

Down-To-Earth (Vic) Cooperative Society Limited

ConFest Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: **Thursday 16th March 2017**

Time: **Meeting started 7.58pm ended 10.10 pm**

Venue: **CERES, Learning Centre Rm,1-2 Lee St, Brunswick East VIC**

Online: <https://dte.coop/live.meeting>

#	Item	Raised by:
1	<u>Election Of Chair</u>	<i>procedural</i>
	1. Confirm Minute Keeper: Coral Larke 2. Confirmation of Agenda: Denise Banville	
2	<u>Attendance</u>	<i>procedural</i>
	David Cruise, Ian Hales, Corall Larke, Mark Ramussen, John Flynn, Denise Banville, Peter Cruise, Troy Reid, Malcolm Mathews, Emma Bennett, Simon Byers, David Mc Donald, John Reid, Kathy Ernst, Angela Neal, Chase White, Kali Jade, David Mollet, Trevor Pitt, Kate Shapiro. Online: Lars, Scouse, Don Royal, Jenni T, Darrel Reid, Robin Mac Person, Kirsten Joy	
3	<u>Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes</u>	<i>procedural</i>
	** As attached with Agenda emailed to CC group mail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CC Minutes of Meeting of Thursday 2nd & 9th March 2017 • 9th March Minutes: Walter Padovani and Vanessa Ernst was left off attendance list. Denise Banville should have been listed as Chairperson 	
4	<u>Budget Disbursements Process & Update</u>	<i>Ian H.</i>
	Finance Committee confirmation; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Board has signed-off on release of funding for CC approved site budget applications totalling \$165,18, as approved at last week's CC meeting. • of process for approved CC budget applicants to receive their funding. 	
5	<u>Budget Submissions</u>	<i>Ian H.</i>
5.1	Revised - Permaculture Booklet Formal tabling and consideration of resubmitted/revised Permaculture booklet budget deferred at last week's CC meeting with critiques given from meeting attendees, and subsequent CC group mail follow-up, upon which CC members will be assessing revised budget application.	<i>Arron S.</i>

	<p>Ian Hales: Permaculture Request for \$1816 dollars for booklet.</p> <p>Emma Bennett: Unhappy with opinions given as opposed to facts. If the booklet is to be distributed from DTE at front gate then she is unhappy with it, if it they want to put it online on the ConFest website under permaculture on she is OK with it. Ian prefers electronic transfer of the information. Kate thinks it needs to be known that it is not from DTE. Kathy Ernst: booklet should be sent electronically so that saving resources is representative of its content. David Mollet: says the proposal needs a longer lead time, that it is too rushed and to invite Adrian White to resubmit for next ConFest.</p> <p>Proposal will be considered for 2018 ConFest</p>	
5.2	<p>New Submissions Via formal submission to Finance Committee and tabled as such</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submissions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Richard Woodgate: Request \$5000 for fuel on site. Andrew Wilkinson has not asked for this budget so Richard has put forward proposal. Mark Ramussen motioned. David Mollet seconded. Motion carried. 2. Poly village request \$650 Passed by consensus. 3. Don Royal & David Cruise marquee for receipts. Costs up to \$2000. No objections. 4. Ian Hales: We need to prepare for a contingency budget of \$20.000 for ConFest Passed by consensus <p>Malcolm Mathews: Debit Load and Go Cards.– system is working and cards are being sent to villages. Mark explained that he spoke with the bank to help him set up the card and suggests a list of instructions to help people to activate the card. Malcolm said if people are having trouble that they can call him direct and he will walk them through it.</p> <p>David Mollet: In relation to Polly Village due to complaints and inappropriate behaviour by the Poly people last year David doesn't want Polly to be camped any where near the family village for future festivals.</p>	
<u>ConFest Site Coordinator Role & Responsibilities</u>		<i>Mark R.</i>
	<p>Clarifying the role and responsibilities of ConFest Site Coordinator role as Mark has been formally appointed to uphold, as per previous CC meeting motion electing him.</p> <p>Mark Ramussen – Seeks clarification of role, he sees his role in part as being a go to person if there are issues with villages. This means arbitrating priorities and to liaise with directors when needed. Emma Bennet: Last year there was conflict during the set up period, that it needs to be understood that Marks would have final say. David Cruise: It is a role of a coordinator and overseer to be a pro active role that needs to be abreast overall what is going on. Kali: role includes getting</p>	

