

Canberra City Farm - Committee meeting minutes - 5.00 pm, Tuesday 26 April 2022

Venue	Zoom video conference	
Date and Time	5.00 pm, Tuesday 26 April 2022	
Present	John Peters (Chair), Caroline le Couteur, Keith Colls, Bob Beaver, John Mills, Christine Vincent, Rob Walls	
Apologies	Stefanie Lekkas, Rob Walls	
Agenda items	1.	Conflict of Interest disclosure
	2.	Approve or vary previous Minutes
	3.	Matters approved out of session - Nil
	4.	Action items (Attachment B)
	5.	Treasurer's report
	6.	Membership report
	7.	Newsletter
	8.	Governance
	9.	Feedback from the Education Subcommittee
	10.	Feedback from the Agreements Subcommittee
	11.	Feedback from Communications Subcommittee (Keith)
	12.	Feedback from Site Management Subcommittee (John)
	13.	Propagation team update
	14.	Preserving Team Update
	15.	Food Sustainability Subcommittee
	16.	Other Business

1. Conflicts of interests

- No conflicts of interests were declared.

2. Previous minutes

- The March 2022 Minutes were approved by all.

3. Matters approved outside the meeting

Nil

4. Action items

- Changes to the status of the action items are documented.

5. Treasurer's report

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Peter.

- The financial situation is still in a sound state

- The report was accepted by all
- John P. and Christine are continuing to sort out the signatories for the bank accounts.

6. **Membership report**

- The Membership report was tabled by Christine and was accepted by all.
- Total 197
- The new wording on the Membership form will explicitly memberships are not complete until they have been approved by the Committee.

Committee approved all new memberships received since the previous Committee meeting.

7. **Newsletter**

- Input for the May 2022 newsletter needs to be with Stef by 9am Friday 6 May. It will be issued on 8 May.

8. **Governance issues**

- No action on the amendment of the Constitution re the changes in the Associations Act legislation at this stage.

9. **Education Subcommittee**

A verbal report was provided by Mark foreshadowing the self guided tours using a QR code and the expected development of the Google map which was provided in the Education report. Keith provided some background on the approach to CCF by Farm Incubator, a Victorian farmer training organisation and Keith will report back to the Committee when further details of the proposal are known after we have spoken to Farm Incubator on 6 May.

10. **Agreements Subcommittee**

The Agreements Subcommittee Report was tabled by John.

- Still awaiting a response from ACT Parks and Conservation as to whether or not for-profits are acceptable on site. John will try to accelerate a response and has sent ACT Parks and Conservation seeking a decision.
- John P. will provide a list of dot points for discussion with Heritage Chickens about their continued tenure at the City Farm but is awaiting a response from ACT Parks and Conservation for response.
- John approached the goat lady from the South Coast about using her goats to clear the blackberries if she happens to be in Canberra for some other work but nothing has been finalised. The goats only provide a temporary respite from the blackberry problem as they grow back again.
- Dept of Broccoli is winding up their operation at CCF but will stay on as volunteers, however, it is not intended to cancel the agreement with Dept of Broccoli at this stage.
- Mark raised the possibility of redeveloping the chook shed area for storage and/or other uses using the current building footprint so DA is not required. It would also provide an opportunity to demonstrate alternative building methods such as adobe, hempcrete, strawbales etc, possibly as part of the education program.

11. **Communication Subcommittee**

- The Communication Subcommittee Report was tabled by Keith.
- A draft proposal for a Winter Solstice Event was put to the Committee. It will be organised by the Communications sub-committee with the help of others.

- It was agreed that the communications sub committee will go ahead with the planning of the event and keep the committee up to date with progress.

12. Site Management Subcommittee

- The Site Management Subcommittee Report was tabled by John and approved.
- Minister Vasserotti will be visiting the farm again on 1pm 11 May to announce the recipients of the 2022 Community Zero Emission grants at the LESS. John has asked the Ministers' office if Miriam and Leigh as well as some CCF members could be invited.
- John will take the treated pine we can't use to the Mugga facility.
- John is proposing a "farm sale" to get rid of excess "resources" from the site. John will make a list proposing what to get rid of.
- Compost: How to get rid of the current backlog and how to manage the compost so this problem does not occur in the future. John proposed that to deal with the current backlog that we should hire a shredder for \$450 a day to shred the material and with use as mulch or compost it. We may be able to use a bobcat from one of the plot holders for the price of transporting it. The proposal was approved by the committee (reluctantly approved by Keith and Christine). For the longer term, various proposals were put forward. These need to be further developed into a compost plan by a team of committee members (and others?). Keith and John M volunteered to be part of a compost system planning team which will be organised by John P.

13. Propagation Team

No report

Christine will work with the propagation team on the planting plan and be the liaison person from the Propagation team to the Committee. Canberra Seed Savers Cooperative would like 50 to 80 sq m of space to grow seeds and seedlings. Cross pollination was raised as an issue. They would have to pay for water and power. They would also contribute to our education program. Keith will invite Arian and her board to visit the farm to choose a suitable space and explore how we may cooperate.

14. Preserving Team

The grape jelly hasn't set properly.

15. Food Sustainability Subcommittee

The food sustainability subcommittee report was tabled and approved.

The main item was the report from the Zoom meeting of like minded organisations we organised. It was very successful. It was mainly a "get to know you". The next meeting of the group will be after the Food and Fibre Strategy has been released by the ACT government.

16. Other business

Our legal obligation under the Heritage act to deposit a copy of the Newsletter at the National Library was noted. We will have to register as a publisher first.

Meeting closed at 6:45 pm.

Next Committee meeting: 31 May 2022