

## DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 2 MARCH 2020 MEETING

Downer Community Centre, West Hall.

### PRESENT

Sam Hussey-Smith (convenor), Simone Gray, Stephen Sedgwick, Robyn Rennie, Patti Kendall, Jacqui Pinkava, Geoff Francis, Peter and Aniko Carey, Amit Barkay.

**Apologies:** Miles Boak, Sue Dyer, Suzanne Pitson, Kerry-Ann Hugo, Mel Graddon

Absent: Sam Roggeveen.

Meeting opened 7.10pm

### 1. MINUTES AND DCA CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND ISSUES RAISED ACTIONS ARISING

#### MINUTES

Minutes from 3 February 2020 meeting approved with minor edits. Signed and soft copy sent for loading on DCA website.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

- Suzanne Pitson attaching draft for DCA input to DV 368 and 369, plus Downer Vision Statement and survey PowerPoint. Submitted on due date 28 February by DCA Convenor. Note of thanks to Suzanne for the considerable amount of time and effort in preparing these documents.
  - ACTION- Final versions to go on DCA website- Sam
- Candice Burch Liberal MLA- invitation to meet with DCA.
  - See agenda item 8
- Amit Barkay- request to send invitation to Cole Street Park, 13 March to DCA email list.
  - See Other Matters- update from Amit. Jacqui to send email to DCA members-done.
- NCCC grant and purchase arrangements for PA system. To and fro corro between Amit, Bruce Smith (NCCC Treasurer), Rutledge AV (supplier) and DCA Treasurer.
  - See item 3. Treasurer's Report- PA System purchase.
- Possible stall-holder Karen Holloway, had to withdraw due to family engagement on the day.
- David Wong- volunteered to help with Party at the Shops.
  - ACTION: Sam has been in contact with him. Will send the volunteer task sheet.
- Sue Dyer- emails on planning issues, planning articles etc and noise issues for yoga at the Centre.
  - See agenda item 7 for noise issue.

### 2. DOWNER PARTY AT THE SHOPS

- Sam has prepared a list of stall holders. Noted that all politicians invited and all asked to have stands. Agreed to cover costs for face-paint materials for the Face Painting stall.

ACTON- Sam to update the **Stall Information Sheet** used in 2018. Need name and mobile number for the Stall Holder contact person. Final Information Sheet and Schedule to be sent to all stall holders- including food vendors (Mens Shed, Siam Twist, possibly a coffee cart) Jacqui to follow up with two potential stall holders once final is available.

- Sam has prepared a **Schedule** for the day with timings and responsible person. Currently a few blank spots for volunteers. A possible list of contact points for essential activities has been drafted but needs refinement and more volunteers.

**ACTION:** Stall Holder contact point required. Volunteers for other positions- eg. traffic management, waste management etc. **Party at Shops meeting booked for Monday 16 March at 7.30pm at Centre.** Interested Cmte members, volunteers and possibly stall holders to be invited to attend. Room has been booked.

- Additional things to follow up:
  - Amit and Stephen to provide witches hats for traffic management.
  - Amit to contact St Johns for First Aid support.
  - Amit to talk to Iraj about managing the coffee queue and if he is amenable to another coffee provider attending.
  - Patti to approach Watson Potters Society
  - **Newsletter or leaflet** to advertise Party. Sam to contact Miles about draft. Distribute around Canberra long weekend.

### 3. CENTRE REPORT and TREASURER'S REPORT- Stephen Sedgwick

- Toilet seat replaced.
- \$470 for security keys (10).
- Clearing of junk in storeroom. Karate mats to be removed by departing Koro Karate.
- New vacuum cleaner for cleaner purchased. Old one available for tenant use.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT for February 2020

- Income and Expenses (sent electronically) showed a loss of \$3,160. Expenses totalled \$2,547. February income from room hire and key bonds came to just over \$400. Noted that invoices would go out in March with payment expected to show in April. Expenses totalled \$3,561 in wages, tax, energy and waste removal. Cash in the working account is \$11,313.
- A grant of \$1,226.01 received from the NCCC for the purchase of a Public Address system. This grant is from *the NCCC's annual grant from the Government (about \$12,800 pa) for the purposes of "communicating to the Territory the views, expectations and concerns of community members" and "encouraging the community to participate in Recipient activities"*.
  - As Amit arranged the quote for the PA from Rutledge AV, he is to purchase the PA and receive reimbursement from DCA. Agreed by Treasurer.

