planning. Need to encourage industry to join Austropex site. Emma – The built environment session had too many speakers and wasn't focused enough. It lacked building practices and construction. For next year, need more technical information. Indigenous business networks need to be engaged. Nikki H – Planning hasn't yet embraced the tropical expertise angle, this is something we need to work on.	Encourage industry to join Austropex site (all)
5. Advancing Tropical Green Build (Kathy Rankin, DEEDI)	• This project will aim to support the expansion of the Tropical Green Build sector in TNQ through developing a capability profile, export and investment opportunity plan and marketing collateral. The aim is that these tools will enable future growth of the industry and encourage export and investment opportunities. • The first stage of this project, the capability assessment, will be going out for tender in the first week of September. • There will be a Tropical Green Build industry profile produced. • The focus is on large, market-ready companies for major contracts. • Kathy will keep the committee informed of progress with the project and will let us know when the contract is awarded.	Keep TGBN informed of project progress (Kathy).
6. Guiding the TGBN	Meetings haven't been very well attended, while building tours and guest speakers have been very popular. Current active working groups are: - Sustainable display home	Arrange themed meetings and continue with building tours and

	- Greywater mapping group There aren't many active working groups, which suggests that the TGBN is more of a networking & learning tool rather than a project group at this time. Ideas for TGBN activities: - Have themed meetings to appeal to areas of interest - Organise a trades night for promoting sustainable products and services - Guest speaker on affordable sustainable housing - Create a calendar of events - Waste information talk in October could be promoted to TGBN members as well as HIA	guest speakers (Anna). Send information on HIA waste info talk (Peter C).
7. Next meeting	Wednesday 30th November 10-11.30am at the Council Administration building, 119-145 Spence St (meeting room TBA).	

