

Notice Of Meeting. Down To Earth (VIC) Co-Operative Society LTD.

Regular general meeting. Thursday 7th of December, 1995. At Ceres , 8 Lee St. East Brunswick.
agenda: Apologies. Minutes of last meeting, Representing the Annual financial statements,
Election of Directors, special resolutions on notice, motions on notice.

There have been three resignations from the role of Director since the last Annual General Meeting.

Lance Nash whose resignation on the 26.10.95 becomes effective thirty days on 25.11.95.
Chris Elligate whose letter of resignation has been reproduced on this Newsletter becomes effective on the 25.11.95.

Robin McCloud who effectively ceases to be a director on the 01.12.95.

The Society wishes them well in their future endeavours.

Special resolution for the next Regular general Meeting of the Down to Earth Co-Operative,(vic).

Motion : That Graham Ennis vacate the office of director . Moved by Laurie Campbell.

Rationale: (1) The Current move of the previous directorship into a Confest type 'Commercial' Festival and Graham's perceived affiliations with that 'faction' will make it difficult and inappropriate for him to remain as a director.

(2) His previous and current state of health make it difficult to see how he is going to be an active director. See section 105.1(b) of the Co-operative act 1981.

Motion on Notice for the next General Meeting of Down To Earth (Victoria) Co-operative Society Limited.

It is moved that the Society loan equipment to the Earth-Haven Group for use at its festival, to be held from 26th to 28th January, 1996 in north eastern Victoria.

Moved: Chris Elligate

Rationale:

The reason this motion is placed before a Regular General Meeting is that it concerns all of the members of the Society and as such should be decided by them, not by the Directors of the Society. The Earth-Haven Group has been set up in response to the concerns of a significant number of members of the Society, and its festival will directly involve the efforts of a number of members and current and recent co-ordinators of the Down To Earth festival. These people feel that DTE has moved away from the true essence of ConFest to a festival which is wholly focussed on numbers and dollars. Consumerism; give them what they want, it doesn't matter how it affects the environment or the people themselves!

Earth-Haven, after satisfying establishment, running and forward-planning costs, intends to donate any surplus to social justice and environment groups.

ConFest evolved many years ago as a conference/festival to which people could go to learn about "alternatives" to "main stream" values. At the same time they were able to enjoy themselves and share the experience with others of different beliefs.

I attended my first ConFest at Wangaratta and left blown away. What a disappointment ConFest is now! Where has the energy gone?

Is this festival (which we all have to take responsibility for) really what we set out to achieve, or is it a "Hydra" with no focus or direction?

Earth-Haven intends to offer a smaller, quality, alternative lifestyles festival.

If you want more information on this motion phone the Earth-Haven Group on

(03) 9 593 9272 or (03) 9 459 2158, or write to :Earth-Haven Trust PO Box 224 ROSANNA VIC 3084

The Members of DTE.

A couple of weeks ago after the AGM it fell to the Directors to elect a chairperson of the board. After an explanation from David to why he withdrew his nomination, two people were then nominated, Matti and Lance. The voting was in favour of Lance.

I voted for Lance, not on personalities but on whom I thought would be best qualified for the job. Since that date I have been lobbied by members who feel that my personal decision was wrong in their eyes and that I should have voted for Matti, who was seen to be independent of factions and therefore less biased.

Subsequent events speak for themselves.

At last week's adjourned AGM meeting (Waricks motion) Matti not only didn't declare a pecuniary interest. (a confest over new year will attract more people therefore more money to market people). but when a tied vote arose used the chairperson's casting vote.

Loud protests from David (silence) ethics can only be afforded when things aren't in your favour (ask any politician)

The only thing organic about DTE at the moment are the parasites on the fringes feeding off it. I feel that some of the decisions being placed before the board by the RGM for ratification will weigh heavily on the future of DTE without the legal ramifications.

So it is with a lightening of the heart and head that I offer my resignation from the board of directors to take effect 30 days from being tabled at this meeting 26.10.95 Cross Elligate

Earth-Haven

Hosts An Alternative Lifestyles

Conference/Festival

26th to 28th Jan' 1996

Murray River - Near Wodonga

Social Justice

Community Politics

Ecology - Permaculture

Healing - Spirituality

Share workshops, rituals and performances - Explore practical solutions.

Prices: Pre-Festival - \$30.00

At Gate - \$50.00

Bring camping gear - Strictly no pets!

Maps sent with pre festival tickets or on request.

For pre-festival purchase before 12th January, 1996, send stamped, self addressed envelope to:

The Earth-Haven Group
PO Box 224, Rosanna, Vic. 3084
(03) 9593 9272 - (03) 9459 2158

Just a brief note in reply as Chris names me in his resignation letter. At our first board meeting after the 1995 AGM, I proposed that we agree to suspend the use of the Chairperson's casting vote at DTE meetings.

Chris, your 'faction' would not support the suggestion. So what are you wingeing about? You were the Chairperson of the board for the last financial year your 'faction' were steering the ship during the period that you are complaining about. The members rejected the end of year financial statements.

Half the profits from the last Confest were to go to groups to help save the forests. That Confest lost money!

There was no profit!

Down To Earth is not funded; Confest only survives if DTE remains financially responsible.

Your 'faction' was in charge of finding a site for the coming Confest, you failed!

That's why we are late in announcing this Confest!

YOU had the good fortune of finding a site for YOUR festival.

I wish you and your 'Faction' good Kama with 'earthhaven'.

Regards David Cruise.

P.S. Matti's pecuniary interest was declared before he stood for an Enablers role and the membership voted for him on that Understanding. DAVID CRUISE