

Canberra City Farm meeting outcomes

This information was originally located on the Canberra City Farm wikispaces

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 30 SUNDAY 14 APRIL 2014

Actions

- ARIAN/NICK to provide an update about the Australian Community Gardens and City Farm Network for the CCF newsletter and for the COGS newsletter (a paragraph for the COGS next newsletter is needed by 18 April).
- JODIE to look at how CCF can better tap into the Australian Community Gardens and City Farms Network.
- GAV to add details about the ACGCFN and COGS email to the next newsletter.
- EVERYONE who has articles for the newsletter to email canberracityfarm@gmail.com and note NEWSLETTER in the subject line.
- JEANETTE to write a couple of paragraphs about her book recommendations for the next newsletter.
- ARIAN/NICK/JODIE put something on webpage about the pop-up gardens. This includes an outline of how people can get involved, either as a 'constructor' and/or 'adopter' (could try for a free coffee for those who adopt a garden and look after it).
- WALTER to circulate pop-up gardens information to COGS, particularly noting the 'adopter' opportunity.
- JODIE to chat with communities@work about links with mens sheds and constructing pop-up gardens.
- ARIAN to send request for volunteers to put seeds in envelopes for the next newsletter.
- GAV to include the volunteer assistance request for the Lyneham Commons project on the next newsletter.

Discussion

- Arian/Nick:
 - Went to the last day of the Australian Community Gardens and City Farms Network (ACGCFN) conference in Tasmania. Geelong mentioned as possible location for the next conference. There were delegates from all over the country, with representatives from the community, government, teachers, academics, interested individuals, etc. Arian has a list of workshops, but they don't seem to be intent on publishing papers, most likely because they are all volunteers. Costa was there for the whole weekend and he has been doing a very hands-on 'championing' role, not just an ambassador. Alec from CCF was there as well.
 - There is a big move in Victoria and Tasmania to establish a local food Act.
 - Former "Pete's Patch" in Hobart Botanical Gardens in Tasmania has had a big upgrade and is now working as a broader community resource, with different community groups having a role – eg Second Bite, a veterans patch (rosemary).
 - At the conference there was a presentation by Joe Kielnerowski (Joe's Connected Garden, Elizabeth, South Australia) of models of community gardening in private spaces, eg neighbours who pool or share garden spaces. Some use locked gates, some have removed fences, etc.
 - They had a long chat with Bridgette Watts from the Urban Farming Tasmania network. It is an interesting use of social media to create networks of small producers, public resources and people interested in community food systems that is very informal - they are not currently planning to create a city farm – and with a focus on working in low socio-economic communities. Have partnered with Colony 47 (a local NFP social resources organisation) and look like getting some support from MONA.

- Walter:
 - Attended the roundtable discussions with Minister Rattenbury.
 - Today COGS sent an email around about a successful food growing venture in Quebec that we can get ideas from. It feeds 250 families.
 - COGS has monthly meetings with ACGCFN and finds it a useful network.
- Jeanette:
 - Attended Lorendale organic apple orchard open day. It's a 20 min drive out near Poachers Pantry. There were lots of people.
 - Attended the SEE-Change over the back fence tour of a garden. They turned a bare paddock with 6 trees into a food forest, anti-aviary vegetable garden, with wicking beds made from recycled containers that bring fluids into Australia and are then sold through a rural supplier in Bungendore.
 - Yass and Bungendore have a food swap and Canberra could consider doing this.
 - Did a pilgrimage to the US and visited farming and sustainability initiatives. There was an event run by the Maine farmers and growers association with lots of initiatives, including a Community Supported Agriculture model that provided a guaranteed income stream for farmers.
 - Has been reading a book by Wendell Berry with foreword by Michael Pollan. It touches on how Obama has supported organic gardening. It was noted that Michelle Obama has been supporting/engaging around organic food, health and kids. Another book 'The Town That Food Saved' is a book about a town in Vermont that relied on mining and then changed to food growing. It has an organic agriculture food school and the whole cafeteria uses the food grown on the farm or sourced within 100kms.

Update of activities

- Floriade
 - The groups are all moving along nicely and Joe is doing a great job at coordination.
 - On Tuesday 22 April there is a UAA meeting that will finalise the proposal for the government, which includes agreeing the outline for the final design and construction group plans, the talks and education group plans and the marketing and sponsorship group plans.
 - Unlike last year, the plan for the garden is going to be a more modular approach and communicate in the different areas a particular concept, whether it be compost, water, food forests, container gardens, etc. The house will be at the centre of it all.
- Backyard gardens
 - This group is meeting once a month to progress plans for the backyard food growers.
- Pop-up gardens:
 - Chifley is going really well. The design has held up, plants are growing well, and customers are looking and talking about it. More signage would be good as well as expanding it a bit.
 - Downer is going well.
 - There will be meeting of people interested in the pop-up gardens project in the next couple of weeks.
 - Red Brick in Curtin is a possible next step, but it will be more complicated than Chifley as the owner is more particular about the appearance of the place. The benefits of doing this one is there is possible greater potential for social media.
 - The Front in Lyneham, the Fire Brigade in Chisholm, and other existing garden beds are all possible sites as well.
 - The key to this project is getting it to be self-funding.
 - There is a great opportunity in Autumn and Winter to prepare the gardens ready for a launch in spring. Floriade workshops for construction could be used to support the pop-up gardens as well, and could link with mens sheds or for disadvantaged people.
- Strategy and planning
 - Vincent is intending on presenting to the Executive Committee at the next meeting.
- Site

- Jerrabomberra – CCF have engaged with Conservation Volunteers on this proposal and it is looking very positive. CCF would manage the land while the Conservation Volunteers would manage the office/meeting rooms, etc. There are old chook sheds, toilets and other facilities. There is also substantial land, so CCF is looking at engaging young farmers to work the land in exchange for a small % of sales contributed back to CCF. We should know within the next month if this is a certainty.
- Turner – We have still be chasing Minister Rattenbury on approval to use this land. He is chasing it up with TAMS. It would be the ideal site to engage the public, with the Jerrabomberra site being the practical site for doing lots of workshops. After 2 years, this site could then move to Jerrabomberra, based on it having built momentum for the City Farm.
- Caroola Farm open day
 - Penny has sent around information about having a stall for this day.
 - Walter noted that COGS will put a stall out there and they would be keen to do a joint stall with City Farm. Walter and Cindy can person it, with other volunteers supporting them to allow them to have time to look around as well.
 - Arian has seed packets with stickers to contribute, but will need help bagging them.

Lessons learnt from Harvest Festival, Chifley, Downer

- Downer wicking beds were being constructed as part of the event and this proved to be very successful. People either wanted to have a go, wanted to buy them, or wanted to attend workshops where they physically learn how to construct them, whether they could take them away or make them for another purpose.

Food forums and connections currently happening in the community

- Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) are doing a food in the city project that will be a seminar series about how landscape designers can incorporate food into their landscapes.
- Canberra Business Council (CBC) sustainability group have been discussing food related issues.
- Roundtable – Fusion, SEE-Change, CCF and COGS met with Minister Rattenbury a couple of weeks ago to discuss a range of food issues. The Minister is planning on having a roundtable event that engages with those involved with the various aspects of food, including community groups, suppliers, producers, etc. This is planned for early May and will be an exploratory discussion for the Minister to better understand the issues. CCF has been engaging with the Conservation Council, Australian Food Sovereignty Alliance and others to ensure all the links are being made between the different groups, including adding onto our references page on the wiki the range of documents that have been developed that relate to this.
- Local Food Initiative – The Palerang area is engaging around food and developing a database of food growers, suppliers, etc. CCF is meeting with them this week to discuss the interactive map and how we can make sure the links across the borders are all interconnected. This builds upon the South East Food Plan that has been developed.
- Lyneham Commons – The group of people engaged in establishing a food forest in the Lyneham Commons is finding it challenging as they do not fit the standard TAMS processes. They do not want fences and this goes against the typical requirements. They are also looking for support on research, communications, etc.

