

DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 2 NOVEMBER 2020 MEETING

PRESENT

In person!!- Sam Hussey-Smith, Stephen Sedgwick, Jacqui Pinkava, Miles Boak, Kerry-Ann Hugo, Simone Gray, Patti Kendall, Robyn Rennie, Peter Carey, Suzanne Pitson, Amit Barkay, Fiona Dickson, and possum.

Via Zoom: Geoff Francis.

Meeting opened 7.35pm, chaired by Sam Hussey-Smith.

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

MINUTES

Minutes from the 5 October 2020 meeting approved. Soft copy sent for loading on DCA website. Hard copy signed on the night, as were minutes from December 2019 onwards.

1. CORRESPONDENCE- of significance- Jacqui Pinkava

Incoming:

Various dates- Erik Boddeus, Goodwin- attempts to arrange a mutually agreeable time for Goodwin development architect to show plans to the whole DCA Committee- See Agenda 4.
8 Oct- Amit Barkay- request to notify Downer residents of the Coles Street planting bee.

Forwarded to Kerry-Ann to post on Facebook.

13 Oct- response from the Greens party to our letter to Minister Rattenbury regarding post election plans for Downer.

15 Oct- Bruce Smith, Treasurer NCCC, regarding more information on our grant outline for funding for WiFi to be installed at the Centre. See Agenda 6- other matters.

15 Oct- Kate Mokrij- Slower Streets- wanting more signs, near pre-school.

26 Oct- Michael Wilson- concern about Peter in the Wine Shop. (remove for website)- See agenda 5- Local Businesses.

Also a number of mis-directed emails intended for Community Centre issues- forwarded to downercentre@gmail.com. Sorted.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT AND CENTRE LIAISON- Stephen Sedgwick

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Income and expenses (working account) report for October sent electronically. Currently working account is \$13,920 thanks in part to a number of ATO Covid Cash Boost payments. Grant Allocations Report not provided. Noted that there is \$14,000 in the Cole Street grant account.
- Decrease of \$1,948 recorded in the working account for October with \$302 in income from room hire and key bonds. The AEC have yet to pay \$500 for hall hire on 17 October. Term 3 invoices have been sent out. Expect to yield around \$9,000. \$1,025 received already.
- General bills of \$1,814 comprising \$390 for energy costs, and a rather large water bill of \$1,165. The water bill is attributed to leaking tap and cisterns in the men's toilet. Other costs were for waste removal \$76, re-stocking the First Aid kit at \$182, packing boxes for SEE-Change (new carpet laid) and \$102 for top-soil for lawn area in the Square. \$256 in wages for the cleaner.

- DCA audit preparation underway and accounts will be taken to the auditor in WB 2 November. Monday 23 November is the date of the AGM.
- Update of signatories at the bank is almost complete. This will allow access to Special Projects/Grant account. Sam, Stephen and Miles to be signatories.

CENTRE LIAISON/ MANAGEMENT

- New carpet has been installed in West Hall and SEE-Change office, and lino flooring in East Hall fixed courtesy of a Commonwealth Government grant via the ACT Property Group. Need to keep an eye on displaced carpet moths.
- Miles proposed a vote of thanks to Stephen for all the work involved in the new flooring, especially in packing-up and unpacking.
- Stephen looking to get a quote from the flooring contractor to get the office re-carpeted and the lino floor in the East Hall professionally polished.
- Possum with baby currently occupies the roof cavity. Presence confirmed!
- Investigation into energy saving initiatives- moving to all electric. Sam reported that he, in cooperation with SEE-Change, are likely to submit a grant application for an ACT Government energy efficiency program. Grants of \$5,000 per ABN are available so may look at a submission from both DCA and SEE-Change.

ACTION: Fix water leaks in men's toilet

Moth- traps to be set up- carpet moths detected.

Log possum removal job with ACT Property.

Ask SEE-Change for a possum box.

Sam to pursue energy efficiency rebate.

On-going - Jim Dehlsen to affix key boxes and advise on or fix other maintenance issues. Stephen and Miles to investigate code lockable storage units to be affixed to wall.

3. RECRUITMENT OF A PAID CENTRE MANAGER- Sam

- Recruit after the 23 November AGM, maybe February 2021.
- Stephen reiterated that activity at the Centre is slowing down. Miles agrees to continue assisting. Management is currently done on a voluntary basis.

4. GOODWIN MEETING NEXT MEETING- Jacqui

- Jacqui noted that there had been an email exchange with Erik Boddeus trying to arrive at a date. Goodwin and the architect were not able to attend the DCA Committee meeting this evening and put forward alternative dates. Goodwin offered three dates 12,16 and 17 November, all at 4pm at Goodwin.
- Jacqui, Patti and Robyn are able to attend, but noted that they have already seen the plans, and that the purpose of the meeting was to inform the whole committee.
- Sam noted that a number of committee members work full time and the timing was not feasible. Proposed Monday 7 December any time after 7pm.

