

## **DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 1 NOVEMBER 2021 MEETING**

### **PRESENT in person - masked**

Jacqui Pinkava, Robyn Rennie, Suzanne Pitson, Amit Barkay, Stephen Sedgwick, Peter Carey.

**APOLOGIES:** Kerry-Ann Hugo, Patti Kendall, Miles Boak, Geoff Francis, Sue Dyer

**ABSENT:** Sam Hussey-Smith

**GUEST:** Nadia Potas.

Commenced 7.40pm, chaired by Robyn Rennie. Concluded 9pm.

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

4 October – 1 November 2021 \*Agenda items

6 Oct- Me, sending out the E-Newsletter as per Action item.

6 Oct- Christine Butterfield- positive reaction DCA DA submission, noting that she had put in a submission also.

6 Oct- Caroline Le Couteur- some suggestions on what to go in the toilet campaign letter

6 Oct- Fran Parker- thank you for E-newsletter

7 Oct- Jessica Ranjit- thanks for newsletter but have left Downer

7 Oct- Clare Butterfield- request to be a DCA member, has moved into The Bradfield.

9 Oct- Sue Dyer- links to Canberra Town Planning- TP Dynamics in particular.

12 Oct- Amit- request for email to DCA list to promote the Cole Street working bee- sent same day.

14 Oct- Kerry-Ann Hugo- noting she had put Cole St event on DCA Facebook.

14 Oct- Maggie Singh- resident of Downer for 25 years, voicing concern for the removal of the pine trees on corner Melba and Bradfield- asking what can be done to stop this.

I responded noting ACT Heritage Council firm decision to remove and replace with Canary pines.

\*18 Oct- Peter Morris- to DCA, Heritage, Vasarotti, Goodwin, CHC, Hooker strata etc. copy of letter delivered by hand on 18 October voicing The Bradfield residents' displeasure about Canary pines as replacement.

Forwarded on to Robyn, Miles, Amit, Sue D.

20 Oct- Sue Dyer- link to Riotact article on CHC claim to be good low-income landlords in Downer and Throsby. Stated CHC still involved with the Goodwin Downer project. Miles and Sue Dyer responded with comments.

23 Oct- Anne Stearman- acknowledging the new kids library and thanking Jim. Suggests sending out email to invite people to donate childrens books.

\*30 Oct- corro exchange between Miles and Nadia Potas noting date of work on memorial seat- 22 November. Wanting an event for the occasion- suggests December. Miles invited her to the committee meeting.

1 Nov- CPOAG newsletter- forwarded to Suzanne, Miles, Sue D- planning interest.

To Committee members private email- 22 October- Suzanne Pitson- Release under FOI of 4 documents relating to trees not included in the Goodwin Downer DA application.

### **EXTRA ORDINARY ITEM- POTAS SEAT AND TREE DEDICATION- 6 DECEMBER**

Nadia Potas, a Downer resident, has obtained permission from the ACT Government, City Services to provide a circular seat and tree within the Downer Square as a dedication to her husband, Ivan Potas who was the "Official Visitor" to the ACT Prison, a lawyer and research criminologist. DCA is providing \$2,000 towards the memorial and Nadia the rest.

Nadia reported that 22 November is the date set for the tree planting and seat construction. She expects it will take 2-3 days for completion. The site is the south eastern corner of the square in front of "Roo Watch" sculpture and the vet.

She would like an event to mark the occasion. It was settled to move the DCA AGM to Monday 6 December and to incorporate the dedication, along with a BBQ. Nadia will arrange for a speaker (Shane Rattenbury suggested), and for her family from Sydney and friends/associates of her husband to attend.

## 2. MINUTES AND ACTIONS REPORT

Minutes from the 4 October 2021 meeting approved. Soft copy loaded on DCA website.

### REPORTS:

#### ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- **NCCC grant for noticeboards-** our request for \$500 raised at 20 Oct NCCC meeting, approved. Two noticeboards have arrived from WA. Arranged with Jim to affix 9 Nov to the right of doors to east and west halls.

**Action: Jacqui to send copy of invoice to Geoff, NCCC and Stephen for \$504.90 paid. Done**

- Decided not to pursue possible WiFi in centre grant request as clients have not recently requested WiFi and query ongoing need for this.
- Amit suggested requesting funding for a new DCA signboards with current contact details for the DCA- eg. email address.

