

Canberra City Farm: MEETING MINUTES



36 Bambridge Street
Weetangera ACT 2614

T: 0400 865 535

Date:	17 April 2016	
Location:	Turner Garden	
Time meeting commenced:	1.30pm	
People present:	Danny O'Brien Jodie Pipkorn Virginia Prouse Stefanie Lekkas Gary Shapcott	Linda Ayliffe Keith Colls Jeanette Mills Carole Ayliffe
Apologies:		
Chairperson:	Jodie Pipkorn	
Proxies:		

Matters/Actions Arising from the previous Meeting

ACTION	STATUS
1. MARK and Stefanie to engage with Questacon people and progress human cut-out to idea.	Underway. Plywood and design.
2. DANNY to draft a site safety briefing document for Dairy Road.	
3. JODIE chase work for dole – noting 12 month growing all seasons workshops.	COMPLETE – at this stage there are no opportunities for this.
4. GALINA to photograph and film Turner Garden for history if it doesn't continue.	
5. DANNY to write up policy of food sharing.	
6. JODIE to send minutes to everyone.	COMPLETE
7. CCF COMMITTEE to discuss and agree level of risk that can be accepted by CCF if the garden is opened up.	COMPLETE
8. NIC to plan a program for the next few months to engage children in Nature Play and test using the garden for regular activities.	COMPLETE – decided to focus on Dairy Road for this.
9. ALEC to bring students down and look after the garden.	

Agenda Items

Check in – name and something that excites you about Canberra City Farm.

- We got our tractor.
- The Turner Garden is a great location and I've learnt a lot.
- It's still going.
- Looking forward to starting an enterprise.
- Everyone else has been doing a great job and lovely to see the fresh produce.
- Growing food of my own.
- The potential of having enterprises and a self-sustaining business.

Turner Garden Update:

- Design and Construction Group:
 - Start thinking of Dairy Road.
 - Warning – don't go into the shower room as the door does not open from the inside.
- Propagation and Gardening Group:

- Harvesting summer plants, seed collecting and tidy up.
- Will harvest seeds as they progress.
- Can lift some plants and store them in a sand bed through winter and then plant them out again in spring.
- Yacon has lots of potential for healthy gut and could be a great income earner.
- Linda will let everyone know when the Yacon is being harvested.
- Education Group:
 - Four seasons workshop next Sunday. The focus will be on planting – what and when. The following workshop in May will cover the theory of pruning, then get Jonathan Banks to show how to prune, then seedlings with heated trays process.
 - Keith spoke with Will Barowski about running the next mushroom course and this will be at some time in May, June or July.
 - Keith is running some CIT courses out at Dairy Road.
- People and Fun Group:
 - This group engaged around promoting last month's event.
- Marketing and Sponsorship Group:
 - We now have a tractor from a grant.
- Meeting with Minister Fitzharris:
 - On Friday the Committee met with Minister Fitzharris about the next steps for the Turner Garden.
 - She is keen to assist to remove barriers wherever possible and is not sure what the plans are for the site.
 - We noted that the key things we need are water, toilets, a longer permit and ideally funding for a paid coordinator.
 - She noted the Government is not keen to pay for people's time, but is focused on removing barriers that allow things to happen.
 - She also noted her brother in law runs a farm in New Zealand and runs educational courses around this. The key for CCF will be to create self-sustaining businesses.
- Next steps for Turner
 - At this stage the intention will be to close Turner and concentrate on Dairy Road, based on last month's meeting and the fact that no locals are keen to take on a key coordination role at the Garden.
 - There are lots of people keen to see it continue, but are not in a position to run it.
 - If Turner closes, this will be the end for some people in their engagement with CCF, as Fyshwick is not convenient.
 - People are keen to use it, but do not have the time to look after it all.
 - The key items that are ideal if the garden continues would be compost bins, sensory garden and the pizza oven would be a bonus.
 - People do not want to hang out in Haig Park and the Turner Garden can complement other parks around the area, particularly as there are no picnic spaces with just a few plants, a spot to sit and a community group could use a pizza oven.
 - It was noted that locals will need to kick up a fuss with the Government.
 - At the moment the main looking after needed for the garden is watering, which is mainly Linda doing this.
 - Water would have to be connected for the garden to be viable.
 - Winter crops need work and would need thinking about now if it is to continue.
 - It was noted that in June we could have a final celebration and closing ceremony for the Turner Garden.



36 Bambridge Street
Weetangera ACT 2614

T: 0400 865 535

Dairy Road:

- Working bees:

- 8 May is the next one. We will dig holes for Feijoa's, fruit trees and vineyards need weeding. 9am-12pm.
- Regular workshops will then be held each month from then, as well as others in between.
- EOI process:
 - Global Warming is keen to set up worm farms at Dairy Road. CCF are using them as a guinea pig to test out the agreement arrangements.
 - We are meeting with legal this week to sort the agreements and make sure they comply with our licence.
 - We need to make sure businesses know there are volunteers available.
- Tractor:
 - We got a \$13K grant for a tractor through the Federal Government 'Stronger Communities' grant.
- Water conservation:
 - It is up to how people how they want to manage water at Dairy Road, but as they will be paying for it, they will most likely want to conserve it.
 - Danny is looking into a reduced rate for water.



36 Bambridge Street
Weetangera ACT 2614

T: 0400 865 535

Other business

- NIL

Check out – what is one thing that excites you about CCF?

- Tractor.
- Tractor.
- Meeting with Enterprises and getting them up and going.
- Having CCF be fully viable and sustainable.
- Keen to see Turner continue.
- Getting enterprises started and using the tractor.
- This meeting is outside – we need to make sure we have outside spaces at Dairy Road.
- Doing work at Dairy Road – apricot trees and Feijoa's – and making it an extension of the backyard, buying what is not sprayed and doing some work out there.
- To be at this point since starting in 2011.

Actions:

ACTION	STATUS
10. LINDA to let everyone know when the Yacons are being harvested.	
11. JODIE to put a proposal to the Turner Residents Association and see if they are interested in picking up the project from here.	
12. JODIE to send a reminder about the working bee at Dairy Road, as there is some confusion about the date.	

Next meeting date: Sunday 15 May 2016.

Time meeting closed: 2.30pm.