

Canberra City Farm: GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Date:	Sunday 15 July 2018	
Location:	Dairy Road	
Time meeting commenced:	12:47pm	
People present:	Linda Ayliffe Danny O'Brien Christine Vincent Peter James Sonja Flett Stefanie Lekkas Keith Colls	Simon Nicholas John Mills Jodie Pipkorn Chris Curtis Jason Williams Giselle Burningham
Apologies:	Walter Steensby, Cindy Steensby, Carole Ayliffe, George Prasad, James Atkins	
Chairperson:	Keith Colls	



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Matters/Actions Arising from the previous Meeting

ACTION	STATUS
1. DANNY to contact Michael re us providing a cupboard for preserves that will be locked.	Carole now chasing up
2. KEITH and PETER are organising a Potting mix/Seed raising mix workshop. Need to source a cement mixer first.	To do
3. JODIE to work with Leigh at SEE-Change to implement decisions made	Complete
4. JODIE to send email to the Beekeepers and members to let them know to use the rangers gate from now on if they want to access the north of the site	Complete
5. CAROLE to check with Elizabeth Goodfellow to see if she is still contemplating putting a cool room on site	They want it up and running by December
6. KEITH to organize grafting workshop on 10 – 11 August	Complete – 12 August
7. JODIE to organize Hempcrete workshop in September	In progress

Treasurers Report

- \$40K is sitting in the bank.
- \$5K is committed to improving the low energy super shed (LESS).
- We are keen to have reserves to pay a coordinator and to pay water bills. The water bill was \$4K for the last quarter and Michael (Ranger) is working out how much of this is CCF.
- Most of the income has come from propagation, value-add and enterprises.

LESS Shed

- Woden has applied for the Zero Emissions Grant Round 2. They have addressed the reasons why they were not successful in the last round and are hopeful they will be successful this time.
- Lights have been added to support the Food Box pick-up, as the LESS is being used as the Thursday night drop-off.
- CCF agreed to provide some funds to improve the LESS. As the Woden funds have run out, they will start using the CCF funds. Hopefully the Grant will then provide the remaining funds needed to complete the project.
- It was noted the switch for the large bright outside lights is located next to the fire reel near the toilets.

Grafting Workshop

- Jonathan Banks and Mark O'Connor will run it on 12 August. They will teach about the techniques of grafting.
- Cost is \$100 – this includes the supply of the grafting knife, no gaps to seal wounds, metho, and scions root stock participants get to take home.

Pruning Workshop

- This is happening next weekend.
- Free for members, \$20 for non-members.

Hempcrete

- Jodie noted she had been communicating with Klara from the Hempcrete Association about this 2 day workshop. This could potentially take place on a regular basis if this is successful.
- They will organise and run the workshop, CCF will provide the venue and a pallet/framing structure for a fee.
- Volunteers will be needed on the day to help manage the pizza making.

Meal worm trial

- Linda has been engaging with Olympia on opportunities for showcasing and using meal worms. Olympia has indicated they can help us with a range of activities.
- In the summer or when we have heated benches, we will do meal worms. They do not need light, but need heat. This will include conducting workshops.

Allotments

- Depending on how many people re-join for allotments in the next season, will determine if we expand the allotments to the other side of the road near the blue container.

Global Sisters

- They are a social enterprise group that supports refugee women and helps to get them established into small businesses. They are keen to establish a collaboration with CCF.
- They do food and a range of other enterprises.
- The difference between Mill House and Global Sisters, is Mill House is supporting social enterprises, Global Sisters is a social enterprise.

Mill House update

- We successfully got through the first 3 months phase, but were not advanced enough in our initiative to be able to pitch to the investors as part of the next phase.
- In the first 3 months phase we have learnt a lot about crowd sourcing, marketing strategies, etc. and it has given us contacts that could be useful in the future.
- In the second 6 months phase the process is to refine the initiative. This is something we could consider for next year.
- As part of the 'pitches' event that is at the end of the second 6 months phase, we could showcase our preserves at the event this year.