- **ACTION:** Sam offered to telephone Erik and negotiate a mutually suitable meeting date.

5. LOCAL BUSINESSES

- It was reported that most of the commercial businesses (vet, Gang Gang café and wellness centre) in the Downer Square were doing well with the exception of Pete's Wine Shop.
- DCA has put in a plug for all businesses at the Square in newsletters and emails. Suggestion to use our Facebook page to highlight the businesses at the Downer Square.
- As in the past, DCA to purchase wine from Pete's Wine Shop as part of the pre-AGM BBQ on 23 November.

ACTION: Kerry-Ann to do a promo on Downer Square businesses on DCA Facebook page.

6. OTHER MATTERS

- **NCCC funding in 2021- WiFi installation - Stephen**
- **Frog Pond water tank- Fiona Dickson**
- **Parking**

- **NCCC funding** invitation is for, inter alia – “Activities of other community organisations in the inner north where the funding is consistent with the objectives of the NCCC and primarily directed to communication activities”.
- Stephen has spoken to Bruce Smith, Treasurer at the NCCC. Advised that the new deadline for a submission is before the February 2021 meeting of the NCCC. It is at this meeting that the various bids from the northside associations will be considered and voted on.
- Stephen has done some preliminary research on what is involved in installing WiFi at the centre. \$89/month business plan with ISP iiNet. Electrical cabling \$500-700. Routers and boosters etc to be costed.
- Committee noted that as there is tenant demand for WiFi, we should use some of the Covid Cash Boost funds to just get the installation done without waiting for the grant.

ACTION: Stephen to progress the cost of installing WiFi (router, cablings etc) with the view of going ahead with the work ASAP.

- **Frog pond tank and other matters-** Fiona Dickson noted that the cost of the concrete tank base is holding up the tank installation. Quote is for \$1,500 for a 1x2m, 150mm reinforced base. She feels that a working bee could do the job for around \$200.
- Suggested a call-out to Downer residents to see if people had the equipment and skills to do the job.

ACTION: Fiona to prepare a set of words to call for volunteers to build the tank base. Email to Jacqui for email distribution.

- The Bradfield townhouse tenants have expressed interest in a community vegetable garden and suggested the space behind the DCA shed. It was noted that the area gets no daylight now that their homes overshadow the area. Also brings up issues of water use and maintenance. Committee felt that it is something the tenants should raise with their body corporate.
- Noted that tenants may like to raise community gardens at the DCA AGM.
- **Parking-** Patti noted that Goodwin are keen to support efforts by the DCA to improve the parking situation in the area as they stand to benefit.

- Suggestion to get the 9 additional parking spaces now on Goodwin land (recent variation) to be constructed by CHC as part of their current internal roadway work.
- Letters to the relevant parts of the ACT Government that deal with parking, now to be drafted by Sam. Issues to cover- request that the soccer oval dirt carpark be formalised to be available for use by the Centre and shops. Also to request a dedicated loading zone in the Centre car park for clients. To also note that builders are parking on the heritage tree roots.

ACTION: Sam to email Jamie Pinkerton The Bradfield construction Manager, Andrew Hannan CEO CHC, with cc to Goodwin and Rebecca Vassaroti re the 9 public spaces. Then draft letters to the appropriate areas of the ACT Gov on surrounding car park improvements.

NEXT DCA MEETING

Monday 23 November - **AGM**

6.30pm for a BBQ in the Square. DCA to provide a sausage sizzle with salads and some beverages. Purchase wine/beer from Pete's Wine Shop.

Welcome to new residents in The Bradfield.

Around 7.30pm- short AGM. Suggestion that a brief "what's happening in the suburb" be provided.

ACTION: Jacqui to prepare words for a flyer. Done
 Simone has offered to format flyer.
 Peter Carey has offered to print the flyer. Thank you.
 Flyer to be physically distributed to The Bradfield townhouses. Who?
 Extra flyers to be placed at Gang Gang Café and put on notice boards.
 Jacqui to send invitation email to the DCA distribution list- Done.
 Kerry-Ann to modify the invitation to put on DCA Facebook page.
 Sam to put a notice on the DCA website.
 Normal AGM preparations.
 BBQ preparations.

December meeting scheduled for 7 December- with 2021 committee members.

Meeting closed 9.10 pm

Sam Hussey-Smith
 Convenor

Jacqui Pinkava
 Secretary