

DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 7 AUGUST 2023 MEETING

PRESENT

Robyn Rennie, Jacqui Pinkava, Stephen Sedgwick, Leon Arundell, Suzanne Pitson, Garth Jurd (Scouts), Aniko Carey

1. **APOLOGIES:** -Sue Dyer, Miles Boak, Peter Carey, Patrika Sheehan, Simone Gray, Amit Barkay (provided written report on his action items).

Commenced 7.35pm, chaired by Robyn- Convenor. Concluded 9pm.

2. DCA CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND ISSUES RAISED- Jacqui Pinkava

Corro of significance:

- a number with people responding to letter drop with new email addresses
- 5,6 July- Rohan Reece- tenant needing storage keys- sent to Downer Centre- not sorted
- 7 July ACT Heritage Library National E-Deposit (NED) program- "Around Downer" newsletter- Denys Garden is loading.
- 25 July- Jackson from Spacelab – re another meeting re terraces on Melba St
- 26 July- Joanna Gudgeon wanting to book a room for seniors- sent to Downer Centre- Outcome unknown
- Via personal email- Daina Neverauskas cc Stephen advising that Berry St project complete
- Sue Dyer- copies of various submissions- Yowani and Dickson Place Names and newspaper article on a glowing review of Gang Gang.

3. MINUTES AND ACTIONS REPORT

- Minutes of 3 July 2023- approved and loaded on the website.

REPORTS:

4. ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- Follow-up with meeting with MLA Rachel Stephen-Smith (13 May). Jacqui reported that she sent an email on 24 June to Jonny Goodwin the Adviser to Rachel Stephen-Smith re a letter to DCA from Minister Steel No response.

ACTION: Jacqui to send another email to Jonny- asking for a copy of the Minister Steel letter at least.

- Amit has white road marking paint and a "people crossing" sign that he will install on road between Gang Gang and the oval– but is "awaiting right timing".
- Heritage Walk- Jacqui followed up Jane Goffman. Responded that she is postponing further heritage walks for 2023.

5. CENTRE LIAISON- Stephen Sedgwick

- Storage and Fire Safety- Amit (in his email response to agenda items) noted the DCC fire safety issue report. The ACT Government will fix the hardware/structural issues in order to meet compliance. DCA has responsibility to ensure safe passage to egress rooms. Amit has informed the ACT Property group that DCA have marked the floor and removed items blocking the fire exit and are in the process of storage management. Stephen said that due to a cut finger, he has been unable to do anything about storage. Has moved some stuff to a shed. Situation improved but more to be done.

ACTION: Stephen to write to tenants to say no chairs or tables to be kept in the store room area. Possibly enlist Miles upon his return to assist with removing unwanted items.

- Centre Coordinator position- Stephen has bought a HP laptop computer (\$360) yet to be loaded with Microsoft Office, for the Centre Coordinator. Advised that currently Raewyn Arthur, is too busy to take up the Centre Coordinator position. No starting date given. In the meantime Stephen to adjust the excel spreadsheet used to manage venue bookings to suit the new computer.

ACTION: Stephen to advise Convenor when the Centre Coordinator will start and invite her to the September meeting of the Committee.

ACTION: Stephen- July meeting mentioned making the membership and other forms interactive via the website.

- Handrails affixed to the toilet cubicles. Stephen said he had talked to Jim about installing the rails. Job not done yet.
- WiFi access. Amit provided a number of options for WiFi. He recommended a no-contract iiNet NBN50 300GB option at \$70 per month. Noted that there is currently a promotion for the set up that would cost \$89 after rebates (what rebates?) Committee agreed to this option.

ACTION: Amit to go ahead and arrange WiFi installation. Many thanks Amit!

6. TREASURERS REPORT- Stephen Sedgwick

- Current account balance in all three accounts (working, special projects and term deposit) has increased to \$78,300. Working account as at July has increased to \$48756. Special Projects at \$18,343.76 has remained static.
- Expenses for July totalled \$4,101 made up of ACTEW bill of \$1,598, Cleaning materials \$217, wages \$260, air-conditioning \$1,837, workers compensation insurance \$188
- Income of \$4,349 received from room hire.
- July saw a net increase of \$274 from last month according to the spreadsheet.
- (I get \$248 if you take income of 4349 and subtract expenses of 4101. Stranger still if you take Working account of \$48132 for June and then July at \$48756- its an increase of \$624??) in the working account from last month.)
- Currently grant monies on behalf of other groups is kept in the working account. Agreed at May meeting for this to be a separate line item. This has not been done.

ACTION: Stephen to set up a separate line item on the Income and Expenditure Report to show grant monies that DCA auspice on behalf of others for the June and subsequent reports. To be tabled at the August- now the September meeting.

ACTION: Stephen to acquit the Berry/Legge St Park grant as per request from Daina Neverauskas 8 August. Daina has not heard back from Stephen.

ACTION: Jacqui to check if Scooby Doodles (Arina) got reimbursed \$69 for paint for lids library- yes they have.

ACTION: Stephen to explain apparent discrepancy in net increase and send corrected July report to the Committee.