### 4. DEFUNCT TOILET BLOCK UPDATE

- Sam reported on his communication with Lisa Petheram, Graffiti Management Co-ord. Indicated that she would be asking another arm of ACT City Services Directorate (TCCS) to request to the Minister that a new toilet block be built. This may take some time. Therefore any artwork to cover the graffiti should not be too culturally significant as the building may possibly be demolished at some stage.

**ACTION:** Sam to write back to say that DCA fully supports a new toilet block to be built as this is what the community has been asking for. No action required on over-painting the graffiti at this stage pending construction of a new toilet block.

### 5. CLEAN UP DOWNER REPORT- Jacqui Pinkava

Sunday 1 March, 9am-12.30 noon. Simone Gray, Jim Dehlsen and Jacqui managed the day. Mel Graddon, local resident with a passion for the circular economy and all things recycling had an interactive recycling education/information display. This was a great success with families as the recycling they collected was divided into various recycle and waste streams. 26 people registered, of which around 10-12 were adults

and the rest children (and a few dogs on leads). 13 bags in total were collected, four bags of recyclables and nine bags to land fill. New rigorous recycling requirements mean that fewer items are suitable, hence fewer recyclables than last year. SEEChange advertised the event on their social media but were unable to participate.

**ACTION:** A wallet found near Dickson pool. Jane Goffman undertook to contact the owner and possibly the police. Prescription glasses found near park on corner Northbourne and Antil by Aniko Carey.(location TBC). Jacqui to send photo and info to Sam to put on Facebook. Glasses to be left with Ross Hiew Optician in Cape Street Dickson for pick up or for overseas charity if unclaimed.

#### **6. DOWNER SQUARE VOLUNTEER GROUP AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASE**

- DCA was successful in getting a \$1,000 grant under the Adopt-a-Park Community Grants Program in 2019. This money to be used to buy plants and equipment for the Downer Square and Frog Pond.
- Not discussed.

**ACTION:** Agenda item for April meeting.

#### **7. NOISE ISSUES AT THE CENTRE**

- Sue Dyer wrote to the Committee to express concern with noise from group in adjoining room affecting Thursday evening yoga class held in West hall. She offered a range of possible solutions.

**ACTION:** Stephen and Sam to discuss separate to this meeting. Stephen happy to talk to the group about being respectful of other Centre users, particularly a yoga group.

#### **8. MEETING WITH CANDICE BURCH MLA- Sam H-S**

- In response to correspondence (11 and 26 Feb) Sam has offered a range of dates to meet. Possible issues/topics to raise include: Accessibility compliant toilet block, security at the shops, more bike racks, community planning (Downer Precinct Plan), parking issues in streets near tram stop particularly Swinden Street.

**ACTION:** Sam to invite interested committee members to join him once Ms Burch has chosen a date to meet.

#### **9. OTHER MATTERS- COLE STREET PARK UPDATE- Amit Barkay.**

- Micro-forest project spearheaded by Edwina Robinson Tree Factory consultancy. \$20,000 grant received from Adopt-a-Park grant program. DCA is the sponsoring agency and is to receive this money to be held in a separate grant fund. Amit noted that they are still waiting for the money from the ACT Government.
- Noted that there are a number of areas of the ACT Government involved. Need to get the park design approved. A meeting is to be held with Government representatives on 11 March.
- Likely that tree planting to take place in April, weather permitting. Weeds (tree-corner jacks) have been sprayed.
- A public meeting with Downer stakeholders is being organised for Friday 13 March at 6.30pm. An invitation to attend (register through Eventbrite) has been emailed to DCA member list (3 March).

## 10. NEXT DCA MEETING

Monday 16 March 7.30pm- Party at the Shops final planning meeting.

Regular meeting- Monday 6 April- **7.30pm**. Note: New later time by agreement of the Committee.

ACTION: Sam to update DCA website and Facebook with new meeting start time.
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Meeting closed 8.30 pm

Sam Hussey-Smith  
Convenor

Jacqui Pinkava  
Secretary