

## **DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 5 JULY 2021 MEETING**

### **PRESENT**

Jacqui Pinkava, Robyn Rennie, Suzanne Pitson, Sue Dyer, Patti Kendall, Kerry-Ann Hugo, Amit Barkay, Stephen Sedgewick, Margo and Brian O'Mally, Peter Carey. All masked!

**BY PHONE:** Miles Boak (in Darwin), Geoff Francis (at home).

**APOLOGIES:** Sam Hussey-Smith.

Commenced 7.35pm, chaired by Robyn Rennie

### **1. DCA CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND ISSUES RAISED- Jacqui Pinkava**

8 June 2021- 5 July 2021

Incoming: (agenda item \*)

8 June- Suzanne Pitson- final response to Goodwin on Downer development.

\*12 June- Sue Dyer- clarification on the District Planning workshop process. Suggest registering by 15 June. Inner north workshop on 24 June.

14 June- acknowledgement from Erik Boddeus on our letter.

\*17 June- forwarding email from Gordon McAllister (Lyneham Community Association) to NCCC about need for a strategic plan for Yowani and Thoroughbred Park developments.

\*17 June- Anne Stearman- confirm meeting with Jim about kids library in the Square.

23 June- Andrew Selth- courtesy copy of letter he sent to Rebecca Vassarotti about the need for public toilets at the Downer Village. Reply from Minister's Advisor (Adriana Boisen) forwarded 26 June. Will write to Chris Steele- Minister for City Services.

23 June- Erik Boddeus- advising us that Goodwin have lodged the DA.

23 June- EPSD- notice on Have Your Say on District Planning open until 18 July- (sent to all on DCA list)

\*30 June- Sam Hussey-Smith- copy of Annual Return form emailed to Access Canberra.

Outgoing:

\*Me to Jane Goffman and Watson Community Association asking about website people.

Me to Jim Dehlsen and Anne Stearman re meeting about kids library in the Square

10 June- sent DCA response to Goodwin to Sue Levy, Erik Boddeus Robyn and Suzanne.

25 June- to DCA mailing list- Have Your Say invitation. Kerry-Ann posted it on Facebook too.

28 June- courtesy email to the Village Vet to explain plan of elevating the library in the Square. Believe his dad built the library. No response.

### **2. MINUTES AND ACTIONS OUTSTANDING- Jacqui Pinkava**

#### **MINUTES**

Minutes from the 7 June 2021 meeting approved and signed off. Soft copy loaded on DCA website (thanks Denys!). Minutes of December meeting still require signature (Sam).

#### **ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING- Jacqui Pinkava**

**District Planning session-** Suzanne Pitson

- In response to ACT Planning invitation to all Canberrans to Have Your Say on District Planning, Suzanne has offered to have a session at her place to provide consolidated DCA input. Keen to reinforce the Downer Precinct Plan.

**ACTION: Friday 16 July 10-12noon meet at Suzanne's to input Have Your Say District Planning website.**

#### **Resignation of Bill Scott from the Committee**

- Bill informed the Committee that due to family matters overseas, he is unable to continue on the Committee.
- Committee approached Miles Boak, who has not officially been on the Committee, to return. Miles agreed.

#### **Auditors Report/Annual Return**

- Annual Return and copy of 2019-2020 Auditor's Report submitted to Access Canberra on 30 June. Due to late return, DCA will be liable for \$88 fine.

#### **Meeting with Ken Heffernan – Heritage Council- re Bradfield St tree replacement**

- **Miles** has been in contact and is waiting for their response. Will follow up upon his return to Canberra next week.

#### **Website update**

- Gaffer Designs was suggested by Jane Goffman (NCCC and DRA) as they have done website design/development for a range of community associations.
- Gaffer Designs provided an outline and indicative costing which was circulated to Committee for consideration.
- Committee supported a DCA website redevelopment project.

**ACTION: Committee to prepare a scoping document of what we would like the website to do. Stephen to consider the requirements of the Downer Centre in regard to venue bookings, schedules, government updates (eg. Covid).  
Agenda for August meeting- members to bring ideas on content and interactivity.**

#### **3. NCCC- REPORT BACK - Amit Barkay (for May) Geoff Francis (for June)**

- The May meeting of the NCCC had the Canberra Racing Club representatives present on the proposed Thoroughbred Park re-development. The NCCC website has an indicative plan of the re-purposing of the area surrounding the racetrack.
- Large mixed use and residential development over next 10-15 years. Expect 5 stages commencing with a hotel development in the NE corner on Flemington Rd.
- NCCC is concerned about the lack of integration in the planning of Yowani, "Kanberra on Federal" and Thoroughbred Park.
- Geoff reported that June meeting extended the concern about planning for the whole of Canberra, ANZAC Hall re-development and the need for a new school in north Canberra. Coles development of Dickson Village also aired.
- NCCC advised that the 2021-2022 round of grant money has opened. Note: DCA yet to purchase and acquit last year's \$640 grant for new noticeboards.