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 28 SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2014

Actions

- JODIE to organise first meeting for Floriade sub-group

- KEITH to send out request for backyard growers to all of group to promote
- COORDINATORS to organise a meeting of their sub-group as appropriate

Discussion

Project	Coordinate	Involved	Notes
Site	Jodie Pipkorn, Executive	Michele, Vincent, Alec	Jodie is progressing the Turner site. Vincent is putting together a strategy for getting a site Anyone who wants to pursue a site can nominate to take a lead
Floriade	Jodie + Joe = overarching coordination, Keith + Carole = propagation, Penny + Phil = marketing, Danny + Nick = construction, Walter + Odette = education	Nicole, Alec, Cindy, Carolyn, Kerry, Arian	This sub-group previously met at 6.00-7.30pm on Monday nights at Fellows Bar. It was agreed this should be started again. This year we want to bring local indigenous food into the display.
Backyard Marketing	Keith, Phil, Kerry, Melissa, Carolyn, Penny	Nicole, Alec, Nick, Kerry, Cindy, Linda, Carole, Arian	
Strategy and Planning	Vincent	Alec, Gilles, Mark, Walter S	
Outreach	Gavin, Executive, Glenys		
Education/ Courses/ Workshops			Should form part of each sub-group as needed. Alec can look at linking us with his University students. There are opportunities to work with Odette to hold workshops that meet the needs of students.
Capacity/ Governance	Mark, Executive		
Permaculture Convergence	Penny (to hold in 2017)		There is no capacity at the moment to do this project.
Database + farmers connections	Penny	Mark, Walter, Walter S, Nick, Michele, Glenys	
Propagation	Carole, Keith, Linda	Cindy, Penny, Arian, Nicole, Jodie	
Document historical case studies	Walter	Melissa, Gavin, Mark, Penny	
Pop-up gardens	Arian, Carolyn – Swingers Hill, Melissa – Lyneham, Gav – CEC, Jodie – Downer	Danny, Nicole, Virginia, Nick, Cindy, Michele,	Permablitz may be interested in these project and this could support the growth of

		Carole, Linda	Permablitz.
UAA Website		Jodie, Penny, Nicole, Nick	Jodie is happy to make changes that anyone suggests. Others involved can identify changes and develop content.
Theodore Garden	Walter S	Keith, Virginia, Gilles, Glenys, Michele, Nick	

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 27 SUNDAY 19 JANUARY 2014

Actions

1. MARK to create a roster for the multicultural festival in blocks of 2-3 hours.
2. MARK to organise a planning meeting for the multicultural stall.
3. VINCENT to organise a meeting with Mark/Gilles to discuss strategy/planning.
4. ALL are asked to promote Food Forest workshop.

Discussion

Site

- Turner is being progressed as a temporary site and looking at recreating the Floriade display.
- 1-3 year strategy – get site and start demonstrating.
- 3-5 year strategy – progress to a permanent site.
- 5-10 year strategy – create a permanent display and create a ‘Questacon for Sustainability’.
- Jodie, Keith, Gav have been leading this.
- If anyone is keen to get engaged please email Jodie.
- Once we get a site others will be needed.

Floriade

- Stay posted, as lots of support will be needed.

Backyard marketing

- This project is about having the city as the farm.
- Need to work out how to go about it and connect backyard growers. We need a structure which addresses do we go and sell produce at a market, do we set it up on a website, etc.
- The intention is to encourage people to grow more in their backyard and have an exchange system.
- We could establish a database of growers and who is doing what, like the ‘Crop and Swap’ website. They name a location and turn up with whatever they have excess and swap. SCPA are doing a similar thing. They run workshops to support their growers.
- Enterprises websites – Kirsten Larsons could be considered.
- Could link to local cafes who are interested in using local foods.
- Could bring LETS people in for a barter system and create LETS credit.
- Aranda Steiner school may be interested in getting engaged as they are growing food, or other schools could be interested.
- Would need to coordinate with farmers markets and others like the University of Canberra market.
- Would need to consider conflict with farmers.

- Should consider Queanbeyan growers.
- Need 6 people to help plan and coordinate. Would meet fortnightly or monthly meetings.
- Keith is leading this, noting that we need to find someone to take on the propagation group of Floriade with mentoring from Keith.
- Possibly engage the local growers and then create an events/market.
- Keith has put adverts in COGS newsletter and is spreading the word to see if there is a demand.
- Need to train as need training on how to grow to sell to people – quality, etc.

Strategy and Planning

- Need to establish a coherent and consistent model that can evolve over time.
- Need a consistent narrative that can evolve into different forums. A story that everyone can tell to their neighbours. How you go about getting the site and explore new opportunities. Need stages.
- Vincent, Mark, Gilles are working on this.

Guerrilla gardening

- We need other ideas of cafes for engaging and linking with others. Front café in Lyneham could be an option.
- Arian is leading this, Danny is keen to be engaged in prototyping.
- Intention is to have a self-contained garden popping up around Canberra to promote the growing of food.
- There are practical and insurance issues, so we would like to look guerrilla, but cannot actually be guerrilla.

Multi-cultural festival

- Sunday 9 February – 9-6 with a 3x3m space.
- What would we do with that space?
 - Enterprise of multicultural festival foods.
 - Map of the planet with where different plants come from. Connect to food.
 - Prototype of garden.
 - Wicking bed.
 - How to make a newspaper pot.
 - Have a drawing of a wicking bed on a poster explaining how it works.
 - Loads of fresh produce.
- Ask the questions: What exotic foods would you like to be able to get in Canberra but you can't? What do you grow and would you like to supply? Listen to ideas and asking questions to get people talking and collect data.
 - Old seeds that are not viable give to Carolyn for permanent seed box display.
 - Could focus on herbs and spices.

Harvest Festival

- Coming up on 22 March.
- We need crafts, tools and seedlings.

Environment Centre project

- Guerrilla garden.
- We would need 4-5 people in a 3 hour period to clean it up.
- Would need to establish how many plants are needed.

- Maintaining and keeping the project going is a key consideration, as Permablitz did it a while ago but it wasn't maintained.

Update from volunteer coordinator.

- Baihua has established a letter that will be sent to each new member.
- She will then contact them to discuss what they want to get from their experience with Canberra City Farm and what skills they would like to contribute and where they could fit within Canberra City Farm.

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 26 SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER 2013 - PLANNING

Actions

1. Those interested in progressing any of the projects to email canberracityfarm@gmail.com.

Discussion

- UAA update from planning meeting held on Sunday 8 December
- Discussion about UAA outcomes
- Overview of 2013 CCF Priorities
- New project ideas for 2014
- Comments about ideas
- Outcomes of voting on ideas
 - All attendees received three votes and the priority projects were identified as:
 - Site = 10
 - Floriade = 8
 - Backyard marketing = 6
 - Strategy = 5
 - Outreach = 3
 - Education/courses/workshops = 2
 - Capacity and governance = 2
 - Permaculture Convergence = 1
 - Database and connections with food and suppliers = 1
 - Propagation = 1
 - Document historical case studies = 1

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 25 SUNDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2013

Actions

1. MARK to distribute presentation of meeting with Moruya farmers market organisers.
2. EVERYONE to provide ideas about 2014 calendar events.
3. JODIE to put something on the wiki that captures the events for the year and for others to add to.
4. GLENYS to give details of Landcare activities so we can factor them into CCF planning.
5. JODIE to let UAA know about 15 Dec event

Discussion

Update

Mark had a conversation with Moruya farmers market organisers.
Mark and Keith met with Regional Development Australia.
Other resources Mark collected.
Local Food Security Expo.

Site

2014 Calendar
Meeting structure
Christmas celebrations and next workshop
Current CCF projects

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 24 SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER 2013

Actions

1. EVERYONE to keep an eye open for existing gardens – at shops and parking areas.
2. KEITH/ELLIOTT/JODIE/GILLES to establish a small team focusing on teaching and learning, with a mentoring coordinator responsible for the mentoring program and wiki updates about the program.
3. GAV to work with Keith to create a spreadsheet of who is doing what in terms of upcoming events and propagation.
4. CAROLYN to bring a timber tray back from the farm for presenting seeds in.
5. JODIE to send everyone the link to the facebook video clip.

Discussion

- Site Update
- Floriade Update
- Pop-up gardens
- Mentoring program
- Other meetings and collaboration opportunities update
- Sharing stories, photos and videos
- Priority Areas for CCF
 - Site
 - Pop-up gardens
 - Education and mentoring
 - Connecting with Farmers
 - Marketing, sponsorship and membership
 - Newsletter is a big job.
 - Wiki is a pot and the UAA site is nice, so CCF should consider getting a nice website.
 - People and Fun – Christmas party
 - Propagation – prepare for stalls
 - To follow:
 - Design and Construction
 - Subject to the site, other priorities may come up

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 23 SUNDAY 18 AUGUST 2013

Actions

- JODIE – Review constitution and whether a quorum can include people on the telephone.
- JODIE – To email all those who have volunteered for Green Savvy Sundays stall so that all can coordinate together.
- KEITH – See about Mark doing a spiel about CCF at the Gunghalin event.
- JODIE/KEITH – Organise a meeting with Elliott to establish focus for the mentoring program.
- JODIE/KEITH/WALTER – Explore a mudmap of UAA and CCF – a frame of reference – and a standard blurb at the beginning of people’s talks at Floriade to put the whole thing in context of UAA.

Discussions

Floriade Update

- The 5 sub-groups are tracking really well.
- Children are being engaged through a ‘seek and find’ map and clues. It was noted that children mentoring tours could be provided. Times could be included on the blackboard.
- It was suggested that we need a mudmap of UAA and CCF – a frame of reference of where we come back to, along with an influence diagram. People doing talks could have a standard blurb at the beginning to put the whole thing in context of UAA.

Site Update

- The outcome of the meeting with Minister Corbell is that we would be very lucky to get such a valuable site.
- As a starting point we should prove ourselves with a licence.
- Corbell’s advisor is organising a meeting with ESDD and looking at site options for us.

