



Co-operative Society (Victoria) Limited
G0001791N ABN 77380803219

A Special General Meeting of the Down To Earth (Victoria) Co-operative Society Limited will be held at 7.30 PM on Thursday 21st June, 2018.

Location: CERES Learning Centre, 7 Lee Street, Brunswick East, VIC and
<https://dte.coop/live.meeting>

Order of Business

1. Opening of meeting
2. Election of Chairperson & Minute Taker
3. Acknowledgement of Country
4. Acknowledgement of members participating online
5. Ratification of previous meeting minutes
6. Presentation of reports (if applicable)
7. General business on notice

a. Appropriation for Board of Directors

Motion “That an appropriation of up to \$35,000 is made available to the Board of Directors for financial year ending 30 June 2019.”

Proposed by Coral Larke and supported by Troy Reid & Kate Shapiro

b. Appropriation for Organising Committee

Motion “That an appropriation of up to \$268,000 is made available to the Organising Committee for general operating expenses for financial year ending 30 June 2019.”

Proposed by Kate Shapiro and supported by Mark Rasmussen & Emma Bennett

For more information see: <https://dte.coop/to/bgefy>

c. Appropriation for ConFab Committee

Motion: “That an appropriation of up to \$15,000 is made available to the ConFab Committee for the conduct of various events.”

Proposed by Ellen Brogan and supported by Trevor Pitt & Darrell Reid

Note: The events may range from small social gatherings to weekends with overnight camping. For more information see: <https://dte.coop/to/ygap3>

d. Appropriations for First Aid

(i) Motion: “That First Aid be granted a \$5,000 education budget.”
This is to continue the First Aid related education of members, facilitators and people on site for festival lead up/long periods.

(ii) Motion: “That a budget of \$5,000 be allocated to First Aid for infrastructure.”
This is for moving and any changes that need to be made due to the new layout and composition of buildings.

(iii) Motion: “That a budget of \$2,000 be allocated to First Aid for Bliss, Gypsy, Arts, Permaculture, Ops to have their own First Aid kit and for restock of cottage First Aid.”
This is so that major villages have their own First Aid kits and supplies.

(iv) Motion: “That a budget of \$3,000 be allocated for First Aid for maintenance/repair of equipment.”
This is for things like replacement leads and parts for medical equipment, AED battery replacements etc.

(v) Motion: “That a budget of \$2,000 be allocated to First Aid for incidental purchases required.”
This is aimed to allow us to buy things we identify that we need when performing stock takes and sorting up on site and following this.

Proposed by Kate Shapiro and supported by Viola Morris & Kristen Tunney

e. Gatherings Drumming Curfew

Motion: “That we set a responsible Curfew at ConFest for Drumming to be allowed only in a 12 hour block, say 9am to 9pm or 10am to 10pm.”

Proposed by Steve Gregory and supported by Fulvio Gerardi & Ian Hales

Rationale: We now have more drummers than ever before in our history with the majority of them using Large Bass Djembes which create vibrations through the ground. Currently the Drummers drum 24 / 7 and this prevents many children, toddlers and babies as well as Volunteers working during the ConFest to get a decent night’s sleep. Ear plugs do not prevent the ground vibrations.

f. Bylands Maintenance

Motion: “That an allocation of \$19,000 is made to the Organising Committee to enable a working bee at Bylands for rubbish clean-up/removal, weed control, and external maintenance of buildings. A working bee is proposed for 5 July to 11 July, during school holidays.”

Proposed by Don Royal and supported by David Cruise & Denise Banville

Rationale: The areas around the house and buildings are in a messy state and need clearing. The noxious weed, Prickly Pear, is spreading from the house yard towards the dam. Urgent control measures are required. The buildings are in need of external attention. A concrete block holding the shed doors has broken up and a door is hanging loose, another seems to be missing. It may be necessary to engage contractors for the weed and shed work.

g. ConFest Ticket Price

Motion: “To raise the full price of a ConFest ticket by \$20.”

Proposed by Coral Larke and supported by Malcolm Mathews & Steve Gregory

Rationale: ConFest tickets are \$90 & GST. Income needs to keep pace with rising costs for holding large gatherings which continue to grow. Investment is needed in infrastructure across a range of areas. We need to become a more environmentally responsible organisation and support our volunteer base with adequate resources, this all cost money. DTE’s operational costs has risen considerably due to higher standard of professionalism and will no doubt continue to rise.

h. Shearing Shed Works

Motion: “That a budget of \$5,000 be allocated to install storage in the southern end of the building.”

Proposed by Coral Larke and supported by Malcolm Mathews & Steve Gregory

Rationale: To build a platform and ramp so that items can be unloaded easily. This will allow the northern side of the woolshed to be cleaned up and repurposed for a number of uses e.g. an office and workshop area.

i. Insurance

Motion: “That a new insurance subcommittee is setup to investigate options and report back to the board so that DTE can have adequate insurance needed to run safe ConFests for all volunteers and participants and members, and that Rob Legg-Bagg is empowered to set up and initially coordinate this subcommittee. This committee consisting of Rob Legg-Bagg, and at least two others will liaise with the insurance lawyer, brokers, insurance companies and others as required.”

Proposed by Rob Legg-Bagg and supported by Steve Poynton & Kathy Ernst

j. Working with children check

- (i) Motion: “That all current members of the board undergo a working with children check.”
- (ii) Motion: “That all people nominating to be on the board must show evidence of a working with children check before the nomination is accepted and that DTE assist individuals with this process of applying for the working with children check.”
- (iii) Motion: “That all current officers of DTE are encouraged to get a working with children check.”

Proposed by Steve Poynton and supported by Don Royal & David Cruise

k. Board Decisions on Wristbands

Motion: “That within one month the board answers the following questions in writing to all members:

- a. When did the board decide to override the 15th SGM wristband motion? That wristbands not be part of the ticketing process. People must not be required to wear a wristbands in order to be allowed to enter or remain at ConFest Moved Vanessa Ernst, Seconded Kathy Ernst, Peter Tippett PBM 66.7%
- b. Was it a the 24th December board meeting? Motion that the Board of Directors directs the ConFest Committee to use serialised wristbands at ConFest gatherings to indicate paid entry to ConFest. Moved Mark Seconded Coral PBC
- c. If the board intended to overrule the SGM motion, why did they mislead members on 22nd February with statements like not having to wear wristbands at any stage nobody will be instructing front gate to enforce wristbands and agreeing that wristbands should only be souvenirs?
- d. If the board intended to stand by their decision of 24th December why did they pass this motion on 22 February? “After the result of the SGM we are very happy to withdraw the original motion requesting the use of wristbands.” Moved Mark Seconded Kate PBC”

Proposed by Kathleen Ernst and supported by Vanessa Ernst & Peter Tippett

8. SGM Meeting Close

9. Possible Board and/or OC meetings to follow