

Minutes– DCA Monday, 6 June 2024 meeting

Meeting opened 7:00pm – closed 8.20pm

Agenda item 1 – Robyn Rennie

- Apologies:
Robyn Sirr; Sue Dyer; Miles Boak, Suzanne Pitson, John Goodwin, Jane Teasey.
- Present:
Robyn Rennie, Amit Barkay, Jacqui Pinkava, Peter Comisari, Leon Arundell, Pam Behncke, Amy Barthet (via Zoom for Item 5)

Agenda item 2 – Correspondence – Jacqui Pinkava

- Significant DCA Correspondence 7 May- 1 June 2024- bold indicates agenda item.

14 May- S Pitson- detailed response to Access Canberra to widen Swinden street path to light rail stop. (Agenda item)

15 May – S Dyer- AIE development, notes from earlier consultations about the development on the old Watson HS site. Provided to the NCCC for their meeting.

18 May- R Anderson (new to Downer)- offer of a piano for the Centre. Replied no thank you and suggested to approach Gang Gang.

20 May- Ricky Newham- Executive Assistant Dickson Tradies- addressed to Robyn Rennie.

Wanting to visit the Centre and see the reverse cycle system they helped to fund. Also wanting to help with installation of PVC subject to our lease being renewed for 5 years. Forwarded letter to Robyn though Robyn also received the email. (Agenda item)

24 May- Manteena (Goodwin developers)- letter about disruption work to The Bradfield apartments driveway. Forwarded to John Godwin (The Bradfield resident). Informed that residents had received this letter directly.

31 May- R Vassarotti- Environment and Planning update. Sent E-Bulletin to DCA members regarding Garden Grant program.

Outgoing

1 June- E-Bulletin- Garden Grant program, new committee member, invite to plant annuals on 9 June, invite to Committee meeting 3 June, new committee member and alert that emails changing.

Agenda item 3 – Minutes

- **AGREED** that the previous minutes (6 May 2024) of meeting be approved and signed.

Agenda item 4 : Action Items arising from previous meeting

- **ACTION: Amit will arrange for signage** on the split systems telling people to switch off the system. Now set to automatically switch off at 9pm.
- Amit demonstrated the new on-line banking system- See Item 6.
- Amit /Amy have purchased an e-sim for Amy's personal phone for DCA matters. Issues remain with the DCA phone. Need to convince the provider to release former co-ordinator as the owner. Possibly may need to get a new phone provider and number. **DCA phone issue to be resolved by next meeting.**
- Treasurer reported that a mutually agreed pay rate has been settled with the cleaner.

- Jacqui removed the old 2023 pdf booking schedule from the website. Amy decided to wait for the new booking system before providing a 2024 version as new system may generate a schedule.
- Amit has set up a new domain name – dca.asn.au with Cheaper Domains based in Melbourne (cost \$123 for 5 years). Up to 5 email addresses available.
 - **AGREED-** to the following email addresses:-
 - Community Centre- info@dca.asn.au
 - Committee/general- committee@dca.asn.au
 - NB. Decided to keep existing gmail address- downerassociation@gmail.com
 - Financial Matters- accounts@dca.asn.au
 - Building works/ ACT Property corro- property@dca.asn.au

ACTION: When directed by Amit, Jacqui to communicate new email details to DCA members, NCCC, fellow community associations etc, update website (which needs to be redirected), update Facebook ...

- Amit collected DCA's annual allocation of Floriade bulbs/annuals. Bulbs planted on 26 May (thank you Amit, Peter, Patrika and Jacqui) annuals to be planted on 9 June. Due to cost of netting covers (up to \$1,000), decided to risk possum posse attack.

Agenda Item 5 – Centre Liaison Report – Amy Barthet via Zoom and Amit Barkay

- **New room hire system:** Two on-line booking systems were reviewed by Amy and Amit and committee members. SpacetoCo's bookings and payments management tool was seen as having features most suited to the hiring of community spaces with provision for recurring bookings, key deposits and tailored add-ons.
 - **AGREED:-** to offer SpacetoCo a contract and review at 12 months.
- New booking platform likely to be fully operational in a couple of months once hall pricings have been determined, small improvements to the Centre undertaken and photos of halls and amenities taken.

ACTION: Robyn and Amit to investigate hourly rates for comparative community venues to determine new hire charge.

ACTION: Get East Room painted before photos taken!

ACTION: Amit to investigate installation of sound panels in East Hall.