	<p>people in the right place in the right time.</p> <p>For Mark to have this role No objections. Passed by consensus.</p>	
7	<u>CC recognition of Wemba Wemba workgroup</u>	<i>Elle B.</i>
	<p>The Woorooma Aboriginal Relationships Committee (WARC) would like to clarify its role within the OC and report to its concurrent function within the CC</p> <p>Proposed Motion: <i>“That due to holding concurrent responsibilities both with the OC (NSW Law protecting Aboriginal Heritage Sites Across Woorooma) whilst also contributing to the CC (Festival Signage Crew, Walkabout Tours, Information Workshops etc), the WARC would like to have an entry to both on the DTE Org Chart whereby the WARC will be listed under the OC and the ‘Wemba Wemba Crew will be listed under the CC”.</i></p> <p>Elle: absent will defer item to next week.</p>	
8	<u>Reflection on CC Motions to raise ticket pricing for Charitable purposes</u>	<i>David M.</i>
	<p>Is it really appropriate? David M. will put to CC his view: <i>“On reflection after last weeks meeting I thought CC should stick to its mandate , to organise the Confest, not try and save the world by becoming a benefactor. Surely the fundraising issues raised at past two meetings are a board issue. Ticket prices may be a CC issue but my read is what happens to the money is a fiduciary issue and therefore a board issue. Can we get clarification on that please? Can we get clarity on what is a CC issue and what isn’t?”</i></p> <p>David Mollet: Directing money to charitable sets a bad precedent because it doesn’t benefit the festival. Troy Reid: The giving of money to the local community should be seen as an investment therefore is a CC decision. Emma Bennett: The CC is about building relationships with authorities in town and therefore has a direct beneficial outcome. That if something goes wrong such as what happened at Rainbow Serpent festival that the community had its back, likewise the Moulamein community will have ConFests back also if something should go wrong, that money given is a lesser amount given to villages. Kate Shipero: Rules state that up to 10% of income can go to a charity. Ian Hales: It should be a Directors decision and not a CC decision. Coral Larke: Giving to communities is not just about money but is about creating culture, that giving gives greater meaning to ConFest & DTE. David Cruise: We are not a commercial business like Rainbow Festival. The 21st Century Festival gave an opportunity for different groups to crowd source directly to an audience, it created a shared sense of belonging and camaraderie which lifted the overall atmosphere of the festival.</p>	
9	<u>Sale of Ice</u>	<i>Malcolm M.</i>
	<p>Confirming Ice Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirming a site task group to be set up for arranging the supply and sale ice. • May need a budget for the supply/hire of equipment <p>Malcolm Mathews: Approval for ice budget of up to \$13000 Passed by consensus.</p> <p>Malcolm Mathews wants to make a committee for selling ice, he wants the 2 ladies Judy and Maree who worked in the ticket booth to sell the ice on site. Kate Shapiro: Wants ice to be sold from a fixed spot and time. David Cruise offered to</p>	

	be part of the committee too.	
10	<u>Hub Access & Wrist Band ID</u>	<i>Corinne A.</i>
	<p>Following up previous meeting discussions around this issue, but which still remains unresolved by CC consensus, as relates to restricting access to the Hub Kitchen to event specific onsite 24+ hour volunteers, and the specific wrist band ID that will be issued to them accordingly.</p> <p>Wrist bands and Hub access. There will be no plus one ticket as was done last year for the 40th anniversary. Mark: Believes we should be able to bring a guest into the hub eg without problems. Kali: During set up all volunteers can eat at the hub, once villages are set up then the hub will be limited to 24 hour workers kitchen. During set up it is OK for children of workers to come in, but during festival to eat at villages. Chase: wants the hub to be open and have wrist bands shown to a volunteer to check their authority to eat at the hub and meals will served by kitchen staff.</p> <p>Where do we get early access tickets? Kali – responded to this on Facebook. Names will be on a list but not given a workers ticket. It will be done closer to the time so that it can be processed in bulk. Robin MacPherson came up with an idea for a volunteers list separate from the 24 hour volunteers. Robin wants to limit the forms but to go to an online format so that people coordinating can respond. People who dont have email turned up at DTE meeting and bought their ticket.</p>	
11	<u>Onsite Handling of Volunteer Activity Forms & DTE Membership Applications</u>	<i>Corinne A.</i>
	<p>Concern over the number of volunteers' Activity Forms and new DTE Member/Shareholder forms are reported each year as having being completed and submitted to coordinators and directors on event site, but that get lost and never make it to post-event formal submission and processing to attain renewed/new Active Member status.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm coordinators/directors' responsibilities and process follow-up. • Confirm new 24+ hours volunteers' reimbursement process post-event, and conversion of \$10 to shares in DTE upon submission of membership application. <p>Troy Reid: Membership, timesheets to be given to 24 hour volunteers with an attached form for membership to their area manager can be talk them through it. Area facilitators to be given forms to encourage people joining DTE. Problems with lost forms can be dealt with by being scanned and sent to Don and David and back to the applicant so volunteers have evidence of applications being received.</p> <p>David disagrees with gaining more share holders because we need quality members who want to participate. We need to understand what we are aiming for what we want to achieve. Scouse: That there are over a thousand members and only a few attend meetings so to seek more members creates work with little return. Troy thinks we need a more representative demographic of ConFest in DTE, especially to 20 & 30 year olds. David Mollet: will give a workshop on joining DTE at ConFest to find people at any age that we need, John Reid: says it is</p>	

