

**DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of Management Committee Meeting**  
**Monday 4 August 2014**

The meeting opened at 7.05 pm.

**PRESENT**

Di Fielding (Chair), Denys Garden, Jane Ahern, Stephen Sedgwick, Philida Sturgiss-Hoy, Chris Paterson, Patti Kendall, Miles Boak. Observer: John Fielding.

**APOLOGIES**

Brian Callahan, Caroline Le Couteur, Amit Barkay (leave of absence)

**MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting of 7th July 2014 were accepted.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

School site. Di Fielding advised that Richard Bear (CHC) who was to be invited to the meeting is still overseas.

**Action: Di Fielding to follow-up and invite Richard to attend next meeting.**

Replacement of lights by LEDs. Diana Crosbie is away and her replacement had not replied re. whose responsibility this was. The cost of ca. \$5000 may be prohibitive for DCA.

**Action: Di Fielding to follow-up.**

Downer Preschool. Di Fielding reported that she had spoken to the Director of Education responsible for feeder areas. Signs which suggest that Downer Preschool feeds to Lyneham only may be changed. There was a plan to review all feeder areas.

**Action: Di Fielding to provide Philida Sturgiss-Hoy with information to be emailed to those on our list explaining the true situation re. Downer Preschool.**

Jim Dehlsen. Miles Boak confirmed that Jim is available to do small maintenance work at the Centre.

Development Application for temporary carpark at Dickson shops. DCA submitted comments on the DA which were also sent to all on our email list. Apparently 18 submissions were received, with 6 from Downer residents. Di Fielding reported that she had spoken to the organiser of the Dickson Traders group, who was not happy with the prospect of loss of trade over the construction period in Dickson. However, he reported that most traders do not seem concerned.

SEE-Change proposal. DCA had decided not to be involved with the proposal, and SEE-Change has been advised.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. 2 Emails from SEE Change re. proposal presented at last meeting, including more detail as agreed.
2. Several emails from Downer residents about DCA submission re. carpark in Dickson.

**CENTRE COORDINATOR'S REPORT**

Di Fielding reported that in the absence of a Centre Liaison Officer, the Coordinator had been asked to give a report to the meeting each month. Jingwen Wang reported

that 6 new heaters had been installed and were working well, and doors have been fixed. The ACT Government has collected DCC contact numbers as the Centre could be used as a safe area during an emergency. Some clients have left due to the noise of demolition on the school site. However, Di Fielding reported that one of these had actually only shut down until spring.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Stephen Sedgwick reported that finances were in good shape, with \$5,303 presently in the working account after payment of quarterly tax and superannuation.

There was some discussion about whether we needed to advertise for new clients if we were losing some. Various suggestions were canvassed, including email, newsletter and other means. Chris Patterson suggested that the Centre might be an attractive location for some U3A courses. On balance, the Treasurer felt there was no urgent need to advertise.

### **OMNIBUS TERRITORY PLAN VARIATION**

This had been announced in the paper recently, and involves a large number of variations across Canberra to develop many pockets of land. It was noted that it included land between the Dickson pool and Dickson playing fields, which may cause some issues for Dickson and Downer residents. Miles Boak also noted that this could hold up development in Downer. Patti Kendall expressed the view that we don't want to lose what we have argued for on the school site. Because of the oversupply of apartments, there may be a chance of getting lower density on the school site.

Di Fielding noted that Alison Abernethy felt that individual Territory Plan variations may be on hold because of the Omnibus TPV. However, Alison will inform us when any TPV for the school site comes up. It was noted that there was a NCCC meeting on the Omnibus on 12th August.

**Action: Alison Abernethy will convene a meeting of the Downer Reference Group to provide information on the plan.**

### **SPRING FAIR**

This has been set for Saturday 20th September. Di Fielding reported that some clients and others were interested in being involved:

- Machine knitters & jigsaws
- Watson Preschool – sausage sizzle
- Coffee van

There was discussion of other options, e.g. kids craft (Downer preschool, Majura School?), bands.

Advertising. Di Fielding to contact Aniko Carey re. posters.

### **NEWSLETTER**

It was agreed that one should be produced by the start of September to publicise the Spring Fair and advise residents about the options for Downer Preschool students. Jane Ahern offered to investigate printing of the newsletter through her work.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Email list. Philida Sturgiss-Hoy reported on progress with bringing the list up to date. Additional new members had been added and some progress had been made in correcting email addresses which bounce. Philida and Denys Garden to continue this work. It was suggested that once the list is in order, it could be used for updates between newsletters.

30th Anniversary of DCA. Miles Boak noted that this would occur in 2015 and suggested this should be marked in some way. He suggested that a project could be undertaken to archive all old DCA records, perhaps with ACT Heritage. Miles provided a USB with scanned/saved documents in his possession as a start. It was also suggested that we could mark the occasion with a dinner to which notable past DCA members (e.g. Tim Brook, Sue Dyer, Bob Phillips) could be invited.

Downer Shops. Di Fielding reported that she had spoken to Theo Poulos, who is still positive about starting the project, although no date has been given.

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday 1st September at 7 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Di Fielding  
Convenor

Denys Garden  
Secretary