



Co-operative Society (Vic) Ltd.
G0001791N
ABN 77380 803219

A Special General Meeting of the Down To Earth (Victoria) Co-operative Society Limited will be held at 7.30 PM on Thursday 14th February, 2019

Location: CERES Learning Centre, 7 Lee Street, Brunswick East, VIC

Order of Business

1. Opening of meeting
2. Minutes of last meeting
3. Presentation of reports (if any)
4. General business on notice
5. **Motion** "That an additional appropriation of up to \$78,000 is made available to Organising Committee for financial year ending 30 June 2019." **Proposed Mark Rasmussen Supported by Aaron Shipperlee & Emma Bennett**
6. **Motion** "That an additional appropriation of up to \$303,000 is made available to ConFest Committee for financial year ending 30 June 2019." **Proposed Coral Larke Supported by Troy Reid & Melinda Hunt**
7. **Motion** "That an appropriation of up to \$15,000 is made available to Market Committee for financial year ending 30 June 2019." **Proposed Troy Reid and Supported by Robin Macpherson & Mark Rasmussen**
8. **Motion** "That a fund of \$10,000 be set aside and available to members who are affected by legal processes funded by the Down To Earth Co-operative." **Proposed David Cruise Supported by Denise Banville & Steven Poynton**
9. **Motion** "That a procedure is established to secure the use of, and the access to, the email data extracted from ConFest online ticket sales." **Moved David Cruise Supported by Denise Banville & Steven Poynton**
10. **Motion** To approve a budget request of up to \$10,000 to be allocated to the board for a cultural transformation program. To engage a third party to carry out refresher online or face-to-face training for all of its regular volunteers on equal opportunity, bullying, harassment and discrimination. This training will be offered incrementally throughout 2019. This will set expectations on appropriate behaviour in the workplace and better

protect DTE against a claim. **Proposed:** Coral Larke **Supported by** Troy Reid & Malcolm Mathews

Rationale DTE is required by law to provide a safe work environment for all its members and in particular within the online environment. DTE has received a letter of advice regarding bullying that occurs within the cooperative. DTE is at risk of legal action to be taken against the cooperative.

11. **Motion** “that an appropriation in financial year ending 30 June 2019, of up to \$5,500 be granted to Asset Management committee of the Organising Committee for the procurement and transport of a 20ft Shipping Container for the exclusive use of ConFest Bike Crew.”

Proposed Adrien Willems **Supported by** Troy Reid & Coral Larke

Rationale In the lead up to the 2018 festival Bike Crew was dissuaded not to have DTE buy a new 20' container, but to instead use one that Arts would yield up to us. When we got to Confest, however, this did not happen, with Arts asking us to wait until the end. Which, having no choices, we were obliged to accept. At the end of the Confest, during packdown, it transpired that there was no 20' container as promised, so we were obliged (with knowledge of some Arts players) to take half of a 40' container. Which, of course, was not empty. The consequences of it not being empty, and not getting an entire container meant that our requirement for autonomy and security were not met. We began moving things from the rear of the container we were granted access to. In doing this, we reorganised much stuff that looked to be useful, and discarded other gear that clearly could serve no other purpose. Two items in the rear of the container became contentions. A person approached us and tried to prevent us using the space allocated to us. The items most in contention were a motorbike, and a large tent. The motor bike, after some discussion, was relocated, but there was no agreement about removal of the tent. This tent, according to our correspondent in this confrontation, was 'hers', but it is unclear whether or not it was eligible for confest storage or not, or had any permission to be stored there. Regardless of any official permission to store items in the 40' container, the accommodation of Bike Crew materials caused others inconvenience. In anticipation of an upcoming festival some of the 40' container may be required for pallets of toilet paper and other consumable items and Bike Crew might be in road. The end point of it is that it (and a variety of other non-bike crew gear) is still in the shared container which we had been granted access to half by its operators. This represents a security issue, as it means that others will need to access the area we have our gear in, and cannot, which was part of the final grant of it to us, to be secured against non-bike-crew access. Bike Crew may also experience a denial of access in the current situation because we do not have a key or find the 40' container open, allowing theft and interference.

