

DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
Minutes of Management Committee Meeting
Monday 7th October 2013

The meeting opened at 7.04 pm.

PRESENT

Di Fielding (Chair), Denys Garden, Stephen Sedgwick, Brain Callahan, Chris Paterson, Amit Barkay, Jane Ahern, Caroline Le Couteur. Observers: Paul Wilkinson, Tim Blair, Aniko Carey.

APOLOGIES

Miles Boak.

MINUTES

Minutes of the meetings held Monday 5th August were accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE

In.

1. Email from Kristen Connell, Talkforce Media and Communications Strategists, with invitation to attend meeting to discuss Capital Metro Light Rail Integration Study, 10th October.

CENTRE COORDINATOR/LIAISON OFFICER REPORT

Di Fielding reported contact by Diana Crosbie, Community Services Directorate re. possible work at Community Centre. There was some discussion of a list of projects which could be requested to be done. These include replacement of heaters (top priority), storage (either external or internal), kitchen hot water system and replacement of lights with energy-efficient systems.

Action: Amit Barkay to draw up list of possible projects.

Action: Di Fielding to check with Diana Crombie the fate of our previous application for a grant for major work at the Centre..

Amit Barkay (Centre Liaison Officer) and Stephen Sedgwick (Treasurer) reported that Centre Coordinator, Jingwen Wang was working well. She has requested some time off in December/January which may require the Centre to be shut down during this period. Stephen Sedgwick noted that there were some bookings within this period which may need to be allowed for.

Action: Stephen Sedgwick to check bookings with Jingwen.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Stephen Sedgwick had previously emailed a copy of his report to Committee members. He noted that bills for September were low (\$616.90) and income from room hire was the highest for the year (\$6400). Stephen reported that the latest invoices had been sent out using the new spreadsheet-based booking system, which had highlighted some previously unpaid invoices. At the end of September, the main account balance was \$6183.52.

Brian Callahan (Public Officer) reported that he had received the form for notification of contact person from the Tax Office.

Action: Brian Callahan and Stephen Sedgwick to collaborate in filling out the form.

Di Fielding congratulated the Stephen Sedgwick for his work in creating the new client booking system, which is working so well.

ELECTION FETE

Amit Barkay reported that the fete had gone very well. Those running stalls were very happy, and many sold out. Thirty one new members were signed up and approx. \$200 was raised from sale of books and CDs.

DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

Shops. Amit Barkay reported that the Development Application has apparently now been approved, but we are still unsure what is actually happening in regard to on-site works.

Action: Di Fielding to email Theo Poulos re. progress and to report back to the Committee.

Territory Plan Variation. Caroline Le Couteur reported on a meeting with ACTPLA. Apparently there are no variations planned for Downer. ACTPLA recognises that most residents want a maximum of 2-storey development, but it is apparent that the Government wishes to maximize return.

Other planning issues. Di Fielding reported a new development application for 90 and 92 Blacket St, for demolition of 2 existing dwellings and construction of 2 double-storey buildings comprising 16 units with basement parking (DA 201324060; closing date 11/10/2013; see http://www.actpla.act.gov.au/topics/your_say/comment/pubnote#D).

There was some discussion of whether the DCA should make a submission.

Action: Di Fielding to discuss with Miles Boak a possible submission re this development.

There was further discussion about development in Downer in general. Jane Ahern proposed consulting residents about their views on development by way of a survey.

Action: Jane Ahern to draft a survey, which may need to be directly distributed to residents.

It was agreed that the survey would need to be done soon, so the results can be considered at our next Committee meeting and the AGM.

Caroline Le Couteur raised the issue of proposed light rail and its effect on transport in Downer. Apparently the plan is to use the same stops as for the Route 200 buses (i.e. Federal Hwy/Phillip Ave and Northbourne Ave/Motor Registry). This means that the central part of Downer will not be serviced, and maybe other buses may be reduced as well. We need to be agitating for better light rail and bus services for Downer.

Action: Caroline Le Couteur to draft a submission on transport needs of Downer.

Amit Barkay reported that he and Miles Boak have been provided with hard copies of the Traffic Report in relation to the old school site development.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This will be held on Monday 18th November at 7.30pm. Brian Callahan has created an advertisement for the Canberra Times and will ensure that there will be publicity in other locations (e.g. 'Fridge Door', Canberra Chronicle, Allclassifieds). It was agreed that a Newsletter should be distributed in early November and include publicity for the meeting.

It was suggested that John Fielding could be asked to be Returning Officer, and that Theo Poulos should be approached about speaking at the meeting. Di Fielding will send copies of forms to Denys Garden (Secretary). Brian Callahan will organize drinks and food platter(s) as last year, although other food contributions are welcome.

NEXT MEETING

Monday 4th November at 7 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Di Fielding
Convenor

Denys Garden
Secretary