

DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 7 DECEMBER 2020 MEETING

PRESENT

Sam Hussey-Smith, Stephen Sedgwick, Jacqui Pinkava, Miles Boak, Patti Kendall, Robyn Rennie, Peter Carey, Suzanne Pitson, Amit Barkay, Fiona Dickson, Bill Scott, Christine Butterfield, Sue Dyer, Lara Doolette

APOLOGIES: Kerry-Ann Hugo, Geoff Francis, Neil Baudinette

Goodwin: Erik Boddeus (Exec Manager Retirement Living), Cassandra Keller (architect from Clark-Keller), Rob McElhinney (Senior Project Manager), Michelle ? (town planning?), Sara ? (architect associate), Liz ? (Sales Officer Goodwin).

Meeting opened 7.35pm, with a presentation by Goodwin on the Goodwin Downer proposed development.

Main points:

- Background on Goodwin- largest not for profit provider. Part of Canberra community for 65 years. Outlined values- care, excellence, innovation etc.
- Land (effectively “Stage 3”) purchased from CHC for the development of Independent Living residential development. Made it clear that it is not an aged care facility.
- 10 months into the planning. Tender process to select architects. Clark-Keller selected. Viridis, environmentally sustainable design specialists are advisers to the project. Expect to lodge a DA in February 2021. Broader community consultation beforehand.
- Max of 140 dwellings in four 4 storey buildings on the site. 110 2-3 bedroom independent accessible and adaptable apartments. 20 “assisted living” apartments- ie. Three groups of 6 person “households” sharing kitchen and common space. Club house, gym and multi-functional space in south east corner providing close connection to the Downer Centre.
- Expect construction may start in second half of 2021 following tender for builder. Contract requires completion in four years from 30 January 2020. Staging of the development yet to be determined.
- Strong focus on retaining established trees- particularly oaks. Trees dictated building layout. Donut shaped basement to allow for central deep-rooted plantings.
- One entry and exit point from Melba Street. Basement parking for residents (one space per apartment) and one per staff member. Above ground space for service vehicles.
- Open access to north and western borders for Downer residents. Pathways, play stations, landscaping available to both residents and public. Upgrade of public path on southern boundary with lighting. Noted that their lease made no mention of an access road. North/South access between CHC development linking to Downer Shops.
- ACT Heritage are “inflexible” on the replacement of the heritage pines. Must be replaced with pines. Suggest that the Downer community “take issue to government”.
- On questioning, noted that 7 of the 140 apartments will be “affordable”. Tenants to be sourced by CHC during the 10 year lease period.
- On question of what is the benefit for Downer, response that it will be an asset we do not have, aging in place opportunity, keen to interact with the wider community, sharing of landscape and possibly club house space.

FORMAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Commenced 8.35pm, chaired by Sam Hussey-Smith- outgoing 2020 convenor.

1. MINUTES AND DCA CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND ISSUES RAISED ACTIONS ARISING

MINUTES

Minutes from the 2 November 2020 meeting approved. Soft copy sent for loading on DCA website. Hard copy signed on the night.

ACTION ITEMS- FOLLOW UP- not discussed.

CORRESPONDENCE- of significance- Jacqui Pinkava

Note: Not discussed at meeting.

Incoming:

9 Nov- Edwina Robinson- Urban Forest Cole Street working bee invite for 11 Nov

9 Nov- Sam Hussey-Smith- meeting date with Business Energy and Water- see agenda

11 Nov and others- Erik Boddeus Goodwin- arrangements for presentation at next DCA meeting. See below- presentation summary.

13 Nov- Ann Frideman- seeking to put up flyers about a murder of Keren Rowland in Downer in 1971. Also seeking information from long term residents especially in Nichols St.

20 Nov- Rebecca Vassarotti ACT Greens introducing herself as Minister for Heritage and Sustainable Building and Construction.

24 Nov- Tania Parkes Academy of Interactive Entertainment Watson development invite to a Zoom info session

25 Nov- Jane Goffman- information about number of Dickson planning projects and incorporation of the Dickson Residents Association.

27 Nov- Lara Doolette- suggesting a Twilight market in the Square. Some 5-7 stall holders. See Agenda item.

Outgoing:

5 Nov- to DCA mailing list invitation to BBQ in the Square and DCA AGM 23 Nov.

6 Nov- to DCA mailing list, invitation to Cole St Urban Forest planting bee 15 Nov.

21 Nov- to DCA mailing list, reminder of the AGM two sleeps away.

1 Dec- to DCA mailing list, Invite to 7 Dec DCA public meeting – presentation by Goodwin on independent living development on old school site.

2. WELCOME AND THANKS TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS

As this is the first meeting following the AGM of 23 November, it marks the first meeting of the newly appointed committee for 2021.