7. NCCC MEETING REPORT- Leon Arundell

- Met via Zoom on 19 July- a general meeting that included a presentation by Suburb Zero on electrifying Canberra. Leon emailed notes of this meeting to the Committee.
- Wood heater issue: NCCC endorsed the recommendation on phasing them out with a few changes. Leon to draft letter on behalf of NCCC Chair.
- As separate to the NCCC- Leon has drafted a letter regarding pedestrian crossing arrangements affecting Downer, in particular the Phillip Avenue and Windeyer St Watson crossing. This crossing is important to Downer as it is the path taken by Downer children to Majura Primary School (our nearest school!). Letter sent to committee on 7 August. Endorsed by committee, but just in case- resent to committee 13 August seeking advice on edits required.

ACTION: Jacqui to edit letter and send to Minister Steel.

PROJECTS AND ISSUES:

8. CENTRE ELECTRIC HEATERS- Amit Barkay

- Amit reported that the rebate paperwork has been submitted to the ACT Government for reimbursement. Subsequent to this committee meeting, Amit has advised that the rebate has increased to \$10,000. Possibility of a Media Release event to take place at the Community Centre on Friday 25 August. Amit is liaising. Stephen has been asked to book a room for a possible event around 12.30pm. Jacqui and Leon currently the only committee available to attend.
- Robyn has sent a letter of thanks to Alison Percival at the Dickson Tradies Club and invited her to come and see the A/C in operation.

ACTION: Separate to this meeting, Stephen has been asked to disconnect the gas supply to the Centre.

9. PARKING

- ACT Roads folk have been asked by Miles to contact Riley Conway at Gang Gang or the DCA. No contact from ACT Gov to DCA.
- Jacqui notes that gate closed every time she drives past, including on a busy Sunday.

10. PARTY AT THE SQUARE- 8 OCTOBER- Amit

- Amit gave an update of what he has set up. Gang Gang and SEChange on board. Cranky's bike shop not. Sought the Committee's advice on having market stalls. Committee in agreement on having a variety of stalls- arts and crafts, second hand books, clothing, marketing opportunities for local Downer folk etc.
- Noted that depending on the size of the event, may need to seek permission to close the parking area and request the opening of the oval parking gate (see item 9)
- Garth from Wellstation Scouts is keen for the Scouts to participate and invites Amit to get in touch and have a chat. Opportunity for them to promote Scouts and to do rubbish collection or a BBQ?
- Committee very appreciative of Amit's efforts in organising the Party

ACTION: Jacqui to send list of 2022 stall holders- done.

ACTION: Amit to ask Stephen for contact details of appropriate tenants that may like to be involved OR Stephen to provide Amit with this list of potentials.

ACTION: Amit to have a chat with Garth re Scouts involvement. M 0407 215 710

11. DCA WEBSITE-

- Registration- need to have a second DCA point of contact for registration of the Domain Name. Registration required again in 2033!

ACTION: Stephen to contact Weebly and provide downerassociation@gmail.com as the second contact point. Also to provide Secretary with contact details for Weebly.

- Jacqui and Denys Garden (former Secretary) have updated photographs on the website. E-Newsletters have also been loaded onto the website and also, along with historical hardcopy versions) sent to the National E-Deposit program run by ACT Heritage Library for digitisation.

12. SCOUTS- Garth Hurd

- Reported that they have been busy. Damaged roof is fixed. ACT Gov have trimmed the dead and overhanging branches of the offending pine tree. 95% of the ceiling has been replaced and painted under insurance- kitchen ceiling not done. Lighting has been upgraded using some of the \$5,000 donated by the Dickson Tradies Club. Noted a number of other donations- a construction

company offering free labour, Bunnings to donate a kitchen. Scouts having a fundraising BBQ at the ABC Studios open day on 26 August.

- As DCA has offered to provide a grant of up to \$2,000, Garth signalled that he will put in an application for outdoor sensor lighting.
- Scout Hall opened in the first week of school term and kids and parents delighted with the revamped interior. Also noted increase in new members and in hire of the hall.

ACTION: Garth to provide photos and wording about the Scouts for inclusion in the E-Newsletter- done.

13. MATTERS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE – Jacqui

- Dead emails- Jacqui reported that thanks to a letter drop to all with grapevine or homemail emails (some 16), reported that only 8 DCA members lost. Noted that members need to be alerted that iiNet.net emails will also soon be redundant.

ACTION: Jacqui to put an alert in the E-Newsletter about email changes.

- Meeting with Spacelab on terrace development on Melba Street- scheduled for Tuesday 15th August- either 3 or 4pm.

ACTION: Jacqui has requested 4pm. Awaiting response from Spacelab.

OTHER BUSINESS

E-Newsletter- Jacqui

- Topics suggested: Party at the Shops, Kids Library revamp, Cole St Park micro-forest consultation- 19 August, Scouts update, and DCA still no lease.

ACTION: Jacqui to draft. Check with committee and send. Done- sent 11 August.

Committee apologies- Robyn and Jacqui are away for 4th September meeting. Miles has agreed to be the acting Convenor in September. Jacqui is also away for 2 October meeting. Leon has agreed to be acting Secretary for 4 September and 2 October committee meetings.

NEXT DCA MEETING

Monday 4 September 2023, 7.30pm

Robyn Rennie- DCA Convenor

Jacqui Pinkava- Secretary