

DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 3 JULY 2023 MEETING

PRESENT

Robyn Rennie, Miles Boak, Jacqui Pinkava, Stephen Sedgwick, Patrika Sheehan, Leon Arundell, Simone Gray, Amit Barkay, Jeannette Fiero, Bob Bylo, Peter Carey

1. APOLOGIES: - Suzanne Pitson, Sue Dyer, Garth Jurd (Scouts)

Commenced 7.30pm, chaired by Robyn- Convenor. Concluded 9pm.

2. DCA CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND ISSUES RAISED- Jacqui Pinkava

Corro of significance:

- 7 June- G Meiklejohn- SEEChange to say DCA website is down
- 7 June- outgoing- ENewsletter as per action items of 5 June meeting
- 7 June- Meg Boyd- multiple emails to try and sort out website domain owner
- 8 June- Michael Flynn- sharing concern about lease issue- offers some options
- 8 June Meg Boyd- more on the DCA website domain issue
- 8 June- Yvonne Solly- possible tenant noting website down and no response from Stephen
- 9 June- Meg- bit of background of web registration- pointing to Stephen and then noting that we still have the clunky site and that we should “start again- simple and intuitive” and not use Weebly.
- 16 June- Robyn Sirr- outcomes of the Petition on the Bradfield pine trees issue
- 16 June- Ruth Bourke Flower Club- wanting to know when the new heaters would arrive as they are very cold.
- 28 June- Gabriele Meiklejohn SEEChange- asking if we could advertise their E Bicycle library on our FB page. Also mentioned who designed their website.
- 30 June- Sue Dyer- Yowani development- 5 July deadline for DA input. Copy of CT article re 900 homes and 17 buildings planned for the site by TP Dynamics.

3. MINUTES AND ACTIONS REPORT

- Minutes of 5 June 2023- approved and loaded on the clunky website.

REPORTS:

4. ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- Follow-up with meeting with MLA Rachel Stephen-Smitjh (13 May). Jacqui reported that she sent an email on 24 June to Jonny Goodwin the Adviser to Rachel Stephen-Smith re a letter to DCA from Minister Steel and if there is any further action on matters aired. No response as yet. Presume Ministerial matters rather than local concerns are of greater import.
- Miles followed up with Transport and City about a grant being program for roadworks. Turns out that it is for road safety matters not infrastructure. Might be able to get some money for signs for people to slow down around the café corner.

ACTION: Miles said he would ask for signs. In the interim Amit has white road marking paint and a “people crossing” sign that he will install.

- Heritage Walk- Jacqui contacted Jane Goffman. Responded that she hoped to do the walk before she goes away in September. Sent a copy of her response to Robyn and Denys to see if there is timing that suits.

5. CENTRE LIAISON- Stephen Sedgwick

- Stephen provided a copy of the email he sent to Centre tenants regarding an audit of the Centre’s storage situation. Said he made it clear that anything not claimed would be thrown out. He would leave a pile of unwanted stuff in clear view. If not claimed

arrangements to be made to throw out or give to the Green Shed. Amit and Jim Delhsen have trailers for removal. No skip for a “spring-fling”.

- Informed that the Raewyn Arthur, has accepted the position of Centre Coordinator position and has agreed to start in the new financial year- which is now!

ACTION: Stephen to invite Raewyn to the 7 August committee meeting. Suggested that Robyn also formally welcomes her to the role.

- Request by one of the long-term tenants to have handrails affixed to the toilet cubicles. Stephen has asked Jim to provide a costing for doing both the male and female toilets, one rail per cubicle. The leaking cistern in the female toilet has been replaced and the lock on the mens toilet fixed. Thank you to Jim Dehlsen for doing both saving a vast amount of money it was noted.
- Jacqui noted that a prospective client was deterred from booking the Centre as there was no Wi-Fi available. Potential client in September 2020 requested WiFi access. Wi-Fi was on the DCA agenda for the whole of 2021. Suggested that as there were no other client requests, Wi-Fi at the Centre to be no longer pursued (Nov 2021 meeting). It is hereby recorded that the 2023 Committee agreed to once again pursue getting Wi-Fi at the Centre.

ACTION: Amit said he would contact liNet re Wi-Fi installation.

6. TREASURERS REPORT- Stephen Sedgwick

- Stephen reported that \$1,000 DCA donation to the bike pump track group provided. He had paid \$2,500 to SEEChange as reimbursement for their heater conversion. He confirmed that DCA has been paying for the electricity used by SEEChange. Also confirmed that DCA have received the \$15,000 donation from the Dickson Tradies Club for the Centre’s heater conversion (no indication of this in the June income and expenses report?)
- Current account balance in all three accounts (working, special projects and term deposit) has decreased to \$73,482.54. Working account as at June is \$48,132. June saw a net decrease of \$13,222 in the working account from last month. Expenses for June totalled \$17,456 made up of \$2,500 reimbursement to SEEChange, \$1,000 pump track donation, final grant payments of \$5,225 to the Berry/Legge St park group, drain clearing \$550 to the ACT Property Group, workers compensation insurance \$627, \$550 cleaners wages, \$241 ACTEW bill, and \$6,657 for the Centre A/C system (after the \$15,000 Tradies donation)
- Income of \$4,224 received of which \$100 is for key bond.
- Currently grant monies on behalf of other groups is kept in the working account. Agreed at May meeting for this to be a separate line item. This has not been done.