**ACTION: Amit to contact NCCC Treasurer to see if possible.**

- **Response to Tim Hollo to meet-** Jacqui to reply.
- **Centre working bee-** Stephen will ask Miles to organise.
- **DCA website scoping document-** Stephen indicated he is working on it.

#### 3. GOODWIN DA- No contact/communication.

#### 4. NCCC- REPORT BACK - Geoff Francis

- Geoff did not attend the 20 October meeting- no report.

#### 5. CENTRE LIAISON- Stephen Sedgwick

- Centre reopened on 15 October. Stephen suggested most clients are returning.
- Majura Women's Group wrote expressing concern about ventilation. Suggests opening door and using fans.
- Laminated signs stating room capacity limits placed in all areas along with QR codes.
- Light in women's toilet logged as urgent. Continuous light in store room fixed by replacing movement sensor. Both issues fixed 2 November.
- Leaking toilet issue persist- Jim to investigate.
- Committee view sought on possible new tenant- Warrior Kind Yoga- nude men's yoga group. Stephen has met with the teacher/leader and gave a positive appraisal. A trial booking suggested and window blinds checked that they are operational. Note: one window facing passageway in the West hall requires a blind.
- Amit has purchased an AED for the Centre- \$1,950. Noted that the ACT Government is supportive of the purchase, will not reimburse the cost, but may do so in the future. Amit has sent payment details to Stephen electronically.

**ACTION: Stephen to pay from DCA funds to Integrity Health & Safety by bank transfer.**

#### 6. TREASURER'S REPORT- Stephen

- October income and expenses report provided electronically. Current account balance in all three accounts (working, special projects and term deposit) as \$50,529. Working account is \$25,234. September saw a net decrease of \$2,150, however \$405 of this was for payment of Cole St grant expenses. Some \$2 remains unexpended for Cole St urban forest! Total expenses amounted to \$2,289. Income from room hire was \$545 which included \$200 for key bonds.
- Stephen to arrange for audit of DCA finances prior to the AGM.
- 6 December settled as date for AGM. See Agenda item 12.

## PROJECTS AND ISSUES:

### 7. KIDS LIBRARY- Jacqui

- Vote of thanks to Jim Dehlsen, honorary DCA handy-person for the fine job on the new kid's cupboard and slide out shelving library constructed under the adult library. Noted that the Scoobie Doodles kids art/craft class were invited to decorate it.

**ACTION: Jacqui to request kids book donations in next E-newsletter.**

### 8. FROG POND AND WATER TANK

- Jacqui has weeded the frog pond native garden, noted that the cage over the pond needs to be lifted to get to the weeds. Also noted how dry the soil had become. Tank remains unconnected to the downpipe, so no easy access to water.

**ACTION: Amit kindly offered to arrange for the tank to be connected.**

### 9. RECRUITMENT OF CENTRE-COORDINATOR- Stephen

- Expect to happen in January/February 2022.

**ACTION: Jacqui to put a note about the Centre Coord job in the E-newsletter.**

### 10. BRADFIELD PINE TREES

- Noted the correspondence copied to the DCA re- resident's views and actions. No action warranted. DCA met with the ACT Heritage Council on 6 August and it was firmly stated that the replacement trees are to be Canary pines.

### 11. DOWNER TOILET PETITION- Suzanne

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

### 12. AGM AND E-NEWSLETTER- Robyn

- Monday 6 December 2021. Will begin at 6pm with BBQ and dedication for the Ivan Potas memorial seat and tree. AGM to be around 7.30pm.
- E-Newletter at least 21 days before the AGM to invite Downer residents to attend. Include mention of Centre Coord recruitment, request for childrens books etc.

**ACTION: Jacqui to send an e-newsletter no later than 15 November.**

**Robyn- to contact Nadia Potas with date and asking her to organise the speaker and VIP guests for the dedication (done).**

**Amit and Miles- to organise the BBQ.**

**Stephen- arrange the audit.**

## NEXT DCA MEETING- the AGM

Monday 6 December, 7.30pm

Robyn Rennie- DCA Convenor

Jacqui Pinkava- Secretary