Other meetings and collaboration opportunities update

- ANU: Gilles presented to ANU volunteers on Tuesday 6 August and found it to be a good networking opportunity. A person there was representing mental health, which may be worth us connecting with. Gilles managed the stall at the ANU Expo on Wednesday 7 August. We got reasonable feedback and a few more possible connections around Canberra.
- Upcoming stall opportunities:
 - Canberra University Market Day, Wednesday 21 August – Gilles will be there all day, Maggie will be there part of the day and Keith can be called if needed.
 - Fair Food Week is happening this coming week. The talk ‘You can’t eat your words’ is on Tuesday 20 August in Gunghalin. Next Sunday’s farmers market in Phillip, Slow Food Canberra will be doing a soup as a fund raiser to go towards a Fair Food documentary. Google Orange Tree Blues, which is an example of what will be in the documentary and is a story of a farmer that goes from dark to light. They are planning to have 4 minute videos 12-15 snippets showing the fair food movement around Australia and the various industries involved – like paddock to plate producers, food hubs, etc. All filming is being done by volunteers. Walter noted that it would be good to include what are blueprints for the community to do? Nick from the Food Sovereignty Alliance has won a Churchill Scholarship to capture viable options of what the community in Australia could do and models to get food to people. Resilient food systems are based on complexity.
 - Old Bus Depot Green Savvy Sunday – 15 September 2013. A number of people have volunteered for this stall.
 - The Living Greener festival (October) and The Eco-Elves market (December) to be discussed at future meetings

Mentoring program

- Elliott has been getting across what is needed for the mentoring program and the coordination position he has taken on.

- He noted that everyone he talks to thinks it is a great idea, but he requires greater clarity at this stage.
- We have someone interested in the volunteer coordinator position.

Crace update

Keith provided an update on the Crace community garden.

- The government is concerned about sustainability of small blocks with big houses, so in Crace the Government has required the developer to build the first community garden by a developer. It fits into the idea of getting people into gardening and producing their own food, even if only a token amount. The plan is that all new suburbs will have these gardens.
- Keith is running the garden until the end of September, which is about 2500sqm, cost \$110K, has a cedar shed, bbq, raised beds (good for those in wheelchairs), no CCA treated timber, and netting to keep out rabbits. He will also be running workshops.
- There is a grand official opening on Saturday 31 August, 12-2pm, Drooka Street, Crace.
- As a start it is an opportunity to show how food can be grown, although at the moment the focus is on the developer get as much publicity as possible.
- COGS takes over the garden from the developer and it will become a COGS garden.
- It was noted that the raised beds had vege soil, so compost will be required. It was also noted that there is some capacity for collective compost and green waste from local council.
- It was suggested that to assist with the ongoing costs, a trust account could be a good idea for a long-term solution, where the developer pays into a trust fund, not just expending large amounts up-front on aspects that are not necessary.
- It was noted that growing food is becoming an image and vertical gardens are taking off, but we need to reinforce practical, organic and sustainable.

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 22 JULY 2013

This meeting was followed by a 'Growing from Cuttings' workshop.

Actions

1. ALL – send photos that could be used in newsletter
2. GILLES – consider putting polytunnel construction on wiki
3. GLENYS – send link of underground garden and photos on wiki
4. MARK – send mentor details to Glenys
5. GAVIN – add a volunteer request on the next Newsletter to assist with the Green Savvy Sunday stall
6. JODIE – email to everyone at the meeting the Floriade googledoc and planting doc.
7. ALL – consider attending the Introduction to Permaculture Workshop on 4-5 August
8. ALL – consider becoming a CCF member and complete a nomination form
9. GAV – send AGM notice to all CCF members along with nomination and proxy forms

Discussions

Floriade Update

- Keith, Gina and Trish went to Merici College to look at glasshouses to grow plants for Floriade. They are hoping to do a workshop in the glasshouse and have a day of pricking out and potting out of plants. The soil will be stored at a house nearby and Keith will transport it by trailer when it is needed.
- The display design has been agreed and the signs have been started.

Site Update

- A meeting had been arranged with Minister Simon Corbell at the start of July, however due to a white powder incident at the Legislative Assembly, the meeting was cancelled. A new meeting has been arranged for end of July.
- The current strategy for progressing the acquiring of a site, is to engage Minister Corbell and explore the possibility of launching the CCF site at the Floriade display, with the display being a smaller demonstration of what the CCF could look like.

Other meetings and collaboration opportunities update

- Greenhills – Mark and Keith had a look at this site. The area is not good for us, but it could be an annexe for the CCF or for someone like Vaughn to grow and sell produce. It is however a bit small. Keith took Vaughn down to have a look and for the area and effort it isn't looking like a goer, although they are offering to supply free water and the site for free.
- Oaks Estate – Keith went to a meeting at Oaks Estate, which is a historic place and where old Chinese markets were. It was chopped in half by the ACT border and they want to turn it into a historic precinct. It's pretty run down. COGS has a garden on the estate and they want to build on the COGS garden as both a historic site and food bowl. The old original river flat could be used for CCF as an annexe site for Vaughn or Helen to produce food for selling on behalf of CCF. Keith will keep an eye on this.
- University of Canberra (UC) – 9 August UC is holding a sustainability festival from 10-3pm. CCF are interested in having a stall. They have a showcase sign-post garden outside the pub that would also be worth CCF looking at, at some point.
- Kaleen High School – Mark and Keith met with them. They want to collaborate and are interested in a food event. We are also looking at possibly using their workshop spaces for Floriade construction, they have a petting zoo that could be another opportunity for us to collaborate with, and they have curriculum materials. It is also a subset of UC and everyone is trying to link these together.
- Upcoming stall opportunities:
 - Old Bus Depot Green Savvy Sunday – 15 September 2013. This is the same weekend as the start of Floriade, but it was noted that as this attracts locals it would be worthwhile us having a presence. Arian, Glenys and Virginia are happy to take on this stall.
 - The Living Greener festival (October) and The Eco-Elves market (December) to be discussed at future meetings

Learning update: upcoming Introduction to Permaculture course, other courses?

- The Introduction to Permaculture course is happening on Saturday and Sunday 4-5 August. Everyone is invited but rsvp's have been requested. See the Workshops page on the wiki for more information.

Mentoring program

- Welcome Elliott Child, who has taken on the role of CCF Mentor Program Coordinator. Elliott has just finished his Masters in environment. He is keen to take on the mentoring program and get more connected to the CCF project. He also has connections with the refuge community.
- Susan is another person who was interested in the CCF Mentor Program Coordinator and CCF are keen to look at how we can best engage with her too.
- CCF should consider a buddy system for those that don't feel like they have enough experience for mentoring but would have enough experience to be a buddy for newcomers or people of different levels of experience.
- CCF are also developing other job descriptions for roles that provide great opportunities for those wanting to engage and take on leadership roles in the CCF.

AGM overview – explain criteria for becoming a member along with handing out nomination forms

- The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is happening next month in place of any workshops – 18 August 2013.
 - All CCF Committee positions are up for grabs, so if people are interested in joining the CCF committee at our first AGM in August, the key things to know are:
 - you have to have been a member of the Canberra City Farm for a minimum of two consecutive months; and
 - you have to have attended at least two of the last four meetings prior to the AGM.
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CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 21 JUNE 2013

The monthly workshop was preceded by a visit to the Floriade site to be developed by Urban Agriculture Australia.

Actions:

1. Mark / Keith – establish trained mentors who can go into schools ready for October. Lucia, Vaughn, Melissa, Jodie are happy to be mentors.
 2. Mark / Keith – follow up with UC Kaleen High re. potential collaboration opportunities
 3. All – provide suggestions for evidenced based claims to support our claim for a site at North Curtin
 4. Gav – develop detailed crowd-funding campaign proposal
 5. Gav – confirm availability of Environment Centre for upcoming monthly meetings for remainder of 2013
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CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 20 SUNDAY 13 MAY 2013

Actions:

1. GAV to chase up for next workshop Crowd Funding, Kickstarter and other funding opportunities.
2. JODIE/TRISH/JOHN to develop a proposal for the ACT Environment Grants due on 31 May 2013.
3. MARK/KEITH – establish trained mentors who can go into schools ready for October. Lucia, Vaughn, Melissa, Jodie are happy to be mentors.
4. MELISSA to explore origami box making and prepare for a workshop in June if suitable.

Discussions:

Workshops

- Composting workshop is happening following this General Meeting.
- Mentoring program ideas have been progressed by Mark and Keith.

Pilot project

- The Downer Shops project is on hold, as planning approval has not been received. It is not worth progressing this project until work on the shops has started.
- A Floriade proposal was submitted on 8 May 2013. This proposal was a collaborative effort between a number of community groups across Canberra, and included support letters from well-known people.
- The CCF Executive Committee met with Jennie and Chris Curtiss from Fresh Landscape. They have experience with Floriade displays and are keen to get engaged where they can.

Permanent Site

- Keith and Jodie met with the ACT Land Development Agency (LDA). This was following advice from TAMS that when our proposal was discussed at a joint meeting with other agencies, that we would need to engage with the LDA. At this meeting they indicated the complexities of obtaining a site and noted that the site we have identified has been earmarked for future development. They also noted the importance of getting MLA support.
- A meeting has been arranged with Shane Rattenbury and Steve Dezspot in the week commencing 27 May.
- At the meeting with Jennie and Chris Curtiss from Fresh Landscape, they outlined their idea of having a National City Farm somewhere in the Parliamentary Triangle or on National Capital Authority (NCA) land. This follows from a discussion that Jennie had with Gary Rake, the executive of the NCA. This proposal is being progressed and Jennie is organising a meeting with Gary.
- An article about the Curtin site was in the Chronicle recently. Mark noted how careful we have to be talking to journalists, as they noted in the article the site was on the horse paddocks. This created some angst with the people using the horse paddocks and the Minister's office (Shane Rattenbury) was contacted. Jodie engaged with the relevant people to clarify this issue and provided additional information to the Chronicle with a request that they print another article with accurate information. Mark noted the importance of going back to our values in these types of instances. It was also noted that the horse paddocks could be better managed and CCF could assist with this.