	<p>important to communicate and let the ConFest Community know that DTE is available and seek membership. David Mollet: We need to address the negative image that DTE has. Chase: Was given a form last year that he lost and believes that process will be easier if dealt with on site. Kali: wants to reinvigorate the morning sharings to encourage the general ConFesters to become 24 hours. Coral Larke: Currently at ConFest it is very hard to find DTE. Traditionally there was no distinct differentiation between DTE and ConFest it was all just one. That morning sharings was the place to create the festival as it went along and to conference any problems that occurred on site. Scouse: DTE Is a business and needs to run as one, people from ConFest may not like to attend meetings. Troy: We are a commercial enterprise with social objectives this hybrid entity does exist.</p> <p>Don and David will handle share application forms on site</p>	
12	<u>Welcome Gate Site Map back-page Info</u>	<i>Emma B.</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>See attached paper</i> <p>Proposed content for the back page of the Site Map handed-out at the front gate... Feedback 'welcome' ... discussion and proposed edits and any additions for consensus sign-off sought.</p> <p>Denise advised that fire wardens needs to be included to site map. Emma's Gate Site Map Approved and the planned move for 2018 ConFest will be advertised. Printed in black and white.</p>	
13	<u>Site Traffic Control Plan Update</u>	<i>Emma B.</i>
	<p>Gate will be shut from Friday afternoon to Monday morning. People camping in vans will be allowed through and will be guided to area. Emergency vehicles will be allowed through. If people in campers arrive they will be directed through. If people have a crises at home and need to leave site they will need to go to first aid to be allowed through emergency services. To enable market stall holders who need to commute into town their area is moved 50 meters north to access the gate. Bus route has been changed. Coral: Emergency vehicles should be limited to an emergency, last year the vehicles create a dangerous level of dust and stress.</p> <p>Traffic plan passed by consensus.</p>	
14	<u>Photographers at ConFest</u>	<i>Kate S.</i>
	<p>Should photographers be asked to sign a written agreement? Or go to a short workshop and wear an additional different colour wristband like fire twirlers?</p> <p>Kate Shiparo. Complaint about photographers. People need to understand issues around consent. Even people in the back ground should be considered.</p> <p>Emma: Last year a man was taking excessive photos of children and that images should be checked.</p> <p>Kirsten: Nothing less than a police check and working with children license would suffice for photographers.</p>	

	<p>Troy: needs to address this as an issue of consent. Kirsten: Wrist band implies an agreement of seeking consent.</p> <p>Issues of consent to be addressed at a later date.</p> <p>Emma Bennet: Concerned about photos being taken of children that this will be written on a leaflet at the front gate.</p> <p>Peter Cruise: At arts there is a sign for people to ask permission to take photos prior to taking them. That camera operators with big cameras are less of a threat than people who hide small undetectable cameras. That it is better to educate the public that it is impossible for DTE to manage this problem, therefore, should be up to the individual to take responsibility and if they do not want photos taken while naked then they should cover up.</p> <p>Coral Larke: Some photographers have taken beautiful and artistic photos and have given these out for free</p> <p>Mark: This issue arises each year and now three weeks prior to ConFest is not to discuss this issue if we are serious about it. More time is needed to gain a proper policy on it.</p>	
15	<u>Other Business</u>	
	<p>Mark: DTE received an email asking if an Indian group could come in and film and Indian musician at ConFest. Ian: No benefit to DTE. Robin suggested that we follow Burning Seed's lead in that the festival is an experiential time and not a media opportunity.</p> <p>Coral: DTE should manage the image it wants to portray. That some images on goggle images are revolting and can turn people off. The example of a youtube film shows the first the Cotter River ConFest as a freak show with no sound and gives such a poor portrayal that it should be taken down. David & Troy: Gave examples of positive footages. Kali & Kate: Drawer on skills from the rich pool of photographers and make a DTE approved film. Emma: This could be advertised on the welcome pamphlet asking if the ConFest population wants a DTE doco for 2018.</p>	
16	<u>Items Deferred</u>	
	<p><u>CC recognition of Wemba Wemba workgroup</u></p> <p>The Woorooma Aboriginal Relationships Committee (WARC) would like to clarify its role within the OC and report to its concurrent function within the CC</p> <p>Proposed Motion: <i>"That due to holding concurrent responsibilities both with the OC (NSW Law protecting Aboriginal Heritage Sites Across Woorooma) whilst also contributing to the CC (Festival Signage Crew, Walkabout Tours, Information Workshops etc), the WARC would like to have an entry to both on the DTE Org</i></p>	Elle

	<i>Chart whereby the WARC will be listed under the OC and the 'Wemba Wemba Crew will be listed under the CC'.</i>	
17	<u>Next Meeting Date & Time Confirmation</u>	
	23 rd March 7.30pm	