12. **Motion** “that an appropriation in financial year ending 30 June 2019, of up to \$6,900 be granted to Asset Management committee of the Organising Committee for the procurement and transport of a Rotary Broom attachment with catcher for the John Deere tractor.”

Proposed Adrien Willems **Supported by** Troy Reid & Coral Larke

Rationale: Prickles and punctures

Juliet Jae is the lovely lady who operated the new John Deere combination tractor and scraped the cooking circles and delivered and spread the sand, including for the Sydney Village. In her facilitator's report she has suggested the purchase of a rotary broom attachment for cleaning up the prickles after slashing especially for the market place. 11 of the Bike Crew bikes were returned with flat tyres and 16 new puncture repair kits were

consumed (each with 8 patches of 20 kits purchased) plus carryover stock of patches from last year used. The self help area for general public to repair their bikes consumed many of the patches and required supervision by bike crew volunteers. The prickles were a big problem in terms of cost, labour and bikes being out of service. Up on the plain around the hub, fire twirler camp and the markets could have done with a sweep, especially as the open areas largely had no delineated roads or paths. There is a correlation between the crews who operated in the plain and punctures of tyres on the bikes they borrowed. We support the purchase of a rotary broom attachment for Juliet and the John Deere tractor.

I found a video and there appear to be two general types of rotary broom attachments, one with and one without a catcher. In a similar fashion to using a domestic lawn mower: without the catcher throws the material to the side of the mower's path and with the catcher picks it up to be disposed of elsewhere.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZhQpXHEXys0>

For clearing prickles amongst the stubble and dust it appears the catcher model is better. The model without the catcher makes a cyclone of flying lightweight material

13. **Motion** “that an additional appropriation of up to \$20,000 is made available to Asset Management of the Organising Committee for financial year ending 30 June 2019 for the purposes of repairs and maintenance of the Cottage.”
Proposed by Mark Rasmussen Supported by Troy Reid & Trevor Smith
14. **Motion** that an appropriation of up to \$10,000 is made available for the purposes of building secure storage in the shearing shed for various villages and facilities. The aim is to build 5 storage units. **Proposed by Coral Larke Supported by Trevor Smith & Malcolm Mathews**
15. **Motion** “that an appropriation in financial year ending 30 June 2019, of up to \$3,900 be granted to Asset Management committee of the Organising Committee for the procurement and transport of a 20ft Shipping Container for the exclusive use of Rainbow Village and Poly Space.”
Proposed: Ian Gray & Alison Mayer | **Supported:** Troy Reid; Robin McPherson, Marte Kinder

Supporting Letter For six years the Rainbow Village has stored its equipment in the woolshed. This is no longer suitable due to dust, vermin attack and occasional theft. Polly Space Village and the Rainbow Village facilitators request funding for shared storage in a shipping container, one that opens at both ends for easy access.

Breakdown of costs; standard-height 20ft shipping container

20ft shipping container Grade-B (\$2,200+GST) *has no dents*

20ft shipping container below Grade-B (\$1,900+GST) *has many dents*

Spray painted (\$800+GST)

Transport (\$1,665+GST) from Port Melbourne to Moulamein on side-loader

Note that transport costs per 20ft container can be halved (\$832.50 + GST) when purchasing two 20ft containers at once as the side-loader can carry one 40ft container or two 20ft containers.

Our Cost is \$2200+ \$800 +\$832.50 = \$3832.50 + GST which assumes we only pay half the transport cost.

16. **Motion:** For a survey to be conducted with ConFest '19 attendees. That a rigorous survey is sent to attendees after ConFest through the Try Booking data base. That skilled people who can professionally analyse the information will either be employed or volunteer for the task. The aim is to gain data so that DTE can make sound judgments based on feedback given. Then a 5 year plan can be produced for a thriving future. **Proposed** Coral Larke **Seconded:** Tania Morsman & Ellen Brogan