Update on Floriade proposal.

- This will need a team of people to pull together the demonstration site, including a team of people to staff the site and training them, a team to propagate food plants for the site (we have assistance from South Coast Producers Association), and a team of people running talks and presentations.
- We will need education and mentoring training, and fact sheets, with the core information journey available as a school and public education resource. The Kit could be purchased, or electronic. John is happy to edit fact sheets.
- The National Science week in August could be the next aim for the group and act as a test for Floriade fact sheets.
- April 2014 a permaculture conference is being held.
- Big thank you to Martyn for creating this project and pulling it all together.

Update on other meetings – Woden Community Council

- Mark presented at the Woden Community Council meeting and outlined the community based approach to the CCF.
- Photos of CERES were played in the background.
- People in the audience gave suggestions of sites and asked about raised garden beds and people in wheelchairs. They were generally supportive.
- Steve Dezspot from the Liberals was supportive and offered to help with this.

Mentoring

- Mark and Keith have progressed this with three themes:
 - help people do their own agriculture in their own space,
 - story teller and educator, and
 - roles inside our group.
- The proposal is for mentors to put their profile of priority areas and create a list of skilled people. Mentees (CCF members) can then look at the list and ask questions, the answers of which are made publicly available.
- Through email, telephone or face-to-face meetings, with possibly a site visit., the Mentor can assist the Mentee to achieve their intended goals.

- A Mentoring Tool Kit will be developed that explains how to build a good mentoring relationship, including guidelines/processes and how to exit.
- Mentees must be a CCF member or associate member.
- Consultancy services for more complex situations will be created with a money arrangement, for example, if someone is going to look after the land or respond to more complex questions. Standards of what the CCF stand for and a sort of filtering system of who we recommend would form part of this.
- An Advisory Committee could be established to respond to more tricky questions.

Calendar review

- Next workshop we will consider doing origami box folding, which supports the carrying of pots when at stalls.
- Bottling workshop will be organised for autumn next year when fruits are in season.

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 19 SUNDAY 21 APRIL 2013

Actions:

1. All - please check that you are happy with constitution for signing off at AGM (on website)
2. All - consider Politics in the Pub with Bob Brown on Weds 24 April at 7.00pm at Uni Bar
3. All - consider Cooma Community Gardens with Walter on 4 May
4. Keith - stay in contact with Rob Fenton CCF to promote Diploma of Urban Agriculture
5. Glenys - organise talk with Woden Community Council
6. Mark, Keith and Arian - create first draft of CCF Mentoring program
7. Glenys - send Mark UNCCC model rules
8. Keith - redraft constitution to allow bigger committee if desired, and less restrictive quorum requirements for executive and members meetings
9. Walter - offering 5 demonstrations of garden types for Floriade Urban Food Project
10. Jodie, Gav, Mark - if required design and administer member and maillist survey for participation in Floriade Urban Food Project 14 Sept - 14 Oct
11. Executive - invite Companion House and Multicultural Centre in Civic to participate including refugees
12. Arian - place CCF flyers around local shops
13. Keith - check with Martyn about running composting workshop next month

KEY ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING STILL TO BE COMPLETED:

1. KEITH/VIRGINIA to get planting group get together
2. ALL to find look at origami boxes or ideas for bags
3. CINDY to get book from Enviro Centre about upcycling
4. ALL bring bags and upcycling to next workshop
5. Checkin - what's been of interest since last meeting?

Glenys

- organise CCF(Jodie and/or Mark) to talk at meeting of Woden Community Council
- Very successful launch of A Labour of Love - Celebrating Landcare in the ACT

Keith

- 31 May colloquium at UC on Food Matters
- talking to DAFF graduates in New Graduate Program about sustainability and urban agriculture

Graham Jackson

- enjoys bringing people together to build social capital
- setting up Ginninderra Falls National Park
- Curtin shops has new Bendigo Bank

Walter

- just visited Roma, Dubbo and Huon Valley doing Biochar workshops and revitalising farming
- 4 May Cooma Community Gardens workshop

Virginia

- Valued listening to Nicole Foss with message the best we can do is to act local

Gilles

- Now more interested in bringing environmental issues into local action
- Simon Sheik talk with NSF on Thurs 18 April at 7.30pm at Frank Fenner building - young people coming back into politics. Simon is aware of People's Food Plan

Mark

- great learning from Rob Fenton at permaculture farm at Albury relevant to CCF setup
- exciting opportunity with possible Urban Food Floriade Project

Arian

- excited about City Farm and growing fruit and veg and community. Worried about food sovereignty
- willing to share organiser and educator skills

Learnings from National Environment Centre visit

- bee colony collapse associated with growing new GM canola crop 1km away
- disappointed about farm eggs having to be stamped
- impressed by the scale of what can be done with so few people
- keep close links with Rob especially with Diploma of Urban Agriculture
- 100 acres on edge of Albury since 1996 - changed the dam walls to be leaky and now has 87 species of birds
- Rob's passion is fantastic, especially within TAFE bureaucracy
- Bhutanese community loved getting off the bus to grow food
- leaky dams - Australian wetlands rely on flooding and drying out
- how shallow the swales can be to be effective
- disenfranchised youth are part of his activities
- making permaculture work - assessing inputs and energy flows
- know your region and be patient
- hospital paddock
- use of animals as biological controls for foxes eg donkey, dogs and llamas
- energy flows and simple but powerful design principles
- 1, 3 and 5 star energy systems

Site proposal

- CCF proposal to request block of land has been submitted to government department
- additional questions have been asked of us to respond to
- Southern Catchment Group could offer financial credibility

Possible Urban Food Floriade Project collaboration

- have a strategy if no one is staffing the site and design it to work with 1 person
- Walter offered to have 5 examples of urban farming demonstration and fact sheets for each technology
- survey CCF people for availability
- CCF to get growing seeds 6-8 weeks before 14 Sept in hothouses eg Dickson

Mentoring Program for CCF

- ensure the program has a clear purpose e.g. 1. people (mentees) are confident to do own food garden 2. new presenters are confident to do talks and demonstrations
 - mentoring as a contractual agreement
 - mentee sets a goal and mentor helps them achieve it in fixed timeframe eg 3months, 12 months
 - 3 types of support - consultancy services, education programs, mentoring followup after workshop
 - 1 to 1 followup after a course
 - CCF to refer people to consultancy services to promote small businesses
 - CCF to charge rates to build small businesses
 - first meeting is free to test relationship
 - have no fault exit pathways for mentors and mentees and help people find the right match
-

VISIT TO THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE (NEC), THURGOONA (Albury) 14 April 2013

12 city farmers toured the National Environment Centre with Rob Fenton and had an excellent tour of an organic, permaculture farm with many lessons and much rich conversation with design ideas for Canberra City Farm. We explored preparing the land for holding water before building any infrastructure, 1 star, 3 star and 5 star sources of energy for farm inputs, research - action - learn, running integrated farm businesses and accredited learning programs and mentoring schemes. We investigated animals including pigs, chickens, dogs, sheep and donkeys, as well as olives, pumpkins, vegetables and organic grains. We see great opportunities for ongoing partnership with Rob and several members would be happy to study Rob's courses whilst designing and building the Canberra City Farm as an action learning project.

This workshop toured the NEC and we got to learn about the following:

WATER

- Water is really critical and our water management plan should be the first step in our planning of the CCF.
- Erosion is caused by fast flowing water and is influenced by the length and width of the run. Pattern plowing from the swale slows the water.
- Dams are designed to flood and dry out to achieve a wet and dry wetland. Endangered species are now in the dam because of this process.
- Leaky dams hold water for a month then pass it onto the next dam.
- Swales and other strategies are used to slow the water and keep it on the land as long as possible.

EDUCATION

- Leaders, leaners, learners and laggards.
- The NEC is committed to Research, Action, Learn and are continually evolving their ideas. They consider the only way for people to truly understand, is to do.
- They are also focusing on a system of 1 star (input from oil and fossil fuels), 3 star (some energy from external sources, particularly labour), 5 star (does not need inputs from other sources).

ANIMALS

- The farm has pigs which sell at around \$450/head. This makes a reasonable return. They sell about 40 per year and as they are 3-5 star there is almost 100% return on each pig. Normally pigs are 1 star but the aim is to have them all 5 star.

