

DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Management Committee Meeting

Monday 2nd March 2015

PRESENT

Di Fielding (Chair), Denys Garden, Stephen Sedgwick, Chris Paterson, Caroline Le Couteur, Jane Ahern, Miles Boak, Patti Kendall. Observers: Amit Barkay, Peter Carey, Anne Abbott

APOLOGIES

Philida Sturgiss-Hoy, Brian Callahan

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of 2nd February 2015 were accepted after minor alteration

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTE

Di Fielding advised she has sent a third email to Diana Crombie at TAMS seeking advice as to who is responsible for the maintenance/upkeep of the SEE-Change blinds but has not received a response. Committee resolved to try and establish who provided the blinds, to inform See-Change that the government is not responding to DCA requests and to see if See-Change have any preferences for particular blinds.

Action: See-Change to be contacted for their input

Di Fielding reported no response to her letters to the Chief Minister Andrew Barr and Minister for Territory and Municipal Services Shane Rattenbury asking for a fresh look at the decision to close the public toilet block at the Downer Centre. Di phoned and was told a reply would be forthcoming but it has not been issued to date.

Action: Di Fielding to follow up

Stephen Sedgwick and Denys Garden were thanked for their hard work when presenting the latest draft DCA Review of Finances. The comprehensive final report will be presented in a few months. So far, analysis of the Association's income and expenditure over the previous five years has shown a small annual profit for the last four years. Stephen and Denys will continue to review the data to establish if there is sufficient buffer to meet potential increases in costs and to enable budget forecasting that will allow tactical decision-making.

Action: Financial Review to be presented by Stephen and Denys in a few months.

CENTRE COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Jingwen Wang's report indicated that most 2015 applications have been handed in by the centre's clients.

A heating audit and emergency lighting testing have been carried out.

The wasps' nests have been removed by Amit. There was some discussion about having a pest inspection carried out at the Centre.

The Fibre Basket Group have requested a lockable cupboard for their baskets. This led to a general discussion about keys and key records.

Action: Jingwen to be asked to contact all clients, carry out a key audit and report back.

Amit Barkay is no longer Liason Officer. Di Fielding called for someone to replace Amit to work with Jingwen to resolve issues as they arise. Until a Liason Officer is found, Di Fielding and Stephen Sedgwick will coordinate with Jingwen. Jim Dhalsen is happy to carry out maintenance work.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Stephen Sedgwick reported that the bills for February were roughly average. Wages were lower than usual but will return to normal with Jingwen's return to work.

March will see 3 wage cycles being paid.

Just over \$1000 was received in room hire. Invoices for term 1 will be sent out over the next 6 weeks.

Current account balances are similar to this time last year, slightly up on the 2 years prior.

Current Working Account Balance: \$8989.53, Special Projects balance: \$10,

DCA Term Deposit: \$6246.15

PARTY AT THE SHOPS

Party at the shops will be held on 2nd May 2015. There will be some funding available from ACT Government. Di to ask Jingwen to contact all our clients to see if they want to have stalls. SEE-Change have indicated they would like one. Downer Pre-School expected to be involved. Other pre-schools in area to be invited to participate, also the Girl Guides. Miles Boak to contact pre-schools, Amit Barkay to ask Watson pre-school

Caroline Le Couteur suggested small suitcase stalls.

Patti Kendall to ask Potters Place if they want to have a stall.

Sly Fox Coffee agreed to attend event with coffee van.

Amy Moon to be asked to supply posters for the event to be distributed around Downer and Dickson shopping centre.

Aniko and Peter Carey to be asked about supplying advertising signs, as in previous years.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Miles Boak reported that only 10 people came to collect rubbish, however, there seemed to be less rubbish than in previous years. DCA has been supporting Clean-Up Australia for 15 years and will continue to do so.

COLES-DOMA REDEVELOPMENT OF DICKSON SHOPPING CENTRE

Di Fielding had discussions with Jane Goffman of Active Planning and joined an information session at Dickson shopping centre. Di reported that anger was expressed by the community at the lack of precise information and clarity from the ACT Government about the plans for the area and the difficulty of accessing development applications/information on websites.

There were 59 submissions on the Coles-DOMA redevelopment plans.

Concern and complaints have been expressed by Downer residents about road safety and traffic issues especially on Melba and Swinden Streets. As no adequate, verifiable traffic survey has been carried out the Committee felt there was a need to establish reliable evidence on road use in the area.

CITY AND NORTHBOURNE URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK

Di Fielding represented DCA at the City and Northbourne Urban Design Framework workshop studio. Di reported that the workshop was introduced by Mick Gentleman MLA who called for in-character buildings in sympathy with the local area to be built – rigorous legislation to be the driver for this and must be something the community accepts. Consideration should be given to resident's needs and the village feel of suburbs should be retained. The Ca-NUDF will guide the strategic opportunities for development, renewal and revitalisation in the city centre and along Northbourne Avenue. There are currently 5 options under consideration for Northbourne Avenue, 4 do not intrude into Downer.

PLASTIC FENCING SURROUNDING OLD SCHOOL SITE

Discussion by committee members about the blue plastic sheeting still surrounding the old school site. DCA understood the sheeting would be removed once the building was taken down. Relevant authority to be contacted to remove the sheeting so Downer residents can enjoy the amenity again.

DCA 25th ANNIVERSARY

DCA's 25th anniversary is coming up in October 2015. Discussions around a celebratory dinner and Collection of all records.

CORRESPONDENCE

Out:

- 1) Email to Rich Dean, Lyneham Community Association re: Community Association insurance.
- 2) Third Email to Diana Crombie re: responsibility for replacing See-Change blinds

In:

- 1) Email from Leon Arundell to Downer and other Inner North Community Associations regarding ACT Government's Planning and Development (Capital Metro) Legislation Amendment Bill 2014. He believes there is cause for concern in the significant changes relating to the proposed light rail project, in particular, advice given under Heritage Act and Tree Protection Act can be disregarded by the Planning and land Authority.
- 2) Emails x 2 from Jane Goffman (Active Planning) re update on Coles/Doma redevelopment in Dickson town centre and updates on Active Planning's public information activities.
- 3) Email from Christie Allen, ACY Government inviting DCA to nominate a representative to participate in workshops informing public about city and Northbourne Avenue Urban Design Framework Project.
- 4) Email from Rich Dean, secretary of Lyneham Community Association seeking advice on insurance cover for Community Association.
- 5) Email from Jodie Pipkorn confirming See-Change would like a stall at upcoming Party at the Shops
- 6) Capital Metro Newsletter emailed.
- 7) Email from Downer resident asking for Downer @50 book and CD.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 13th April 2015 at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Di Fielding

Convener

Jane Ahern

Secretary