



**A Special General Meeting of the Down To Earth (Victoria) Co-operative Society Ltd will be held at 7.30 PM. on Thursday 22 June, 2017
Ceres, Lee St Brunswick**

Meeting Agenda

- (i) Opening of meeting.
- (ii) Minutes of last meeting.
- (iii) Presentation of reports:
 - A Financial reports on the transactions of the Co-operative during the period.
 - B Directors reports either as a group or individually.
 - C Organising Committee of the Board reports.
 - D ConFest report.
 - E Other committee/work group reports.

(iv) Business on notice

From Steve Poynton
First Agenda Item.

An amount of cash was taken at the front gate, despite decisions that this would not happen this year. This motion is that the team operating the Ticketbooth provide a written explanation of why cash was taken, and also that they provide documentary evidence such as ticket stubs to verify that all the money collected has been banked.

Second Agenda Item.

Part 1: That a tally is made of all wristbands remaining, and this is used to calculate how many wristbands were issued.

Part 2: That the number of Tickets sold is compared to the number of wristbands issued, and that any discrepancies are explained in writing.

The following motions from:-

Ian Hales, Kate Shapiro, Kristen Tunney, Mark Rasmussen, Robin MacPherson, Troy Reid

3 Election of Directors

"That the Board be required to use a reputable and secure online voting system for the election of directors at General Meetings to ensure voting integrity and ballot confidentiality, and that the Single Transferable Vote voting system (used within Australia) be used to calculate results, and for the voting results tally to be public and published on DTE websites."

<https://electionbuddy.com/tour> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Single_transferable_vote

STV (a type of preferential voting) is the system of choice of groups such as the Proportional Representation Society of Australia. STV is considered to achieve the most representative results in a multi-seat election. STV is complex to tally manually but trivial for computer based systems that do it automatically. Voting for the election of directors can be opened prior to start of a General Meeting, just as postal votes already provides, and can be performed on a smart phone, as well as voting terminals (laptops) to be provided at the General Meeting.

4 Organisational Structure

"That the Board be required to adhere to DTE rules, in particular rules 38 which limits its role to a non-executive Board, and that all other committees and workgroups of the co-operative shall be a subcommittee of one of the four Standing Committees of the Board"

as defined in rules 47, and notwithstanding rule 47(16)(ix) which enables the Board to consider any matter of liability of the Board, that should the Board require a committee be established that a request of that nature is communicated to a Standing Committee of the Board with clear terms of reference."

This motion is to reinforce a separation of powers between the executive and non-executive parts of the co-operative which is clearly defined in DTE rules, and ratify the existing organisational structure currently adopted.

5 Finance Committee

"That the Finance Committee is confirmed to be a subcommittee of the Organising Committee with any external bookkeepers or accountants contracted to be managed directly by the Finance Committee."

The auditor reports to the Board (non-executive), whereas the accountant/bookkeeper reports to the executive of the co-operative. This maintains the separation of powers between the executive and non-executive. The current arrangement (bookkeeper reporting to the Board) compromises the separation of powers.

6 Board Budget

"That the Board be authorised to appropriate up to \$35,000 for financial year ending 30 June 2018."

7 ConFest Committee Budget

"That the ConFest Committee be authorised to appropriate up to \$480,000 for financial year ending 30 June 2018.

This appropriation includes budgets for 2017/18 Summer ConFest, 2018 Autumn ConFest and two Sydney ConFest gatherings."

8 Organising Committee Budget

"That the Organising Committee be authorised to appropriate up to \$115,000 for financial year ending 30 June 2018."

This appropriation incorporates budgets of its subcommittees. To be provided prior to the General Meeting.

9 Market Committee Budget

"That the Market Committee be authorised to appropriate up to \$3,000 for financial year ending 30 June 2018."

10 Bylands

"That the Organising Committee be instructed to commercially lease the Bylands property and are authorised to pay all related costs incurred in the process. "

11 Legacy Membership

Motion: from Lars Nissen

"That any active member may put forward a proposal of a candidate to the AGM in form of a motion. Such motion to be distributed with all other motions via the notification of the AGM.

Benefits for Legacy Members:

- 1.) They remain on all e-mail and other lists which they currently are subscribed to.
- 2.) They are entitled to DTE-member's tickets for all ConFests
- 3.) They are entitled to have their names and DTE-number listed on our webpage on a separate page which lists all the Legacy members
- 4.) They no longer need to fill in activity sheets in order to uphold their active status on the DTE active register."

There are a few ConFesters who have served the community for a long time, have been on the DTE register for some years and have served the community in practical ways.

As a token of our appreciation I like to see these people awarded with a Legacy Membership.

12 Moved by Scouse

"That we introduce a Life Membership with Certificate for those Members present and past who have Volunteered in excess of 15 years as a DTE Member and who have continuously achieved well over 200 hours each year towards the betterment of both DTE and ConFest or ConFab."

13a Moved by Kate Shapiro. Mark Rasmussen,

"That Life Membership be incorporated into a forthcoming rules amendment within the next 12 months."

14 Moved by: Martin Schwarz Steve Scouse

"That DTE put aside \$35,000 for infrastructure works to be completed in the financial year 2017/18."

For a detailed outline of these works please refer to the document works_shed.doc

15 Moved Don Royal David Cruise

" That the ConFest committee be allocated \$50,000 to conduct a spring 2017 ConFest Gathering"