- Bees are essential to any farm, with honey managed to keep to our fair share. At the moment the NEC has a problems with their bees and have had no honey for 2 years, even though they expect to get around 200kgs of honey each year. The thinking is that the GM Canola crop which is around 1kms away is impacting how they path find. It makes them sick, such that they are not finding food or do not come back.
- Damara sheep are kept on the farm, as they shed their own wool. Sheep are not kept in a paddock for more than 4 days, as this ensures they avoid the time it takes for worms to hatch. A donkey and alpacas look after them. To move paddocks, the donkey marches and sheep follow.
- 5 star eggs are being obtained, with wattle trees providing a constant supply of chook feed. By not buying in feed, means all income belongs to the farm.
- Rotation is important, along with ensuring the animals are not stressed and not bored. They are made sure to have them in a family group. Moving sheep more also results in less damage on the land.
- Operating like the NEC does mean there are healthier animals with healthier land. It takes time though, around 3 years. The hospital paddock is now rarely used. It also has no run-off to any other water areas.

FOOD GROWING

- Pumpkin and zucchini are planted straight into hay which is harvested on the site.
- Chicken tractors are sized to suit the width of the planting beds.
- The amount being grown should provide income for 1 person for half a job, with the other half of their job being marketing.
- Food growing is located on the steepest slopes to avoid frost. Organic produce doesn't freeze like other plants, as healthy soils don't freeze like other soils.
- Figs and olives are located on swales for water purposes.
- 100 hectares of slope soil is food growing. In other areas nutrients are leached or run-off. 5 percent of carbon is achieved by the paddock size.
- By growing grain and turning it into organic flour, a small area can make a decent amount. Fields are pattern plowed and will last for 15 years.
- No fruit trees are grown on the farm as water is an issue. The NEC grow what suits the climate, and what is best for this farm is sheep. The bio system should determine our food. Lamb and grains are best for Albury, particularly so as not to steal water from the Murray. We need to educate people to grow tomatoes and lettuce in back yards, but not at the NEC. Meat suits many environments better then winter grains and our last choice of what should be grown should be summer veges. This supports the demonstration of good water use.

BIODIVERSITY

- Some old species are kept and managed.
- Dead trees have brought back endangered species, as this is where they live. Dead and fallen trees are therefore being managed.
- 1 star weed control is being used to a small degree.

BUSINESS

- A key focus of the farm is to keep it diverse. This results in less marketing and less customers. Doing small amounts is no big deal.
- Look at NEC website for outcomes of interesting talks about layers of business and linking farmers with young interested people - landlink.
- Bhutan farmers have got a site at the NEC and they are now expanding.

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 18 SUNDAY 17 MARCH 2013

Actions:

1. All - please check that you are happy with constitution for signing off at AGM (on website)
2. All - Please try and visit the Gallery of Australian Design on the lake edge between the National Library and the National Gallery at <http://www.gad.org.au/visit.php>
3. All - consider Julian Cribb talk with NSF on Weds 20 March at 7.30pm at Frank Fenner building
4. All - consider Nicole Foss at Woden Southern Cross Club 12 April on Regional Food Economy with Michael Croft and Pennie Scott
5. All - Harvest Festival stall from 11.30am setup to 4pm pack up on Sat 23 March at Environment Centre
6. Glenys - arrange interview with Canberra Chronicle
7. Glenys - arrange presentation to Woden Community Council
8. Martyn - organise meeting on 28 March with Floriade for CCF display on small scale farm
9. Jodie - insurance organised
10. Jodie - send grant application to Glenys by 18 March
11. Glenys - 2 tables and pergola tent
12. Virginia and Gilles - 4 chairs and paperwork handouts and cards
13. Keith - seedlings, plants, \$50 float
14. Virginia - do letterbox drop at Chisholm
15. Next meeting 21 April - design mentoring program
16. Gav - Next newsletter to include note on carpooling arrangements for Albury
17. Mark - set up Doodle for alternative days and times for CCF meeting Sun, Weds, Thurs with various timeslots <http://doodle.com/x2vdfqa4eq8f9b9s>

KEY ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING STILL TO BE COMPLETED:

1. VIRGINIA/GILLES to track down Jackie De Chazal and get planting group list
2. KEITH/VIRGINIA to get planting group get together
3. ALL to find look at origami boxes or ideas for bags
4. CINDY to get book from Enviro Centre about upcycling
5. JODIE to draft a formal letter to register with the Government with what we want - this will follow work on the preferred site
6. ALL bring bags and upcycling to next workshop

Virginia and Mark brought in plant samples to discuss and learn about diseases from Keith, Mark had Woolly Aphids on apple tree. Need to squeeze them to kill them or find lady bugs as predators

Checkin - what's been of interest since last meeting?

Glenys

- CCF to talk at meeting of Woden Community Council
- has a friend who would like disabled people to be involved eg Black Mt School
- have CCF stall at next Canberra Show
- Glenys offered help from two of her staff at Southern ACT Catchment to review the \$50k grant application
- Glenys is doing free online course from Coursera on Agriculture and Sustainable Land management <https://class.coursera.org/sustainableag-001/wiki/view?page=starthere>
- organising interview and photo with Canberra Chronicle next Friday with Mark and Keith
- 2 days cultural awareness course with NRM to partner with indigenous people

Kerry

- helped with Downer stall

Martyn

- organising meeting on 28 March with Floriade for CCF display on small scale farm
- split cost of stalls with Permablitz and Permaculture for large scale events
- Martyn pigs to go to John Walker at Palarang Meats
- Nicole Foss at Woden Southern Cross Club 12 April on Regional Food Economy with Michael Croft and Pennie Scott
- River Cottage coming to between Tilba and Pambula
- Holistic Management as more applicable to Australia than Joel Salutin

Keith

- 31 May colloquium at UC on Food Matters
- Fusion event
- Apple Day on 6 April at Lorientale out of Hall
- signed up an excellent gardening mentor at Downer party
- want to design Mentor support program (agreed to do this at next meeting)
- Harvest Festival next week
- AGM and adopt constitution in August - please check that you are happy with constitution
- CCF now has an auditor
- Joel Salutin talk very relevant on succession planning for farms but more importantly the idea of layering the business. We can use layering business with holistic management ideas suited to Australia and Canberra

Virginia

- experienced wonderful gardens on rivers in Cambodia
- Annie Pollard interested in Albury trip and growing ducks at Michaelago at foot of Tinderries
- keen to garden
- likes Apple Crate Garden at Niche New Acton
- do letterbox drop at Chisholm

Gilles

- no success contacting Jackie
- Julian Cribb talk with NSF on Weds 20 March at 7.30pm at Frank Fenner building
- lesson from Downer was important to tread carefully when proposing any new change to existing arrangements. CCF should facilitate and support what the community wants not drive the change.

Mark

- 1 year of Food School for every child idea from Julian Cribb - leads to CCF as Questacon for Food
- via Walter, Gallery of Australian Design <http://www.gad.org.au/visit.php> - 20 designs of future city of Canberra <http://www.gad.org.au/exhibitions.php> Canberra City Farm would like to add a new dimension to these and future designs of the capital by including integrated urban food systems.
- lesson from Downer CCF to balance development pressure for increased urban density with current resident preferences for low density. Can there be compatible development with options for urban food that is good for whole city and locals?
- doing online Transformative Social Change 2.0 learning program with 65 international participants run by David Gershon <http://instantteleseminar.com/?eventID=36972210> and <http://www.resiliencehappinesschange.com/master-class.html> using CCF and Downer Project as action learning project
- unavailable for Harvest Festival doing 8star energy efficient house design story with Jigsaw and SEE Change

Business

3 priorities

1. Downer Project - CCF to run Inquiry by Design workshops with community and tenants when tenants

and approval has been granted >2mths

2. Acquiring a site - Gav overseeing proposal preparation
3. Running learning workshops - next 19 May on composting

Mark's report of Downer Party at the Shops on 12 March

The Downer Party went well on a pleasant late summer/autumn afternoon with about 60 people attending over 3 hrs. Theo provided the bread and food

We collected \$34 for the evening, one \$10 membership and the rest for seedling sales.

CCF attendees

Keith and lovely seedlings

Martyn and 6 lovely pigs

Kerry

Walter

Gilles

Virginia

Mark and handouts, cards and maps

Theo, Ross and architect also attended and we combined tables with lots of people visiting and chatting

8 people signed up for mail list (see attached)

1 expressed interest to be a mentor

Several were very keen gardeners

1 person paid to become a member

1 person worked at a women's shelter and would be interested in creating a safe space for women to learn gardening and food production

8 seedlings were sold

Many people took flyers

No drawings but 1 piece of text "Idea for Food Gardens for Re-Developed Shops - Community Pizza Oven Garden with Basil, tomatoes, eggplant etc Don W has formwork and plans for an oven and will help build it.

I learned more about the history of development aspirations for the shops and the next door school site. There are conflicting aspirations about urban design at play.

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 17 SUNDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2013

KEY ACTIONS:

1. GAV to send email about harvest festival.
2. LUCIA to sound out Mike Hodgkin about auditing.
3. JODIE/KEITH to put a page on the wiki about the mentor program.
4. LUCIA to send the horticulture paper for us to add to the wiki.
5. VERITY to help on the stall at the Downer party.
6. VERITY/JODIE to develop posters of Verity's journey with gardening.
7. JODIE to see about graphic design of a banner for stalls.

