



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NSW STATE UNIT INC.

Minutes for Council Meeting 19th November 2012

WELCOME: Isabel Hewitt welcomed all. Jan Harrison introduced Elizabeth McEwen as new Anglican Representative to NSW Council of Australian Church Women Inc.

DEVOTIONS: Isabel Hewitt spoke of a fund raising dinner for Churches Together held at the Friends' Meeting House in Devonshire Street. The room where the Quakers in Sydney gather to pray, to read God's word, to hear the words of others and to keep silence, listening for God's word to them was visited. At a Taizé retreat there are chants, prayers, readings and silence, [which some find to be beyond their capacity]. In the familiar reading from Ecclesiastes there is the reminder that there is a time for silence. As we approach Advent we look forward to this celebration. Let us take time to be silent, to reflect, to keep silence, to hear what God wants to say to us in the coming year. Isabel prayed.

PRESENT: 36 members + 1 visitor **APOLOGIES** 10

CONFIRMATION of MINUTES: The minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 20th August were confirmed on the motion of Carmel Keys and seconded by Jan Jeffrey – Passed

BUSINESS ARISING:

1. **National Executive AGM Friday 9th November 2012** at Westmead. Met with representatives from other states. Topics included the draft National constitution; voting pattern for National Conference and AGM in alternate year; position of Winifred Kiek trust within ACW.[This is a legal matter] - Public Liability Insurance for National. It was moved that a vote of thanks be given to Pamela for her invaluable help. Moved Jennifer Pepper, seconded Helen Hill. Passed

2. **National Executive from NSW 2013-2015:** Lyn has met with selection committee. The way forward had been presented to executive and now to council. Representatives from each denomination : Jan Harrison [Anglican] Lyn Middleton [The Salvation Army] Judith Cayzer [Churches of Christ] Carmel Keys [Roman Catholic]; Jennifer Pepper [Baptist] Nola Dickson [Presbyterian]; Isabel Hewitt [Uniting]. Committee to consider all nominations received. After prayerful consideration contact to be made with each person nominated to see if there is a willingness to consider acceptance of the role. If willing to consider, then that person to be sent the guidelines for the role offered. Once all the places have been filled it will be announced to council. "Expression of interest form" to be returned after this council meeting or by Friday 4th January 2013. The positions to be on the national executive were listed. Consent of person not necessary at this stage. 1st meeting for nominating committee at 10 am Monday 14th January -The Salvation Army 140 Elizabeth Street.[10th floor]. Lyn offered prayer for the selecting process and selection of National Executive from NSW.

3. **NSW State Conference Day 17th September:** Personal commitment prompts regarding Social Justice are available. Day was well received. Speakers challenging. Can connect through websites to become better aware. Social Justice 'find a word' displayed as well as list of contacts for social justice programs mentioned.

4. **75th Anniversary of State Unit for 2013:** Invited country branches to contact President regarding speakers for the occasion. Phone enquiry from Armidale branch to be further investigated.

5. **Multicultural Concert for ACWC:** Feedback told of a great occasion; entertainment was fantastic; food was consumed quickly; Manly Catholic church hosted the afternoon graciously; Kyounghee Cho, W K S Scholar [2012] was present. Thanks to all who supported especially Carmel Keys and the team from the church! \$1068.90 raised . Many thanks to Lyn and her team.

6. **ACWC convener for NSW:** Ladies were asked to prayerfully consider the possibility of taking on this role or even part of it.

7. **NSW Unit Banner:** Possibly develop ideas already presented and bring to February meeting.

REPORTS:

TREASURER: as per attached for 3 months report. Helen Richardson had over \$7000 receipts. Balance \$18,014.51. Payments for outstanding claims and monies to be sent to National Executive moved Helen Richardson; seconded Tricia Graham. Passed

PASTORAL CARE Helen Hill - Thanks for support of Helen during David's recuperation . Prayer was given for all those in the group affected by various challenges of life.

ACWC as per the report in recent edition of Newsette. Note prayer requests sent through from National Executive.

SPECIAL DAYS as per report in Newsette Various ladies gave report of the World Community Day locally attended. Fellowship Day 2013 Theme: *Love Never Fails* [Job 15: 9 – 17]

FELLOWSHIP of the LEAST COIN:[F.L.C.] Lillian read part of letter from Pat Allison, [Honorary Treasurer ICFLC] 'These coins can go to provide shelter, food, medical care, basic education. Your least coins also send emergency aid to countries dealing with natural disasters. Countries such as Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, the Holy Land, Syria and Iraq join in praying with us. Shanti's message of peace justice and reconciliation continues to spread to all corners of the globe' F L C is in its 55th year. The logo for F L C has become a frig magnet. Lillian prayed.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARS: Judith Cayzer showed Photo from ACWC concert of herself and Kyounghee Cho, whose report has been sent in about her use of the scholarship given. In South Australia Denise Champion was heard on radio interview about the suicide death of her nephew. [Should be finished her second block of study]. Leinamau [2007] sends Christmas greetings to all. 2013 Scholarships. 4 have been offered. At this time only Berebere Katauea [Kiribati] has officially accepted. Christmas cards being sent out to some past and present scholars.