- **General update** on Centre Liaison activities:
Amy noted that 8 requests for birthday parties and two for concerts have been received. Should we reconsider our rule disallowing these activities?
 - **AGREED:** No to concerts as additional fire safety and security requirements etc needed. Decision on birthday parties on hold until new booking system.
- Sandpit maintenance issue raised by Majura Women's group. Needs to be topped up. In light of needing to tart up the place for photos and possible kids parties, committee felt that DCA should do it.

ACTION. Amit to arrange for fresh sand to top up sandpit.

- ACT Election 19 October and Gang Gang music festival 25-27 October bookings of the whole Centre. Amy will advise tenants who use the halls/rooms over those dates that they are unavailable and make alternative arrangements/compensations.

Agenda item 6 – Treasurer’s report – Amit (acting Treasurer)

- Treasurer's report. Displayed on-line via internet banking portal. Traditional spreadsheet possibly redundant. DCA’s Beyond Bank portal, shows the current financial status as:
- Operational Account- \$40,678
- Savings Account \$50,000
- Grant Account- \$0. Note: This is a holding account when grants are received and auspiced on behalf of individuals or community groups (eg. Cole St park etc.)
- Only the Treasurer, Convenor, Centre Manager and Centre Co-ordinator has access to the on-line banking system.
- Discovered that DCA may owe Waste-Away for waste pick-ups as payment may not have been made since pre March 2023. Thankfully rubbish has not accumulated.

ACTION: Amit to investigate possible unpaid invoices.

Agenda Item 8 – NCCC Meeting Report – Leon Arundell- DCA rep

Of direct relevance-

Presentation from the Academy of Interactive Entertainment, which wants to give a 'gift' to Canberra by developing the former Watson High School site. Its Stage 1 plans have been revised. It has moved the idea of student accommodation to Stage 2. Building A has been moved and reduced from 4 storeys to 2, but with a larger footprint to compensate for the loss of height. There will be more surface parking. Public consultation will be conducted from next Monday (20 May) until mid June. The presentation may be made available on the [NCCC website](#). Further information will be available at www.community.aie.edu.au.

General Business included the Braddon Collective's need for an incorporated and insured organisation (eg. NCCC) to be the auspicing body for its ACT Government grant for the Braddon Busking Festival. Leon offered support for the NCCC to auspice the grant. That would be subject to our Treasurer agreeing to manage the grant monies.

Agenda Item 9 – Matters Arising from Correspondence – Jacqui

14 May- S Pitson- copy of detailed response to Access Canberra to widen Swinden street path to light rail stop.- See Item 10.

15 May – S Dyer- AIE development, notes from earlier consultations about the development on the old Watson HS site. Provided to the NCCC for their meeting. See Item 10

20 May- Ricky Newham- Executive Assistant Dickson Tradies- addressed to Robyn Rennie. Wanting to visit the Centre and see the reverse cycle system they helped to fund. Also wanting to help with installation of PV subject to our lease being renewed for 5 years.

ACTION: Robyn to respond in writing (done). Noting that our long term lease has not been renewed.

Amit and Robyn to meet with Ricky Newham to show him the Centre, especially the new air-conditioning units and raise the idea of supporting the sound proofing of the East Hall.

Agenda Item 10 – Other Business

- "Around Downer" letterbox drop in September- suggested by Leon. Topics could include:
 - that the DCA exists, and that they can join
 - new emails etc.
 - the date for our November Annual General Meeting
 - 'Floriade in Downer'
 - Downer Centre as voting centre
 - Gang Gang's music festival (25-27th October)

ACTIONS: Robyn to check with Aniko and Peter Carey that they can print and fold the newsletter. (Done with a positive response).

Jacqui to draft newsletter with content input from other committee members.

Assistance with layout and look requested.

Robyn to re-visit newsletter distribution volunteers and recruit.

- DCA support of joined up residents meeting (Watson, Downer, Hackett community associations) regarding the Academy of Interactive Entertainment (AIE) community consultations on 12 June– Leon

ACTIONS: Leon to contact the two community councils (Watson and Hackett) and discuss strategy/approach.

Leon and Jacqui to post information about the AIE consultation period on Facebook (Leon) and website and email (Jacqui).

- Swinden Street footpath to the light rail stop.
AGREED – to elevate the issue to Minister/s and Opposition level ahead of election.

ACTION: Suzanne to draft letters.

Next Meeting: Monday 1 July, 7pm.

Convenor
Robyn Rennie
Date:

Ag. Secretary