

## **DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

Minutes of Management Committee Meeting, Monday 4 May 2015

### **PRESENT**

Miles Boak (Acting Chair), Denys Garden, Philida Sturgiss-Hoy, Stephen Sedgwick, Chris Paterson, Jane Ahern, Brian Callahan. Observer: Sarah Chapman

### **APOLOGIES**

Di Fielding, Caroline Le Couteur, Patti Kendall

### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting of 13 April 2015 were accepted after minor alteration

### **CENTRE COORDINATOR'S REPORT**

Coordinator's report circulated. Jingwen Wang has sent a guideline email to every client outlining how to maintain the heaters. Coordinator duties to include regular check of pilot lights

Jim Dhelsen is continuing to help with maintenance jobs, is doing a good job and is happy to continue. Discussion around utilising Jim's maintenance skills further – perhaps coordinating with Majura Men's Shed, whose members are often looking for maintenance or handyman projects.

**Action: Regular checking of pilot lights by Coordinator.**

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The treasurer's report was circulated to committee prior to the meeting. Stephen reported that general bills for the month were quite low at \$270 but that \$4898 was paid out in insurances, superannuation, wages and PAYE tax. This was offset by room hire income of just over \$4000 which lowered the bank account by only \$880. There is a DCA term deposit of \$6,246.15.

Another notable expense, paid in May was \$173 to Jim Dehlsen for his maintenance work.

### **PARTY AT THE SHOPS REVIEW**

It was generally agreed that the recent Party at the Shops was a great success. Feedback from members and visitors to the event was positive. The bands were good, there was a lovely atmosphere and it was thought that approx. 500 people would have attended over the day.

Sly Fox coffee sold 180 cups of coffee and Downer Preschool used 250 sausages in their sandwiches. There was discussion amongst the committee about the DCA purchasing their own sound system to avoid having to borrow one for outdoor events – as suggested in an email from a Downer resident and ex-committee member Amit Barkay. Further discussion centred on the cost-effectiveness of our own PA system and if a projector might not be more useful overall. Stephen felt there would be a better return on renting out a projector and it would be easier to store. The projector or PA system to be shared with Downer pre-school if purchased. No decision was made and further investigations are to be undertaken

**Action: Details of PA system and projector to be investigated and considered. Both items to be put on agenda for consideration at next month's committee meeting**

### **DCA ANNIVERSARY DINNER**

The date for the anniversary dinner has been set for Saturday 24 October 2015.

There were discussions around the event, catering, drinks, costs, expected numbers etc.

It was decided that the catered dinner would be held in the East Hall at the Centre with invitations to go out 3 months in advance. The hall is to be free from bookings from 6pm on the day for setting up with the event to begin at 6.30pm for 7pm. A list of previous DCA members will be needed to invite them to the dinner. Various catering options were considered – a fully catered spit roast option was

discussed. Chris suggested that a small subcommittee of 3 members was needed to arrange the event.

**Action: Stephen to ensure the hall is free from bookings from 6pm on the day for setting up**

**Miles to contact previous DCA members to invite to dinner**

**Jane to contact CIT to see if their trainee chefs provide outside catering**

**Chris will look at various catering options for up to 50 people.**

**Brian to look at compiling a wine list**

**Denys to check contact details for previous members**

### **DOWNER PRE-SCHOOL**

There was a discussion around numbers at Downer Preschool. The numbers are known to be low and this was confirmed by Sarah Chapman, observer, who informed the meeting that there were 9 families utilising the pre-school with 10 children attending. Sarah commented that some Downer parents send their children to Watson pre-school in the belief that they will be in the Majura Primary School catchment area rather than the Lyneham Primary School one, despite assurances to the contrary. There was agreement on the DCA's ongoing support for the pre-school. Denys ensured the Downer pre-school fete was advertised in the recent Around Downer newsletter as well as advertising flyers printed by the pre-school being included with the newsletter deliveries.

Phil suggested a donation of \$200 be made to the pre-school to cover their advertising printing costs for their upcoming fete. The donation was seconded by Stephen.

**Action: Denys to email members a reminder about the Downer pre-school fete.**

### **DOWNER SCHOOL SITE UPDATE**

Other than notified the draft variation has left the planning authority and gone to the Assembly.

No further updates have been given yet.

It was noted that there has been no response to the request to have the blue plastic fencing surrounding the site removed so the public can utilise the area as much as possible.

### **DCA MEETING WITH ANDREW BARR**

Scheduled for 4pm on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015. Jane, Caroline, Patti and Miles to attend.

Given that 20 minutes has been allowed for the meeting, it was agreed to only raise 3 of the main issues at the meeting for greater impact.

1) The preferred development on the old school site and building heights. Miles has taken photos of the 'City Edge' development in O'Connor to demonstrate the preferred, 2 storey style of development. He also has photos of the unwanted 4 storey development in Bruce; similar to the one proposed to be built on the Downer school site by the same developer.

2) The lack of enrolments in Downer pre-school, the need to support it and remove public misconceptions about the pre-school being the feeder for Lyneham Primary School only.

3) The promised money to restore the Bicentennial Square

### **OTHER MATTERS**

- Dickson redevelopment. Jane Goffman continues to be an active and effective advocate for more thoughtful planning and open communication. The DCA to continue to support Jane as much as we can.
- Denys advised that the membership email list needs something concrete doing about it. Phil has brought it up to date but of the 213 email addresses on the list only 124 are effective and others bounce so we cannot contact all members. In order to have valid details, members with phone numbers will be called for updated details. Otherwise, Denys will send follow up letters.

- Uneven paving at the front of the East Hall was noted. Needs to be repaired before the anniversary dinner

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Email from Amit Barkay re pa system as discussed above

Email with agenda for NCCC General Meeting on 19 May 2015. Deputy Chief Minister Simon Corbell and Jane Easthope, CEO of Canberra CBD, to address the meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday 1 June 2015 at 7.00pm

Miles Boak, Acting Convener

Jane Ahern, Secretary