KEY ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING STILL TO BE COMPLETED:

1. KEITH to identify auditor
2. VIRGINIA/GILLES to track down Jackie De Chazal and get planting group list
3. KEITH/VIRGINIA to get planting group get together
4. ALL to find look at origami boxes or ideas for bags
5. CINDY to get book from Enviro Centre about upcycling

6. JODIE to draft a formal letter to register with the Government with what we want - this will follow work on the preferred site
7. ALL bring bags and upcycling to next workshop

DISCUSSION:

CERES

- Gav met with Eric Bottomleigh who started CERES.
- It took 4 years to get a site.
- The bike place on site was really active.
- African style huts were funded by AusAid and the week after they were built they burnt down with lots of rude messages about 'go home'. They then rebuilt them 3 times and on the fourth time of rebuilding they built them out of fireproof materials. They still stand today.
- Key message – keep building and never give up.

NEW SITE

- Things considered important are: visibility, centrality, planning zones, aspects, what is available and all previous work has fed into this.
- Gav put forward possible sites to TAMS – Duffy, Holder, Chapman and Lyneham (3 hectares).
- Following engagement with TAMS, the preferred site at the moment is on the corner of Cotter Road and McCulloch Road. It is 3.9 hectares of non-tree area and 4.3 including trees. CERES is 4.9 hectares.
- Timo in TAMS is going to put out feelers for us in the next few weeks.
- There is a bid process for getting the site that we will need to engage with – why we want it, why it is valuable to community, why it is different to what others are doing, that there is a level of organisational maturity. A design and our intentions for the site would form part of the bid.
- We could lease/buy or license the land – lease would be preferred.

DOWNER

- Jodie and Keith are meeting with the developer again this Friday.
- Documents have been put together to engage with the developer and we are waiting to sit down this Friday to confirm with the developer timeframes for actions.
- Originally construction was to start around March and be completed by Christmas.
- More updates will be provided following the meeting this Friday.

OTHER UPDATES

- [Fusion](#) and [SEE-Change](#) are doing a joint project on hydroponics. They are organising for Julian Cribb to do a talk on food security.
- Special this week on food security.
- Nicole Frost coming to 12 April.
- Environment centre is creating a foraging map. This is important as there is lots of food that goes to waste and it would be great if CCF could create activities that see this food be used.

CALENDAR

- FEB
 - 24 - Joel Salatin
- MAR
 - 12 - Party at Downer Shops - CCF stall
 - 23 - Harvest Festival - CCF stall
- APR

- 12 - Nicole Frost economic sustainability at Woden Southern Cross club - CCF stall
- 14 - Visit to National Environment Centre in Albury
- MAY
 - UC Conference - CCF speaking
 - 19 - Composting workshop - partnership with Permaculture Canberra course
- JUNE
- JULY
 - 21 - Seedling and herb cuttings workshop - KEITH/GAV
- AUGUST
 - 18 - AGM
 - Green Savvy Sunday's - bus depot market
- SEPTEMBER
 - 15 - Seedling workshop - KEITH
 - Floriade - CCF stall as part of a sustainable communities section
- OCTOBER
 - Living Greener Festival
 - 20 - Seedling workshop - KEITH
- NOVEMBER
 - 17 - Visit Martyn's farm
- DECEMBER
 - Eco-elves market - CCF stall

STALLS - this includes Party at Downer Shops and Harvest Festival

- We are looking for volunteers to assist on the stall and contribute tables/chairs.
- We could consider having animals at both events (currently this is planned for the Downer event).
- We need a banner and could develop a storyboard with simple messages and lots of visuals – ie. things people learn at workshops, seedling poster, worm farm workshops, etc.

AGM

- Need to have AGM this year and provide report to office 18 months after incorporating (due date is October 2013).
- We are proposing amendments to the constitution, so a special meeting will be held before the AGM to approve the new constitution.
- The AGM will consist of a report from the president – Jodie Pipkorn, a report from the treasurer – Keith Colls, auditors report and elections of new members.
- New committee from August will be inheriting land (hopefully), some financial resources and a more disciplined and level of commitment. This is an important step to achieving a city farm.
- Eligible members are nominated for volunteers on the committee, so we need to spread the word and get people involved and coming to meetings.
- If less than \$10K, the auditor does not need to be qualified.

MENTORING PROGRAM

- This idea is based on the UK/US – master gardeners programs.
- The idea is that for the next 12 months mentors give people advice about their gardens – when to plant, what to do, etc.
- The level of engagement is up to the mentor and mentee.
- The mentor finds people to participate or gets connected with people who respond to the CCF email.
- It was agreed that a clear structure for this program would be established.
- Lucia agreed to be a mentor for gardening and her partner is keen to mentor for constructions in the garden (ie. shading devices or drip irrigation).

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 16 SUNDAY 20 JANUARY 2013

SEEDLING WORKSHOP

This workshop explained seedlings - including their benefits and how easy they are to make. Photos from the seedling workshop:

REGULAR MEETING

KEY ACTIONS:

1. Organise a tour of Martyn's farm.
2. JODIE to send email to Martyn for endorsement from Permaculture Exchange.
3. GLENYS to draft a survey and send to people at meeting for review.

KEY ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING STILL TO BE COMPLETED:

1. KEITH to identify auditor
2. VIRGINIA/GILLES to track down Jackie De Chazal and get planting group list
3. KEITH/VIRGINIA to get planting group get together
4. GAV/KEITH to look at what is appropriate to grow for stalls
5. ALL to find look at origami boxes or ideas for bags
6. CINDY to get book from Enviro Centre about upcycling
7. JODIE to sort business cards
8. JODIE to draft a formal letter to register with the Government with what we want
9. ALL bring bags and upcycling to next workshop

DISCUSSION:

AGM:

- There is an AGM proposed for August 2013. We will be looking for committee members at that stage.

Overview from a farmer:

- Martin has a farm and noted a key issue he is facing is around getting animals to an abattoir. This is hard as the abattoirs have gone halal and transport getting the meat back from the abattoirs has been locked by Coles/Woolworth. The process at the moment, is meat is taken to Picton, then sent to a butcher to chop and then boxed and sent to Canberra. This makes the supply and delivery chain non-efficient and energy intensive.
- Ideally we need a small abattoir for Canberra or a travelling meat inspector with a butcher (mobile abattoir). This could provide for the regional area – Gundagai, to Orbost in Victoria. John Cootes at Mulloon Creek explored creating an abattoir near Canberra, however this has not progressed.
- No one organisation is looking after small farmers. There could be an opportunity to engage with the Peak Oil group and engage with a butcher.
- If the middlemen are removed, local meat could be sold at Coles/Woolworths prices. The preferred model for selling meat would be to direct sell it or do it through a co-op or Community Supported Agriculture (CSA).
- Be in contact with food. NRM and catchment groups has a connection to rural leasees.

Downer Precinct Project:

- The developer wants to build and invest in community.
- We are keen to explore what it would take for affluent Canberra's to look after food and what would motivate them.
- This project will explore ways to support young/old engagement, engage with the locals, demonstrate sustainable buildings and enjoy food (noting there is a commercial kitchen proposed for the precinct).
- We could explore the Bega markets concept, where everyone's backyard is a farm and produce is sold at the Bega markets.
- Permaculture Exchange is looking at getting the like-minded groups together at Floriade to have a demonstration garden of permaculture, organic growing, etc.

Activities of other groups:

- Climate Action Canberra (CAC) are exploring this year what we are doing about resilience and local food in a program called 'Cool Canberra'. This includes exploring agriculture and community gardens. CAC are having a booth at the multi-cultural festival (8-10 Feb) and Canberra City Farm is welcome to participate. They are also meeting on 23 January 2013.

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 15 SUNDAY 16 DECEMBER 2012

KEY ACTIONS:

1. KEITH to identify auditor
2. Organising committee to engage with Theo (developer at Downer)
3. VIRGINIA/GILLES to track down Jackie De Chazal and get planting group list
4. KEITH/VIRGINIA to get planting group get together
5. GAV to send email to get interest in planting
6. GAV/KEITH to look at what is appropriate to grow for stalls
7. MARK/KEITH to talk to All Sun farm in new year and Helen and Vaughn
8. GAV to ask artists to design a banner
9. ALL to find look at origami boxes or ideas for bags
10. CINDY to get book from Enviro Centre about upcycling
11. JODIE to sort business cards
12. JODIE to draft a formal letter to register with the Government with what we want
13. ALL bring bags and upcycling to next workshop

DISCUSSION:

Finances

- \$145 raised from sale of items at market
- \$40 for memberships
- close accounts on 31 December and then get audited ready for AGM

Downer update

- Jodie provided an overview - is sounding very exciting and the Developers are keen
- Need to think about water and other logistics
- Need to collaborate – COGS and Downer

Ideas for next year:

Seedlings

- selling them worked well as fundraiser and awareness raising
- workshop about how to produce seedlings, timings, what to put them in, what grows when – 2 hours
- Keith can run workshop and the people who come along have to produce seedlings for the next stall

Master gardeners program

- UK, US, Canada have master gardeners course and aim is to get more people growing food in their backyards
- Idea is train people 'master gardeners' trained to know about gardening and how to do community engagement – they mentor 10 other people on how to garden – Lions/Rotary talks
- Could get funding to bring out Margie from the UK to provide the community engagement??
- Gardening organic do it in the UK
- Keith can do gardening, but need someone to equip people with the community aspect – possibly Mark
- Could be collaborative through COGS
- This could be a key project for next year
- We could build a community of people who are learning and share knowledge – the opportunity to share knowledge
- Intention – train the trainer courses
- Set up systems to mentor and support others
- 'Neighbourhood watch for gardening'
- Plan over holidays