ACTION: Stephen to set up a separate line item on the Income and Expenditure Report to show grant monies that DCA auspice on behalf of others for the June and subsequent reports. To be tabled at the August meeting.

7. NCCC MEETING REPORT- Leon Arundell

- Met via Zoom on 26 June- a committee only meeting.
- District Planning Strategies- ACT Directorate of Planning etc (EPSDD) may be available as of late August following their “Listening Report”, review of some 400 submissions etc.
- Mention that a review of the heritage legislation? No evidence on the ACT Gov website of this. Report on the Heritage Council published in Nov 2022. Public one very short, internal one very redacted! New Heritage Council appointed in April 2023.
- At the July general meeting, the issue of wood heating is to be voted on. Leon wants to put forward a motion. He provided the committee with a copy of his intended motion. The Committee made it clear that Leon is free to do so as an individual member, not as the DCA representative on the NCCC committee.

PROJECTS AND ISSUES:

8. CENTRE ELECTRIC HEATERS- Amit Barkay

- New reverse cycle A/C units have been installed in all rooms at the Centre. One remote control already lost. Amit to affix remote control holders on the walls. Stephen to follow up with a likely tenant who may know whereabouts of the remote control (child suspected!). Stephen has the warranty papers.

ACTION: Amit to organise the rebate paperwork with the ACT Government. Eligible for up to \$5,000 on a 50/50 co-contribution basis.

- Amit reported that the gas heater removal remedial work will be completed by the weekend. The tradesman doing the job could paint all the halls (walls only) for \$8,500. This would be a great idea if we were assured of an ongoing lease for the next 5 years. As this is not the case, it was decided just a patch paint job.
- A vote of thanks to Amit and the Dickson Tradies for getting the new A/C system installed so promptly.

ACTION: Robyn to write a letter of thanks to Alison Percival at the Dickson Tradies Club and invite her to come a see the A/C in operation.

9. PARKING – Miles Boak

- Has received a reply from Ken Marshall from City Operations (a mate of Miles!). He said someone from Roads would be in touch re: the suggested solution being if the gate to the parking area at Downer Oval only 50 metres away was not locked this would allow people to park there during the week. As Miles is away for two months, the Roads folk are asked to contact Riley Conway at Gang Gang or the DCA.
- Amit noted that the gate was unlocked for most of the week.

10. SCOUT HALL DAMAGE- Garth Jurd, Wellstation Scouts

- Garth reported via email that the Hall is currently being repaired and that the scouts hope to be back in the building this coming term. He will be in touch to take up the offer to put in a grant application for other works.

11. MATTERS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE – Jacqui

- DCA website domain name. 7-9 June- alerts that the DCA website is down/ no longer functioning. Transpires that the domain name registration had expired. No alert that this was about to happen. Appears that domain name rests in the British Virgin Islands with a company called Confluence Networks Inc. Stephen contacted Weebly, the platform for the website and eventually managed to get the registration renewed for the next 10 years at a cost of \$240. Weebly now provided with the downertreasurer@ email for future contact.

ACTION: Committee thought it wise to have a second contact - downerassociation@ added. Stephen to arrange. Jacqui asked to have on record the contact details for Weebly and documented evidence of registration details- with whom and duration.

- Jacqui once again raised the issue of getting the 20 year old website revamped as this had been raised vociferously by Meg Boyd who, as an amateur, put together the website... and others. Once again there was no commitment by the committee ceding to comments from two members who said they find it easy to use.
- Resident at meeting raised issue of forms on the website are not interactive. Stephen said this is an easy fix. This has been an action item in the past.
- Dead emails – Some 20 grapevine and homemail email addresses for DCA members no longer exist. DCA has alternative contacts (phone and address) for most but they could be out of date.

ACTION: Leon, Robyn and Patrika volunteered to contact those with dead emails. Jacqui to prepare a list. If phone calls don't work, look at popping a note in their letter-boxes. Also could put a post on Facebook.

OTHER BUSINESS

PARTY IN THE SQUARE- Amit

Weekend of 12-13 August suggested, as was Sunday 8 October?

Robyn allocated the task to Amit given his proven talent at the task. Believe Amit agreed. Agenda item for August meeting.

KIDS LIBRARY MAKE-OVER- Jacqui

Arina and kids from her Scoobie Doodles group were invited by Jacqui to spruce up the kids library. It now sports some vibrant paintings. Arina has been invited to submit costs for the work for reimbursement. Anne Stearman who looks after the two libraries is very pleased with the make-over. Jacqui to arrange for a post on our Facebook page with photo.

Committee apologies- Miles is away for August meeting. Robyn and Jacqui are away for September (4th) meeting. Miles has agreed to be the acting Convenor in September. Jacqui is also away for 2 October meeting.

NEXT DCA MEETING

Monday 7 August 2023, 7.30pm

Robyn Rennie- DCA Convenor

Jacqui Pinkava- Secretary