



**Minutes of Meeting:** STEPS meeting

**Date:** 17/02/2011

**Location:** 33 Fergusson Ave

**Present:** Phil Johansen, Taryn Pearce, Justine Coup, Freddie Sherwin, Trevor Sherwin, Nick Goldwater, Melissa Marler, Liz Walker, Pat Prescott, Fred Craigie, David Bowden, Graham Marchant

**Apologies:** Caleb Clarke, Graeme Davies, David Barker

No	Item	Actions
1.	<p>Maintenance Responsibilities</p> <p>Phil – Metrowater no longer exists. Auckland Council is responsible for reserve. Infrastructure and Environment Services (I&amp;ES) responsible for creek, walls and 1m either side or up to 5m if a structure (e.g. fence) is present.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This includes the MAGS fence and up to the boardwalk where &lt;5m.</li> </ul> <p>Boardwalk – is the responsibility of Local and Sports Parks, City and West contract.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mowing contractors can't get in, identified as S2 or S3 in contract – about the same \$/m maintenance cost. Over time will decrease due to shading.</li> <li>- Citywide arboriculture contract is reactive and will do tree work.</li> <li>- Picking up rubbish is a big part of the parks contract</li> </ul> <p>Liz mentioned specific examples/incidents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Graffiti on the new signs</li> <li>- Battens on platform knocked out</li> <li>- Is the collection of rubbish in Kerr Taylor and RCT integrated? Graham – yes should be, but will check it out.</li> <li>- Weed control of kikuyu using weedeaters has occurred– now the area needs more weed control.</li> <li>- Tree trunk on boardwalk – called Call Centre, gang threw it into the creek, called Phil, it was moved across to other side of boardwalk – Who is responsible? Liz to forward emails to Graham               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o What to do when trees fall – Call Graham Marchant, David Bowden to check CRM.</li> <li>o Melissa offered to educate contractors – call Maree to discuss.</li> <li>o Fred mentioned that the site visits and education from Wendy has been exemplary and they want to learn to make sure they are getting it right.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Under the boardwalk is the perfect habitat for tradescantia</li> </ul>	<p>Graham</p> <p>Liz</p> <p>Melissa</p>
2.	<p>Update from Parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tracking tunnels in place (Remnant Restoration reporting)</li> <li>- Traps and bait ready to go – need people to monitor 2-3 people, 2 hours               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Volunteers from STEPS or CVNZ. Need committed team, then meet with David B to schedule feeding/killing etc. Nick and Trevor volunteered.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Targeting possums and rats</li> <li>- Remnant Restoration will do a second survey at the end of the year</li> <li>- Suggestion – reloading traps ~\$140 each. Need to consider replacement costs and placement location (smell)</li> <li>- DB send the plan to STEPS</li> <li>- Downers Community Initiatives could provide \$ for a trial trap. Trevor is 'Trap Leader'. Need to contact Fred re trial trap.</li> </ul>	<p>Nick, Trevor, David</p> <p>David</p>



No	Item	Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Taryn to talk to MAGS regarding pest control and student involvement with RCT</li> </ul>	Taryn
3.	<p>Maintenance as an 'Ecological Area' – what class does RCT have?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- RCT has standard contract.</li> <li>- URBENA - ~30 sites in Auckland. Not enough, but \$ limited. Currently only covering ~50% of Auckland.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Options: 1. Include RCT in URBENA contract – at least 1 year away</li> <li>o If argued to be important – may use \$ to get contract</li> <li>o Local boards discretionary \$ (SLIPS)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- DB will try to get RCT on the list.</li> <li>- Put 'people counters' on boardwalk – increase publicity. DB/GM to provide to STEPS</li> <li>- DB to get Craig Bishop to provide \$\$ for wetland monitoring – part of regional Wetland monitoring programme</li> </ul>	David David/ Graham David
4.	<p>Weed Strategy</p> <p>Kikuyu, moth plant, tradescantia, woolly nightshade main problems</p> <p>Melissa offered to weed and spray.</p> <p>Auckland City Council owe 30 sedge, 20 flax – plant these and some manuka, putaputaweta</p> <p>Melissa – suggested planting larger canopy trees for weed control – do need to consider CEPTED though.</p> <p>Need funding for more resource -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Auckland Council Funding Advisor</li> <li>- Melissa put 'free' job for student onto Student Job Search for student volunteers</li> <li>- Fundview – free to search from public libraries</li> <li>- Look at funding options to pay for part time staff member</li> </ul> <p>Mignonette vine – evil plant worse than moth plant showing up in Kerr Taylor. Needs removal asap.</p> <p>Graham to send through map of Park designations to STEPS</p>	<p>Melissa</p> <p>Melissa</p> <p>Graham</p>
5.	<p>2011 Planting Plan</p> <p>Wai Care/Morphum – no planting planned</p> <p>Maintenance focus for 2011 instead</p> <p>DB – plants available for infill at nursery (cheap) – Carex sp.</p> <p>Nick – flax and manukua infill. STEPS low on \$ - only use root trainers (~80)</p> <p>Nick get plants from Oratia and send bill to DB</p> <p>Planting – date booked – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May, 10 am. Small group required to help.</p>	Nick
6.	<p>Wai Care Update</p> <p>Lower Meola Restoration Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lots of groups involved, exciting for the catchment</li> <li>- Need to confirm ownership of the land between Great North Road and NW Motorway – Bruce Crock. Graham to find out ownership details</li> <li>- DB and PJ to liaise re maintenance of plantings near Pasadena</li> </ul> <p>Introduction to Nature in Neighbourhoods – pamphlets left behind.</p>	Graham David and Phil