#### **4. DEVELOPMENTS IN AND AROUND DOWNER**

##### **Goodwin Downer**

- DCA response to preliminary DA plan acknowledged by Goodwin with no firm indication to follow-through on issues raised (approaching authorities to review access roads for fire service and garbage to save oak trees, increase set-backs...)
- Development Application submitted by Goodwin. Jacqui to request Goodwin alert DCA when DA is open for community comment. (Done 6/7/21)

## Thoroughbred Park

- See item 3. Patti reported that she had a chat with the Thoroughbred Park planner. Noted that the developer is Lockbridge. Sue Dyer participated in a consultation Zoom session and noted that during the 15-20 year re-development the Racing Club could on-sell parts of the rezoned area.

## Yowani

- All quiet. Developer is TP Dynamics. Possibly busy supporting the construction phase of their Coles complex (note Coles is the lessee) in the Dickson Group Centre.

## 5. CENTRE LIAISON- Stephen Sedgwick

- SEEChange reported a gas leak. Investigated and considered to be operating as it should.
- Six folding tables yet to be purchased.
- Two extra keylock safes purchased with one to be used by SEEChange.
- All tenants informed that mask wearing is mandatory.
- Carpet in the West Hall to be cleaned.
- Storage of items owned by the clients is becoming an issue.

**Action: Stephen to write to all clients about storage. Stephen to purchase large storage boxes for client use.**

- Stephen reported that he has updated the duty statement for the paid Centre Coordinator position. Clarification of the separation of the paid Centre Coordinator role and the Centre Liaison role. The Centre Coordinator role is with the Downer Centre as a venue and its tenants. The Centre Liaison is a volunteer position and is the interface between the DCA Committee and the paid Coordinator and deals with the physical maintenance of the Centre as a venue for hire.

**ACTION: Stephen to circulate duty statement to committee for finalisation and recruitment action at August meeting.**

- Stephen has been approached to see if the DCA are willing to have beehives placed in the grounds. Concerns about allergies to bees, regulations etc. Committee has asked for Stephen to explore further.

**ACTION: Stephen to provide written advice to Lara Doolette (Twilight Markets) stating that DCA public liability only covers events organised by the DCA and that stall holders have to have their own insurance.**

**ACTION: Stephen and Miles to purchase notice boards for the Centre and acquit the \$640 NCCC grant.**

- Suggested that a Defibrillator be purchased for the Centre. Committee agreed but would like more information on initial and ongoing cost.

**ACTION: Stephen to investigate defibrillator cost and report at next meeting.**

## 6. TREASURER'S REPORT- Stephen

- June income and expenses report provided electronically. Shows current account balance in all three accounts (working, special projects and term deposit) as \$50,141. Working account is \$24,847. June saw income of \$1,600 with expenses at \$1,656 largely for wages for the cleaner. There was a net loss of \$2,989, as \$2,833 was paid to the Cole Street Urban Forest project for weed control. A loss of \$156 was attributed to the Centre's operations.
- The longstanding debt with the Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ is to be resolved.

## 7. WiFi AT THE CENTRE- Stephen

- No advance- ongoing.

## 8. BERRY STREET PARK- Miles Boak

- Miles reported that they were not successful in getting an Adopt-a-Park grant as it was felt that Downer already had two such grants.
- Proposed that DCA provide \$500 to the Berry Street park project and make a similar amount available to other residents who may wish to improve local public space. Supported by the Committee. Treasurer confirmed that funds are available.

**ACTION: Miles (or park group) to prepare a bid outlining the project and indicative costs. At August meeting, prepare words for advertising (Facebook) opportunity for other public space improvement projects in Downer.**

## 9. KIDS LIBRARY- Jacqui Pinkava

- On site meeting held with Jim Dehlsen from the Majura Mens Shed and Anne Stearman. Plan is to construct a bright cupboard and place it underneath the existing structure, elevating it slightly.
- Jim undertook to provide a quote.

**ACTION: Jacqui to follow up with Jim Dehlsen to expedite the quote. Done, it is on the go. Expect cost to be under \$200.**

## 10. CITY RENEWAL AUTHORITY (CRA)- Sue Dyer

- Sue advised that announcements are expected from the CRA about the Woolley St concept plan and its broad engagement and activation plans for the inner north. Sue will send information/ media releases as they emerge.

## 11. FROG POND PROJECT

- Stephen noted that he has an invoice for \$2,000 for the frog pond.
- Rainwater tank has been delivered but yet to be connected.

**ACTION: Jacqui to contact Fiona Dickson to get an update on the installation. Email sent 7/7/21**

## 12. OTHER BUSINESS

- Village Vet business has been sold. Will be closed while flooring is upgraded.
- Public toilets for Downer Square. Andrew Selth has continued lobbying Ministers, most recently Minister Vassarotti. Amit raised it on ABC breakfast radio. Sue and others have had letters published in City News and hopes this may generate an article on need for public toilets generally. Noted that the ACT does not have a Minister responsible for toilets!

## NEXT DCA MEETING

Monday 2 August, 7.30pm

Meeting closed: 9.00pm

Robyn Rennie- DCA Convenor

Jacqui Pinkava- Secretary