

## **DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 4 OCTOBER 2021 MEETING**

### **PRESENT on Zoom (Covid Lockdown)**

Jacqui Pinkava, Robyn Rennie, Suzanne Pitson, Patti Kendall, Amit Barkay, Stephen Sedgwick, Miles Boak, Geoff Francis, Sue Dyer

**APOLOGIES:** Kerry-Ann Hugo

**ABSENT:** Sam Hussey-Smith

Commenced 7.35pm, chaired by Robyn Rennie. Closed around 9pm (I was disconnected)

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

6 September – 3 October 2021 \*Agenda items

6,7, 10 Sept- Sue Dyer, request for extension for DA- copy of her letter, etc.

\*7 Sept- Erik Boddeus Goodwin- link to the DA and inviting us to ask Goodwin questions.

8 Sept- Amit Barkay- forward from Andrew Selth re: Office of R Vassarotti attaching response from Minister Steel on public toilets- negative. Offer to write to Minister Berry as Sports Minister to have oval toilets open. (Discussed at Sept DCA meeting)

9 Sept- Access Canberra acknowledge receipt of DCA request for DA comment extension.

11 Sept- OUTGOING- email list to alert community that the DA is open for comment with link.

12 Sept- Michael Flynn- in response to DA email. Supports the development. Wanting DCA to continue to link with Goodwin once its built and occupied. Mentions the Rector of the Holy Cross Anglican Church and area based pastoral responsibility.

\*14 Sept- Laura Dawes- chasing up information DCA to provide as a result of the meeting with the Heritage Council about the pine trees. Miles undertook to do.

14 Sept- proact- non-partisan group encouraging voices to be heard federally and be proactive in building a better Canberra. Invite to DCA to join their online conversation.

[www.proact.org.au](http://www.proact.org.au) . No action.

15 Sept- EPSSD re sale of Canberra Technology Park in Watson.

23 Sept- OUTGOING- forwarded it to DCA email group alerting Phillip Ave residents.

\*19 Sept- Stephen Harrison- seeking DCAA endorsement for a grant for two Thylacine sculptures in Downer Square. 23 Sept- said that Stephen and Miles had organised agreement to endorse.

\*21 Sept- CITL/Access Canberra- waiver of late fees for late lodgement of Annual Return. Forwarded to DCA Treasurer and Public Officer.

22, 23 Sept- Sue Dyer- date of loss of pines on Bradfield for clarification on DA submission draft.

23 Sept- Access Canberra. Acknowledgement of Smartform lodgement of DCA DA submission.

24 Sept- Access Canberra. Acknowledgement of DCA submission sent by email.

Note: DCA submission loaded onto DCA website 24 Sept- so publicly available.

\*27 Sept- Tim Hollo Greens candidate for Federal election. Wishing to meet with us, get known to our members and seeking our views on how best to communicate with our members.

\*27 Sept- Edwina Robinson- Climate Factory- the \$300 micro-forest boxes, pollinator boxes.

Forwarded to Miles and Daina (Berry St group).

28 Sept- Suzanne Pitson- forwarded acknowledgment of her FOI request for documents as foreshadowed in DCA's DA submission- Heritage Council etc.

1 Oct- CPAG (Canberra Planning Action Group)- newsletter on ACT Planning Consultation. Sent to Miles and Patti.

\*3 Oct- Edwina Robinson- advertising her climate wise gardens and micro-forest on-line workshops. The micro-forest one features Cole St Downer experiences.

### **2. MINUTES AND ACTIONS REPORT**

Minutes from the 6 September 2021 meeting approved. Soft copy loaded on DCA website. Minutes (hardcopy) of this and December meeting require signature.

## REPORTS:

### ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- **Berry St Park-** Miles reported that the ACT Gov has made \$15 million available over 4 years for tree planting and extended the Adopt-a-Park scheme. No submission to DCA for \$500 from the Berry St group received as yet.
- **NCCC community communication grant status-** Geoff said that the NCCC still have money, so DCA should submit a bid for 2021/22 grant very soon.

