

DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 3 MAY 2021 MEETING

PRESENT

Jacqui Pinkava, Miles Boak, Patti Kendall, Robyn Rennie, Suzanne Pitson, Sue Dyer, Geoff Francis (via phone for Agenda item 3), Amit Barkay, Patrika Sheehan (new resident from Blacket Street).

APOLOGIES: Kerry-Ann Hugo, Bill Scott

ABSENT: Sam Hussey-Smith, Stephen Sedgwick,

Commenced 7.35pm, chaired by Robyn Rennie

1. DCA CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND ISSUES RAISED

Incoming- of significance

1 April- to Sam, from ACT Gov. Letter outlining new tenant management team advice. Forwarded to Stephen and Miles on 7 April.

13 April- Bruce Smith NCCC- wanting response from DCA on NCCC expenditure 2020-21 projections- re our request for notice board (\$640). Want to know if we will be spending it this financial year. 15 April- forwarded to Stephen and Miles. SEE AGENDA ITEM 3 and 14.

14 April- from Suzanne, final version of letter re: Goodwin Downer proposal DCA concerns.

15 April- EPSDD notification of demolition of Block 1, Section 13 Canberra Technology Park Watson - sent email to DCA list advising of works starting in April until June.

18, 19 and 22 April- Lara Doolette re Twilight Market on Friday 23 April.

19 April- Sue Levy CEO Goodwin- thanking for courtesy copy of letter. Noting that Erik Boddeus will contact us to arrange a meeting to go through the matters raised.

Forwarded to Suzanne, Robyn and Miles 22 April.

24 April- Erik Boddeus Goodwin- advising that they need time to review our letter and prepare a detailed response. Said he would be in touch by 30 April to arrange time to meet.

3 May- Erik wrote wanting further clarification. SEE AGENDA ITEM 4.

27 April- from Miles- letter of support signed by Robyn re DCA agreeing to sponsor application for Environment Grant for Berry Street Park. SEE AGENDA ITEM 12

29 April- Jo Clay, Greens MLA for Ginninderra. ACT Planning Review update. Promising to keep the community informed of district level planning and community consultation.

29 April- Jane Goffman as President of Dickson Residents Group- Coles Dickson Communication Strategy. Attachment of 40 pages with diagrams. Noted that DCA seem to be off their radar. Lindsay Hunter TP Dynamics sent original. SEE AGENDA ITEM 4.

Outgoing- in addition to mentions/ forwardings above.

7 April- to DCA email list- invite to the Cole Street working bee on 11 April.

15 April- DCA's response to the Goodwin-Downer development proposal- to Canberra Town Planning- Ms Jackson, Erik Boddeus and Sue Levey CEO- cc Suzanne, Robyn, Miles.

2 May- Robyn forwarded Goodwin letter to DCA Committee and others as requested by Sue Dyer.

22 April- to Lara Doolette – advising that email to DCA email list about the Twilight Market sent 22 April - apologised for not seeing request earlier. SEE AGENDA ITEM 13.

2. MINUTES AND ACTIONS OUTSTANDING

MINUTES

Minutes from the 5 April 2021 meeting approved. Thank you to Amit for compiling. Soft copy sent for loading on DCA website. Hard copies of Feb-April meetings now signed. Minutes of December meeting still require signature (Sam).

ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Storage units- Amit reported that he is still waiting for tradies to get back to him. Suspects the job is too small. Frog pond- still to do.

Auditor signature and WiFi installation update- Stephen not present so no outcome/update.

3. NCCC- REPORT BACK ON 21 APRIL MEETING- Geoff Francis (via phone)

- Meetings still conducted via Zoom (DCA having to forego room rent!).
- Presentation on JWL apartment development on Braddon. Traffic issues in back street raised.
- Approval given for DCA to spend \$640 on noticeboard(s) and seek reimbursement from the NCCC. SEE AGENDA ITEM 14)
- Coles development, mention of erection of hoardings around carpark. Work commencing in May.

4. DEVELOPMENTS IN AND AROUND DOWNER- Suzanne and Patti

Goodwin Downer- In response to DCA letter, Goodwin (Erik Boddeus) has undertaken to review and arrange a meeting. Has requested clarification on what plans we were referring to as a DA has not yet been lodged. DCA was responding to invitation from their town planners Canberra Town Planning to provide comment on initial plans.

Action: Suzanne and Miles to work on a response to this request (3 May correspondence).

Suggested that a copy of our letter be provided to ACT Planning (EPSDD) and to the Minister for Planning and Land Management, Mick Gentleman.

Action: Patti to provide email addresses.

Watson- Academy of Interactive Entertainment- Announced commencement of stage one demolition. Patti noted that major works are happening before a DA is approved. Considered it might be worthwhile to write to ACT Planning about this.

Yowani- noted that meeting held with Lindsay Hunter on 15 March. Comprehensive notes taken by Suzanne and provided at 5 April DCA meeting.

