

MINUTES

Downer Community Association

6 June 2022, 7:30pm | Meeting called to order by **Robyn Rennie**

In Attendance

Apologies from Jacqui, Miles, Aniko, Peter and Simone.

Attending – Patti, Leon, Stephen, Amit, Sue and Robyn. Suzanne attending remotely.

No additional items of correspondence.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the April 2022 meeting were approved.

The Minutes of the May 2022 meeting were approved.

Action Items

Centre Co-ordinator

Four applicants. All applicants were interviewed, from a strong field of candidates with relevant skills and experience. The preferred applicant has been identified. An offer will be made to the successful applicant and an announcement will be made in due course upon acceptance of the offer. There will be a probationary period of three months, with the period of employment commencing 1 July 2022.

Letter to Heritage Council regarding trees

Letter has been written by Robyn Rennie as DCA convenor to the Heritage Council, which among other things, requested the Heritage Council to reconsider the alternate suggestions to the canary pine trees, as reflected by the concerns of the Bradfield Residents Group. Letter drafted 6 May 2022, will be sent to the Heritage Council shortly, cc to the Bradfield Residents Group.

Downer Centre Co-ordinator Report, Action items & Agenda items

- Hand sanitizer ran out in the west room, and has been replaced with spray.
- Election – went well.
 - \$200 shared between the Men's Shed and the Pre-School
- Pump track – authorities have received the invoice, and they will process it in the next couple of days.
- Copy of insurance certificate was provided to relevant authorities.
- Email regarding alleged fraudulent activity against the bank account – Stephen dealt with this query from the bank. Discussed
- Territory Plan variation 369 – a lot of concern with the amendments proposed. NCCC has made representations which the DCA supported. Letter from NCCC to be **attached (1)** to the Minutes.
- Heat pump – change of heaters from gas. The committee discussed the fact that it had been attempted before, but we will seek to raise the issue with ACT Government again. This is a responsibility of the

ACT government to attend to the infrastructure of the building, it was not agreed that the DCA would make a contribution from its own financial resources to improve the heating arrangements at the community centre.

- Floriade bulb – Amit and Suzanne planted in and around the Downer Village area on 5 June 2022. Action item complete. **Committee agreed expenditure (not more than \$500)** for protective coverings to prevent possum and other small pest or child infestation over the bulbs.
- Berry Street grant application – DCA has supported the application, but no news back yet on whether the application was successful. Anecdotally noted that the Berry Street Park had a lot of new trees planted recently – looking very nice.
- DCA Constitution – agreed to hold over. Need to have a separate discussion and agreement within the Committee first, before going out to broader consultation to the Downer community. Committee agreed to a separate working group discussion – **Thursday night 21 July 7:15pm** – in small room at end of the Community Centre.
 - **Action item – Leon** to circulate (again)
 - **Action item – all** – circulate any comments ahead of time.
- Community Garden Grants - close 8 July. **Action item -Kerry-Ann** to include link on Facebook page.
 - As an aside, noted that the DCA has done a lot to get a lot of initiatives up and running, contributing to the Downer environs. These are not Government initiatives. The Committee considered there was merit in including a summation of the outcomes of various DCA initiatives in an upcoming newsletter. **Action item – draft newsletter – allocated to ?**
- Planning bill – variation 369 – noted that a couple of committee members (Sue & Leon) are considering putting in a private submission to the ACT Government.

Treasurer's Report

- Nearly \$13,900 of alleged fraud against the DCA account.
- Stephen has spoken to the bank. It is being worked through. Some funds have been able to be recovered, but in either event, it will not hit the DCA bank account bottom line – the bank will wear the loss.
- Income recorded in the Treasurer's report. Treasurer's report to be **attached (2)** to the Minutes.

Next Meeting

Monday, 4 July 2022.

Meeting concluded at 8:37pm

(Note: Suzanne an apology for 4 July meeting)