**ACTION: Jacqui to “resubmit” a new request for noticeboards- \$500. Done. Jacqui has ordered two noticeboards- quoted \$504.90- 2-3 weeks to delivery.**

- **Planning Act-** Patti. Mentioned that the new Act may give developers greater flexibility. Referred to a piece in the Canberra Times on 6 September. Reference to the CPAG- (Canberra Planning Action Group)-a volunteer community group who are concerned with the lack of true community consultation in the preparation of a new Planning Act. Patti has a copy of their newsletter to delve further.
  - **Payment for Covid cleaning of Centre-** Stephen does not wish to be paid for the cleaning he did after the Centre was identified as a close contact site. The Committee wish to record their appreciation for the considerable effort undertaken by Stephen to make the Centre clean and safe.
  - **Heritage Council (trees) follow-up-** Robyn reported that she had responded to the meeting organiser and provided her summary notes. Finalised.
3. **GOODWIN DA-** The Committee records a big thanks to Suzanne Pitson and Miles Boak for their excellent effort in submitting a very thorough and detailed submission. The submission is available to download from the DCA website. Miles noted that Goodwin will need to address all the issues raised in the submissions received. A number of Downer residents are known to have lodged individual submissions.
4. **NCCC- REPORT BACK - Geoff Francis**
- Noted frustrations with changes to the ACT Planning Review process.
  - Re. access to NCCC community communication focussed grants- see above.

**ACTION: Geoff to refer the DCA DA submission to NCCC and request their support.**

### 5. REQUEST FROM TIM HOLLO (GREENS CANDIDATE) TO MEET

- Tim Hollo who is the Greens candidate for the seat of Canberra wrote to the DCA introducing himself and seeking to connect with the community.
- Given Covid restrictions, Committee felt that it was not the right time for a public meeting. Also noted that the opportunity to talk to the Downer community must be open to all candidates and not be seen to give preference.

**ACTION: Jacqui to draft a reply to his letter.**

### 6. CENTRE LIAISON- Stephen Sedgwick

- Water leak in the female toilets unresolved. Water has been turned off.
- Lighting company, through ACT Property, noted that emergency lights in the Centre need replacing.
- In line with Covid “Pathway Forward” Plan, the Centre will be reopening as of 16 October. Stephen reports that 17 of the 40 tenants will re-start in keeping with requirements. Stephen has contacted tenants to make them aware of Covid restrictions/requirements.
- Stephen to arrange the printing of laminated signs stating to capacity limits of the rooms, 1 person per 4 square metres for phase 1.

**ACTION: Stephen to organise a committee working bee to prepare the Centre and surrounds after 29 October phase 2 of re-opening.**

## 7. TREASURER'S REPORT- Stephen

- September income and expenses report provided electronically. Current account balance in all three accounts (working, special projects and term deposit) as \$52,679. Working account is \$27,384. September saw a net decrease of \$1,012. Total expenses were \$1,651. Income from room hire was \$839, though the Centre has been closed since 12 August. \$200 key bond was returned reducing income to \$639.
- \$1,045 paid to the Cole St urban forest project. This is part of a special projects fund administered by the DCA.
- Term 3 invoices to be sent out.
- Geoff noted that unlike 2020 there are no Commonwealth Gov Covid grants in the 2021 Covid wave.
- Audit of DCA finances required prior to the AGM.
- 22 November suggested as date for AGM.

## PROJECTS AND ISSUES:

### 8. DCA WEBSITE REVAMP- Jacqui

- Jacqui sent another version of a draft scope document for Committee comment. No comments received. At the meeting Sue noted the need for the home page to have the latest news and alerts.
- Jacqui has contacted Stephen to arrange a meeting to finalise website requirements.

**Action: Stephen to put it into a scoping document.**

- Suzanne expressed an interest in being part of a small website working group.

### 9. CENTRE CO-ORDINATOR DUTY STATEMENT AND RECRUITMENT- Stephen

- Stephen provided a draft document at the August meeting.
- Jacqui sent suggested edits.
- Unresolved.

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

### 10. OTHER BUSINESS

- Request from artist Stephen Harrison for DCA support for his grant application to sculpt two Thylacine sculptures for possible placement in the Square or perhaps Berry St park. DCA supported.
- Public Toilets. Lyneham shops are getting a new toilet block. Suggestion of petitioning for Downer public toilets, noting that 500 signatures and sponsoring politician could possibly get some action. A letter to our local member, Minister Stephen-Smith in her capacity as Minister for Health- citing health angle, active Canberra, more people outdoors walking... suggested by Patti.

**ACTION: Suzanne to investigate what is required to launch a petition.**

- E-Newsletter. Suzanne suggested sending an update on happenings e-newsletter to the email distribution in lieu of not being able to do a letterbox drop.

**ACTION: Jacqui has sent an e-newsletter- link to DA submission, re-opening of the Centre, Floriade display, support businesses in the Square, lobby for public toilets....**

- Party at the Shops to be considered for March 2022.

## NEXT DCA MEETING

Monday 1 November, 7.30pm

Robyn Rennie- DCA Convenor

Jacqui Pinkava- Secretary