Create a network of fruit trees sharing

- Map feral fruit trees

Focus for 2013 - these are key areas for focus for the year

- Develop a pilot site
- Progress a site for the future
- Skill up the community
- Administer the CCF

Calendar:

- January – public meeting for Downer??
- February – seedling workshop – KEITH
- February – tool upgrading
- March 2013 – Harvest festival
- May 2013 – UC conference
- July – seedling workshop – KEITH
- July – tool upgrading
- August – green savvy Sunday's – bus depot market
- September – seedling workshop – KEITH
- September – tool upgrading
- Oct 2013 – Living Greener Festival

Stalls:

- Purpose of stalls – awareness raising, fundraiser
- Ideas for stall - renew old gardening tools and sell on, magnets, seed sprouting kit reusing strawberry boxes and the like, egg cartons re-use – gift things. Upcycle/recycle brand
- LESSONS
- Labels – do a small business card
- Collaborate with COGS – particularly the brochures
- Signage – engage with artists, would be good to have a canvas sign, table, marquee
- Need more seedlings
- People were overwhelmingly supportive, but the key question was: Where are you – physical location?
- Bagging seedlings – boxes from IGA, newspaper, folded box
- Exchange of information was great – made linkages to lady selling planter boxes – so we could connect and sell on from other groups/connections
- Have to make sure we have the knowledge on the stall and create relationships with others around, and promote others

OTHER

- Could consider AYCC onion layer model = external layer community, then crowd, then crew, then core
- Need to sort insurance for February
- Could explore Bunnings giveaways to run raffles
- Beth Mitchell is doing the signpost gardens at UC and is having a conference in May next year on food sustainability. CCF can give a talk about something

Things needing considering:

- Growing food in a public place – how do we protect ourselves? – we provide knowledge and links so responsibility is back on others – we can engage community to grow the stuff – how does Tod Morden do it?
- Water
- Fences

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 14 SUNDAY 18 NOVEMBER

KEY ACTIONS:

- ALL to keep looking for opportunities for promote Canberra City Farm and engage with the broader community
- JODIE to follow up on opportunity for CCF to establish a demonstration garden at Downer Community Centre
- GLENYS to advise on potential CCF involvement in next ACT Catchment Landcare forum focusing on food security
- GAVIN, VIRGINIA, GILLES, GLENYS, MELISSA to collaborate on arrangements for CCF stall at EcoElves night market
- Cindy to be a contact for establishing (re-establishing?) a communications working group.

DISCUSSION:

- Gavin reported back on our participation at the People's Food Plan Canberra community forum event

Site group

- Cindy relayed site group discussions on best timing for gaining access to a site
- Cindy also reported on potential opportunity to establish a demonstration garden at Downer Community Centre to help promote CCF and establish CCF's credibility.
 - There was general agreement that this would be a good opportunity but need to ensure it tells a story and is identifiable as a Canberra City Farm project.

Eco-Elves night market

- Gavin and Melissa reported on materials for sale at the night market
- Virginia, Gilles and Glenys have offered to supply table, chairs, marquee and transport for the stall

Next workshop 16 December

- Cindy noted the next workshop is on the same date as the sustainability network end of year celebration at Corroboree Park in Ainslie
- the group agreed that the workshop could commence earlier to allow those wishing to then participate in the celebration at 4pm.

Other

- Glenys advised that the next ACT Catchment Landcare forum would focus on food security and has agreed to get more information with a view to CCF participating
- Cindy expressed interest in establishing (re-establishing?) a communications group. Gavin to include a note in the next newsletter.
- there was general discussion about other planting events CCF could be involved in. Consensus was that such events would enhance CCF but that it was necessary to be selective to ensure plantings are sustainable and don't stretch CCF capacity too far.
- Glenys expressed interest in coming up with a suggested program of CCF lead events in 2013 for circulation and further discussion

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 13 SUNDAY 21 OCTOBER

KEY ACTIONS:

1. ?? to meet with Labor/Liberals/Greens on a regular basis
2. JODIE to combine mudmap diagrams into one and circulate to group who attended this workshop
3. KEITH, CINDY + JODIE to work on mudmap diagrams and engage with Timo from ACT Government
4. RACHEL to follow up with Paul Summerfield and see about getting a visual diagram of the mudmap
5. JODIE to ask people with preferred logos whether they are open to doing other layouts

DISCUSSION:

Feedback on the Todmorden Clip:

- 5 people created 3 spinning plates (community, learning and business) and this works powerfully as a metaphor
- Inspiring project with someone saying 'I am not going to hold back' and 'we are going to make this happen and stop when we are stopped, not stop ourselves'
- Action woman – just went ahead and did it
- Just did it – new health centre surrounded with food and sign-writers to explain the gardens

- Just starting a garden is easy enough, but we are creating something quite different – appreciative of the process and where we are heading
- Starting small gardens around Canberra could happen now and this can educate and engage
- No fences, caring and loving everybody
- We may need to seek legal advice noting public liability if someone eats the food
- If education is our focus, we should consider that anyone can take the food and that it is more about the education than it is about producing produce

Mudmap:

- Mark, Keith and Gav visited the ACT Government (Timo) who would be the ones who would be giving us the site.
- They explained how we get land and the process for getting it
 - Inter-agency group reviews applications for land and how suitable for land. This is a cross-government committee. They give input and Timo guides it a lot.
 - There are different terms for accessing land – short term, medium term (license with conditions), long term (lease subject to the category of land).
 - Timo is a visual person and looking for some sort of descriptive picture that explains the various uses – map or collage of various uses. Exercise of mapping is to put functions and areas needed, Timo can identify which bits of land would be possible to put the city farm on.
 - Going in from the top is not likely to result in the best outcome and coming from the bottom may be better.
 - There are 44 possible sites, but there is lots of competition for the sites and we will need to justify our case strongly. First step for this is to draw a picture of what we want on our site.
 - Abattoir was thrown in to see how far we could push and it was noted that would be difficult to achieve.
- Ideas from the day:
 - We should stage and show a growing process.
 - Organic shapes, vertical farming, beauty even in the back of the toilet.
 - Show a look and feel, while having another functional diagram.
 - Prioritise functions and establish what's our core requirement and whether we can get that in the inner area of the ACT.
 - Look at the sizes and functions and do different options.
 - What has to be on the site or what can be distributed elsewhere? I.e. animals, community gardens could be located elsewhere.
 - Look at expected number of people who would be coming to the site to establish numbers of people that would need to be catered for.
 - What is feasible to do needs consideration.
 - Consider using animals to look after the land that we are not using.
 - Consider a place with animals, without animals and with some animals having access eg. kangaroos.

Logo:

- Preferred logos were the corn followed by the wheelbarrow.

People's Food Plan:

- Agreed we would advertise the upcoming event to consult on a people's food plan being developed by the Australian Food Sovereignty Alliance

Eco-Elves Night Fair:

- Agreed we would investigate holding a stall at the eco-fair on 7 December to promote the farm and raise funds. Information to go out in the newsletter.
- Need to check insurance requirements

Calendar:

- Gav to provide suggested workshop dates for 2013
- Discussed need to keep eye on the climate exchange calendar to keep abreast of upcoming events the Canberra City Farm should be involved in.

Membership:

- Membership is now available (see previous workshop notes below) and first membership applications and fees were taken at the end of the workshop.
- John to investigate creating an on-line form

Legislative Assembly:

- It was agreed that we should keep in touch with representatives from each of the parties with seats in the assembly

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 12 SUNDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

KEY ACTIONS:

1. GLENYS to look at Tuggernong Community Council constitution and get the section that outlines which members can be nominated to be on the Committee.
2. JODIE to explore logo development with UC.
3. EVERYONE to send events that are known to Glenys.
4. GLENYS to coordinate events and bring to next workshop.
5. GAV to send email to everyone on list asking them what they would like to see and what events would interest them from this group.
6. EVERYONE to keep an eye out for a book keeper.
7. ?? organise a common seal and stamp.
8. ?? to sort insurance - particularly getting legal advice about whether we need insurance.

DISCUSSION:

Update:

- Keith and Jodie met with the University of Canberra. They are creating a sustainability hub and have included the Canberra City Farm as part of this proposal. This would provide us with an opportunity for a site and to really create a Centre for Excellence. We would bring the community engagement, they would bring students with various expertise. There are also lots of connections that could be made to Kaleen High School, CIT, and the Ngunnawal Centre.
- Jodie contacted the ACT Government Departments about the Molonglo and Kingston sites. Both are planned for developments and it was suggested we engage with Timo in the Department to explore sites in detail.
- Jodie is attending the Environment Centre board meeting this coming Monday.
- Jodie attended the Food Co-op Shop meeting. They have endorsed this project and are keen to be engaged, but would like to see social inclusion considerations that support full inclusion.
- Keith advised that extending the Holder site is no longer an option, as this is now seen as prime real estate.

- Glenys checked about the Stromlo depot and was advised by the Head of Conservation that developers could not afford the price being asked and so they are going to be staying there. They advised that we should email our request if we would like to use the buildings.
- Glenys chased Marymead without success. Although the CEO is keen, it seems there may be difficulty getting board approval.