Action: Sue Dyer requested a copy- done Jacqui

Coles development Dickson- Jane Goffman has forwarded emails from Lindsay Hunter (TP Dynamics) on the Communication Strategy- outlining the development. Noted that DCA is not on his distribution list. Concern about parking situation and impact on Antil street.

Action: Jacqui to request DCA added to distribution list- done

5. PUBLIC OFFICER- ANNUAL RETURN 2021

Sam Hussey-Smith is the 2021 Public Officer. Not present at the meeting, so no update on receipt of signed Auditor's Report which is required to be lodged along with the committee details. Miles noted that there is a 12 month window in which to lodge the documents.

Action: Miles to check with Stephen that signed Auditor's Report has been received, then follow up with Sam to complete the lodgement.

6. POTAS MEMORIAL CHAIR IN SQUARE- Miles Boak

DCA has committed \$2,000 towards a chair that will be dedicated to local resident Ivan Potas. His wife Nadia is contributing additional funds (\$4,000 reported at March DCA meeting). Miles reports that the memorial is going ahead, just waiting on approval by ACT Gov- City Services.

7. MEETING WITH REBECCA VASSAROTTI ON PINE TREES- Miles/Robyn

On 16 April, Miles, Robyn and Fiona Dickson met with Green MLA and Minister for Heritage regarding the replacement of the heritage listed now felled Radiata pines on Bradfield street. She noted that the Heritage Council had ultimate say. She advised that DCA approach the Council Chair Ken Heffernan.

Action: Arrange a meeting- Miles?

8. CENTRE LIAISON- Stephen Sedgwick- held over as Stephen absent.

9. TREASURER'S REPORT- Stephen- held over as April financial reports not received and Stephen absent.

10. WiFi AT THE CENTRE- Stephen- held over.

11. FLORIADE – Miles

Miles has submitted an online application to participate in Floriade Community 2021. Expect to pick up some 300 bulbs and annuals on 28 May with planting to be completed by 6 June. Miles has agreed to be the co-ordinator for a community planting event.

Action: Miles to set a date for planting. Jacqui and Kerry-Ann to promote as required.
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12. BERRY STREET PARK- Miles

Residents around Berry Street park have been successful in becoming an Adopt-a-Park group. Miles noted that a new group of people are getting involved in community activities around Downer. Jim Dehlsen acknowledged for constructing a table and planter boxes.

On a related matter- the **Cole Street Urban Forest** (recipient of an Adopt-a-Park grant in 2020), Amit Barkay sought the committee's approval to re-allocate the management fee towards weed management works. In December 2020 DCA received \$1,579.60 for project management of the grant.

Action: The Committee agreed to allocate the DCA management fee to the Cole St Park project. Amit to liaise with Stephen on re-allocation of monies.
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13. TWILIGHT MARKETS- Jacqui Pinkava

Following from the successful Party at the Shops, Lara Doolette, Downer resident, has been organising local craft/ produce markets in the Downer Square. In the warmer months, a couple of twilight fairs have been held on a Friday early evening. With winter, Lara is proposing to hold monthly fairs on a weekend afternoon. She has liaised with the shop tenants who are amenable. DCA has undertaken to promote the event via email and Facebook. DCA applauds and encourages initiatives by local residents that build a sense of community and bring life to the Downer Square.

14. NOTICE BOARD GRANT

Reported in Agenda item 3. The NCCC has approved DCA purchasing a noticeboard (s) to the value of \$640. This to be undertaken this financial year and DCA reimbursed.

Action: Miles and Stephen to buy board(s) to replace the two crumbling noticeboards at the Centre.

15. MONEY FOR SALE OF DOWNER BOOKS- Jacqui

At the Party at the Shops, four books were sold, ie. \$40. Robyn reported that she gave \$10 to Stephen (Treasurer), Jacqui has \$10 to hand over. It therefore appears that \$20 is unaccounted for. Perhaps to be resolved in conversation with Stephen.

16. OTHER BUSINESS

Sue Dyer raised the chance that the DCA may be approached by Purdon Planning or CRA to become the recipients of the "Father and Son" AKA Downer fountain currently in Civic.

[Father and Son](#)- This artwork was presented to the people of Canberra by the Hon. Alex Downer in memory of his father Sir John Downer. Originally installed in 1964, it was restored and relocated in Garema Place with a new marble base in 1986.

Sue noted that Alexander Downer had no interest in supporting Downer in the creation of the Bicentennial Downer Square in 1988.

Re-vamp of the DCA Website- Amit noted that the website is very out of date. Committee minutes have not been loaded since October 2020. There is also the possible issue of getting permission to use photographs on the site.

Action: Patti to inquire about cost to get a professional refresh of the website.

NEXT DCA MEETING

Monday 7 June, 7.30pm

Meeting closed: 8.50pm

Robyn Rennie- DCA Convenor

Jacqui Pinkava- Secretary