Fruit trees

- We have ordered 4 quinces, 3 apples and 5 hazelnuts to create a windbreak near the demonstration gardens. These will showcase espalier techniques.
- They should turn up at the end of this month or the start of August.
- When they come we will have to plant them out immediately, so there will be work there for people who want to plant trees.



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Propagation

- By spring time we will be more prepared this year.
- Peter has a calendar of what plants like the cold and will focus on growing these initially and then move to the next stage of plants that like warmer temperatures. He will also aim for providing what he thinks the market is interested in.
- The aim is to plant out and have a more continuous season, where we generate interest in the early part of the season and people come back for the next phase of plantings, knowing when they will be ready.
- With the propagation area near the toilets in place, we will have a much better idea of when things will be ready, as well as providing for the demo gardens and Dept. of Broccoli.

Potting mix brew

- Keith noted that based on the workshop to make our own potting mix, it is easier to buy potting mix in, as making our own potting mix is difficult and the salinity was way too high.
- We can buy in cheap potting mix, as it is only needed for a short time before the plants get put into the ground. It therefore does not need to be high quality.

Open Day

- Planned for Sunday 18 November.
- We leverage lessons learnt from last year's Open Day and the Permaculture Festival.
- Jodie noted we need volunteer/s to help coordinate the event.

Grants

- We have a volunteer helping with writing grants.
- The next Community Garden Grant round is open again and we will be putting in for this, learning off the previous feedback where we were unsuccessful.
- We did not get the Australian Ethical Grant.
- Giselle noted she has experience in grant writing and is happy to help where she can.

AGM – 19 August 2018

- We will have a special general meeting immediately before the AGM to improve requirements in the Constitution around joining the Committee.
- The AGM will then take place and will only take around half an hour at the most.

Other Business

- Country Womens Association (CWA) in Belconnen.
 - Walter spoke at this event. Giselle from CWA Gungahlin noted he was very inspirational and CCF values matches the CWA values.
 - They have 4 branches over the area and they support all country women – their motto is country women for country women. They get no Government funding and provide advice to Governments about a range of topics. The Belconnen Branch is one of the youngest groups in the ACT and they are very active raising lots of money.
 - They would like to know if we have any small projects (\$200-\$300), as they may be able to support us if the project matches CWA values: www.cwaofnsw.org.au. Last year they assisted with the National Australian Cricket Team and they fed them for 5 days. They get food given to them from Oz Harvest and turn it into jams, etc. They like taking excess produce and turning it into events. They could help us with our Open Day, insulating the containers and preserving/value adding. They do teas/coffees for events.



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- CCF need to get proposals to CWA before the next 2 weeks. Last year they supported 2 apprentices building a boat – they learnt new skills and have a link with military. CCF should also send requests to each CWA branch, as each CWA branch assesses each request separately.
- NDIS opportunities
 - Under NDIS they have funding to help organisations to assist with getting people with disabilities around the site.
 - Giselle is happy to be our person with a disability and is now a member. The only challenge is she is leaving permanently for Tasmania in 18 months. She is keen to learn about improving soil and was previously a social worker before retirement.
- Supporting other initiatives
 - There are flats and units around Gungahlin with raised beds that are not being used. These are run by Community Housing Canberra (CHC) housing.
 - CWA can cook, but education is where CCF can contribute to help occupants/residents growing their vegetables.
 - Giselle noted there are other opportunities for obtaining funding and is happy to help CCF explore ideas.

ACTIONS FROM MEETING	DUE DATE
8. JODIE to send the dates for Hempcrete Workshop for people to consider volunteering.	
9. EVERYONE to let Peter know of any plants they are keen to have and to be propagated.	
10. EVERYONE to consider taking on assisting with the coordination of the Open Day event and email CCF.	
11. EVERYONE to send ideas for CWA funding to the CCF email.	20.07.18
12. JODIE to get some pricings for insulating the containers to support a bid to CWA.	20.07.18

Next meeting date: Sunday 19 August 2018.

Time meeting closed: 1.38pm.