Membership, Structures and Fees

- All agreed that membership and fees should be: single = \$20, concession (full-time student with student card) = \$10, non-profit organisations = \$30, for-profit organisations = \$50, life member (agreed by the Committee).
- What this will give members: connection into a network; calendar of events; updates of food producing opportunities and activities such as speakers, pizza nights, celebrity chef events, etc; concession on training; and access to member-only events.
- What comes out of the farm will either get sold, used for events, or given to the Yellow Van or other similar groups.
- We can look to partner with COGS and they can run the community garden.
- Look at points system for evidence of participation and a build up of credits gives further discounts.
- Each individual member has one vote and each organisation has one nominated representative who notes before the meeting they will have the one vote for their organisation.

Planning upcoming events

- We need to draw up a calendar of activities of all groups. We can then partner with groups to establish talks that focus on food sustainability, farmers talking about producing food (which leads on from the legislative assembly talk).
- Schedule an activity every two months, which will consist of venue hire, food and a social opportunity for like-minded people to meet. The key for having these work will be collaborating with other groups to share the burden.
- Consider having a stall at Corinbank, Harvest Festival, etc.
- Consider engaging with the website "dosomethingnearyou.com.au".
- Organise social media (facebook/twitter) to get the younger ones involved.
- Link to other group activities in the ACT and Region, in addition to communicating through other groups.
- Organise a trip with COGS to the National Environment Centre.

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 11 SUNDAY 19 AUGUST

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 10 SUNDAY 8 JULY

KEY ACTIONS:

1. MICHAEL to develop a business plan
2. JODIE to organise meeting with Government/MLAs to get endorsement – include vision statement and business plan.
3. ALL to get a logos of groups that endorse the Canberra City Farm project and endorsement from professors of importance.
4. LANI to develop a brief for the logo and EVERYONE to speak to others – ask for design of logos with a catch phrase.
5. GAV to draft communique of what we have achieved to date.
6. MICHAEL to get t-shirts on politicians once logo established.

7. GILLES to provide Jodie with suggestion on handout - JODIE to add active travel and bio-sensitivity to the handout.
8. JODIE to put up handout on wiki.
9. JODIE to sort ABC interview.
10. KEITH to engage with Canberra Community Radio + Art Sound.
11. GLENYS/VIRGINIA to chase Marymead + Prisons.
12. KEITH to get interviewed by Tom Baker.
13. RUTH to do marketing.
14. Next meeting to focus on site results and Government response; commitment from ABC; focus on arty types and ask for more engagement by making it tangible; commit to homemade food.

DISCUSSION:

- Several sites have been proposed, however we are networked and have 80-90% of infrastructure in place already as a hub. We need an inner city site as the node in the network.
- We need to consider how many people will use the site each week.
- Education makes the money, so we need to consider what grants are in that area.
- If we are to have a demonstration back yard, nursery with seeds and seedlings, co-located groups, etc. we need substantial and permanent infrastructure.
- Placing the site with community buildings that already exist has more potential.
- Start small so retention of volunteers, funding, etc. is established and have a site that allows expansion.
- Lions Youth Haven has infrastructure ready to use – we could start now at Lions securing long-term site.
- Transportable buildings are expensive.
- Accessibility/proximity to population is important.
- Gungahlin, Belconnen and Molonglo are growing areas that would benefit from this.
- Duffy/Holder having a new happening café + community centre would be beneficial.
- Need to consider being RTO recognised.
- Funding for project manager through a grant for a community development officer would take us into the next phase.
- Sarah is happy to help in the future with a direct sale application.
- Consider T-shirts as part of marketing.
- Farmers markets can bring in substantial funding, as experienced in Eden.
- Consider communication with Government before interview with ABC 7.30 program/Stateline –
- Explore work-for-the-dole opportunity.
- We need a name and number on the website.
- No bought food at workshops - people should make it.
- Word of mouth and forwarding emails is really important.

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 9 SUNDAY 17 JUNE

- [Site Visit](#) - Lions Youth Haven, Kambah & Duffy
- Update of site visits, presentation, budget & meetings
- Discussed [business plan](#) - we need to review existing models like CERES
- Discussed [timeline](#)
- Next meeting agenda: examine and discuss business plan in detail

KEY ACTIONS:

1. GLENYS & VIRGINIA to explore opportunities of working with prisons
2. GLENYS to contact John Feint and explore community grant opportunities
3. JODIE & GLENYS to meet with ACT Government and discuss site opportunities

4. JODIE to follow-up Marymead
5. MARK to arrange meeting to progress business plan
6. JODIE to send Mark previous proposals that may inform business plan
7. MARK, GAV, KEITH, JODIE, GLENYS, REN & KIM to progress business plan
8. GILLES, GAV, KEITH, MARK to attend talk about food being organised by Caroline Le Couteur

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 8 SUNDAY 20 MAY

- Update of presentations
- Update about business plans from other City Farms
- Update of other actions taken
- Discussed [sites](#)
- Discussed [core values](#)
- Discussed [costs](#) based on other business plans

KEY ACTIONS:

1. JODIE to add site details to wiki
2. REN to add core values to wiki
3. KIM/JODIE to add business plans information and costs to wiki
4. EVERYONE to add to wiki
5. Next meeting agenda – feedback about meetings with groups; feedback on wiki updates

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 7 SUNDAY 22 APRIL

- Site visit to:
 - Piallago
 - Yarralumla Bay
 - Curtin x 2
 - Weston Creek/Duffy
- Discussed [sites](#)
- Discussed [presentation](#)
- Discussed who would present to which [groups](#) around Canberra

KEY ACTIONS:

1. JODIE to add presentation tracking sheet to wiki
2. EVERYONE to add to [presentation tracking sheet](#)
3. EVERYONE to add images to [wiki](#)
4. KEITH to check out options to visit the Sydney City Farm
5. KIM to chase business plans of other City Farms and ask permissions to use images in our promotions
6. ALL to provide comments to improve the presentation
7. Next meeting agenda – feedback about meetings with groups; feedback on business plans; images of what the Canberra City Farm could look like

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 6 SUNDAY 18 MARCH

Site visit to:

- Cotter Road
- Dairy Flat Road
- Campbell site
- Watson High School site
- Dryandra Street
- Discussed sites (refer to '[Group-Sites](#)' for additional details)

KEY ACTIONS:

1. EVERYONE to look at more sites and add to matrix, particularly on south side.
2. SOMEONE should gather more information about growth areas around Canberra.
3. JODIE to explore what the Environment Centre and a café would want and where they would want to be located.
4. EVERYONE needs to consider who can do the work and who can commit.
5. SOMEONE needs to talk to TAMS.

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 5 SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY

- Agreed site selection criteria (refer to '[Group-Sites](#)' for additional details)
- Agreed proposed structure for group

KEY ACTIONS:

1. Engage with ACT authorities – send letters of intention outlining the proposal to the Directorate Heads within TAMS regarding Community, Education and Planning.
2. Engage with all agencies and departments that have responsibilities which a City Farm project might cut across – TAMS, Land Development Authority (LDA), ACT government (and elected members) and the NCA.
3. Include two areas of current urban expansion – Molonglo and the Harrison/Kenny subdivisions – as these may offer potential sites through negotiations with TAMS if it is linked with community building and infrastructure support for low income residents. As Molonglo has a wide mix of existing land use, a site could be potentially integrated with wildlife corridor provision.
4. Investigate engagement with community housing advocates so as to make the project 'fit' with current governmental policies in addition to sustainability.
5. Consider urban intolerance of smells and noise associated with farming was raised – current ACT laws preclude four-legged farm animals within urban boundaries. Presence of animals might possibly require a site with a buffer zone to allow for a variation on current planning laws.
6. Investigate engagement with the environmental offset processes.
7. Consider having a small central site linked to other sites able to display/manage processes and materials prohibited on a central urban area.
8. Investigate potential funding sources or project support through organisations such as *Markets for Change* - keeping reliance on government to a minimum.

CANBERRA CITY FARM: STEPS TAKEN BETWEEN WORKSHOP 4 & 5

- Agreed to get incorporated
- 2 page proposal developed
- Letters sent to key stakeholders

[Proposal-CityFarm-120208.pdf](#)

[Letter-engaging groups-example.doc](#)

(See attached document for details of key outcomes from all meetings)

[CityFarmOutcomes-v1.doc](#)

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 4: 22 JANUARY 2012

- Functions explored
- Steps for 2012 discussed

[canberra city farm logframe hierarchy.docx](#)

[City Farm notes Sun 22.doc](#)

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 3: 20 NOVEMBER 2011

- Vision and Purpose established
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CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 2: 15 OCTOBER 2011

- Working groups provided an update
- Dependencies of groups on each other were identified
- Established that without a clear vision and purpose we could not continue

[Key Elements - Skills.doc](#)

CANBERRA CITY FARM: WORKSHOP 1: 18 SEPTEMBER 2011

- Key ideas themes were established
- Ideas about what the City Farm could be were captured
- Working groups were formed

[Canberra City Farm 18 Sept Workshop Summary.docx](#)

[Record of working group notes.doc](#)