A welcome was extended to Bill Scott, who put his hand up at the AGM. A welcome return to Amit Barkay, who has been central to the Cole Street project in the past year.

As nominated and accepted at the AGM, the following people are on the 2021 DCA Committee:

Sam Hussey-Smith
Jacqui Pinkava
Geoff Francis
Robyn Rennie
Amit Barkay

Stephen Segwick
Suzanne Pitson
Patti Kendall
Kerry-Ann Hugo
Bill Scott

A vote of thanks to Miles Boak, who, finding himself grounded, willingly returned to the Committee in 2020, assisting with Centre Management, the Pond and Square “Adopt a Park” projects, and providing expertise and advice.

Thanks also to Simone Gray, the outgoing Public Officer and co-organiser of Clean Up Downer.

OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2021

Convenor- Sam advised that he has taken on a busy role on another committee and therefore is standing down from the role.

Patti Kendall and Robyn Rennie are considering sharing the role and will make a decision at the February meeting of the committee. Sam will continue to fill the convenor position in the meantime.

Treasurer- Stephen Sedgwick agreed to continue in this role.

Secretary- Jacqui Pinkava agreed to continue in this role.

Public Officer- Sam volunteered to take on this role.

Sam also agreed to continue updating the DCA website.

Miles said he is happy to be co-opted onto the Committee if and when required.

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| ACTION: Stephen to provide Sam with the paperwork required to lodge an Annual Return with Access Canberra. |
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3. TREASURER’S REPORT AND CENTRE LIAISON- Stephen Sedgwick

TREASURER’S REPORT

- Income and expenses (working account) report for November and Grant Allocation report sent electronically. An increase of \$6,000 in the working account principally from room hire.
- Expenses were \$1,095 made up of electricity \$211, wages (cleaner) \$512, key cutting \$216 and superannuation \$60.
- Adopt-a-Park grant for Square has \$7 remaining. Frog pond \$3,490. Media grant for PA \$12. \$924 remains from the Quiz night fund raiser (2019).
- \$1,576 received for administration for the Cole Street Adopt-a-Park grant.

CENTRE LIAISON/ MANAGEMENT

- Possum was removed and a bill for \$550 sent by ACT Property. However, hole was not properly secured and payment is on hold until hole is sealed.
- Request by tenant to have a New Year party in the hall denied given repeated transgressions of the “no food or drink” in the carpeted West Hall.
- Agreed to a three month trial of a new tenant- “Angry Face Transport” (transporting pound pets to safety)
- Jim Dehlsen investigating ways to fix the water leaks in the men’s toilet.

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| ACTION: Fix water leaks in men’s toilet. |
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4. BUSINESS ENERGY AND WATER REPORT- Sam Hussey-Smith

- Sam has received the report from ACT Smart based on their site visit in November. This program provides a rebate of up to \$5,000 for improvements. Most likely area of saving is in changes to lighting.
- Interest also in a separate solar program- “Solar for Business Trial”. This can only be accessed after participation in the above program.
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| ACTION: Sam to circulate the report and follow-up in the solar program and report back at February 2021 meeting. |
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5. TWILIGHT MARKET

- Lara Doolette has taken the initiative to organise a local craft market to take place in the Downer Square on Friday 18 December 5.30-9pm. Expects 5-7 stalls. Commercial tenants have been advised. No responses received from them.
- Posters have been designed, though not clear on who is paying for printing.
- Lara to submit Covid paperwork as the organiser.
- Lara to arrange publicity. DCA offer to put on Facebook and send email invite to the DCA member list.
- DCA public liability insurance covers up to 10 stall holders.
- DCA endorses the Twilight Market as a great opportunity to bring the community together again. A good precursor to our Party at the Shops (Covid postponed)

ACTION: Committee agreed to meet poster printing costs.
Jacqui to send out email invite- done

6. ZEBRA CROSSINGS ANTIL STREET

- Issue of the need for two zebra crossings on Antil street raised by Birgitte Ingram at the AGM. Sam suggested that a letter from the DCA may have a greater chance of gaining attention.
- Information being sought from Birgitte to get a clear picture of what is wanted and exactly where on Antil Street in order to draft letter.

ACTION: Amit to follow-up with Birgitte. Jacqui to find out who to write to with view to doing a first draft.

NEXT DCA MEETING

Monday 1 February 2021

Agenda items to include:

- Appointment of a Convenor
- Recruitment of a paid Centre Co-ordinator
- Party at the Shops
- Solar program and Business Water and Energy program- Sam
- WiFi in Centre- NCCC funding request- Stephen

Meeting closed 9.15 pm

Sam Hussey-Smith
Convenor

Jacqui Pinkava
Secretary