SOCIAL ISSUES: Rae Goth raised the issue of Insurance for those with disability. It was suggested that questions be asked of the members of parliament including the Prime Minister, about the level of cooperation that can be expected from the state governments and in what context the boundaries of the definition of disability will be formulated. At the International level, West Papua is in the limelight for horrendous abuse of citizens peacefully lobbying against the authorities for recognition of their autonomy. Rae encouraged letters to be written to Bob Carr, [Foreign Affairs Minister] raising this concern. It is noted that there is generally a lack of respect for leaders. We are instructed in the Scriptures to pray for all leaders

NEWSETTE: Jennifer - deadline for material for next Newsette publication 6th January. Renewals can be put in with the form on the back page of Newsette.

PUBLICITY: No report. The reports were received on the motion of Olive Edmondstone, seconded Shirley Mitchell.

CORRESPONDENCE: (Inward)

From National Executive emails regarding the arrangements for N.E. AGM 9th November at Westmead; Notice of National Executive AGM Friday 9th November 2012 ; Papers pertaining to scheduled AGM arranged by National Executive. National Executive - Letter regarding Constitution review requiring response by August; voting arrangements for National AGM. Request for review of Contact lists for all State /Territory Units as at 30th June 2012. Minutes from September meeting of National Executive with financial statement and correspondence Minutes from October meeting of National Executive notification of Winifred Kiek Fellowship guest for National Conference 2013 – Mrs Esther Kilagblian and request regarding possibility of her visit to units prior to National Conference 2013. Copy of letter [from National executive] from Corazin Tabing Reyes Exec Secretary of ICFLC regarding amount sent from Australia
Copy of letter from National Executive regarding National Public Liability Insurance
From National executive - Prayer requests for Pakistan (floods); Sth Korea (typhoon); Mynamar (heavy monsoonal flooding); Karachi, Pakistan (factory fire); Hong Kong (collision of ferry and tug boat with loss of life); Japan (Typhoon Jelawet severe damage and flooding); Wattana School Bangkok – Church Conference; ICFLC Conference; Esther Kilagblian(ICFLC) Beirut bomb blast; Mynamar – fighting between Buddhists and Muslims- many people killed, many displaced. Letter of thanks from NE regarding support for AGM on November 9th
Prayer request for Major Olive Dell from National Executive facing surgery
Nomination Form for Executive Position for National Council of Women NSW Inc – from Tricia Graham
From Rev. Kevin Kim – letter of recommendation regarding appointment of Mrs Elizabeth McEwen as Anglican Representative on Council
Reply from Greta Howard, Facilities coordinator of Uniting Church 222 Pitt Street re: room bookings for 2013
Request from Greta Howard regarding change of room for November Executive meeting
Receipt from ‘House of Welcome’ for donation given at State Conference Day September 2012.
Newsletter Australian Church Women – ACT Unit – Spring Edition 2012 - SPAN magazine from Presbyterian Women in NSW - September 2012
Uniting Church Adult Fellowship NSW/ ACT Synod Committee - November issue of *Connexion*
Newsletter from National Council of Women November 2012 [NCW] Invitation to Australia Day Celebration sponsored by National Council of Women (NSW)
Materials from Christmas Bowl Appeal

CORRESPONDENCE: (Outward)

To National Executive – report from Hello Seminar about living with osteoporosis ; notification of Major Lyn Middleton as Special Days Convener and Nola Dickson as Publicity Convener; To Margaret Ker, National secretary, regarding arrangements for National AGM to be held at Westmead NSW
To National Executive – response from NSW State Executive regarding ACW National Constitution review
Request for minutes from meeting to be available within 8 weeks of meeting - Membership listing and qualification.
Guidelines required for Incorporated State Units and Unincorporated State Units - Position of Public officer to be spelt out in constitution.
To National Executive copy of names and addresses of NSW State Unit Members
To NSW State Unit Executive - copies of National Executive Minutes from meetings in September and October 2012
To Council Members – email copies of prayer requests from National Executive as received.
Letters of thanks to Judith Baker and to Lily Hanlon [both Presbyterian] expressing thanks for the years of service to ACW NSW State Unit Inc
Welcome letter to Elizabeth McEwen on taking up appointment as Anglican Representative on ACW NSW State Council
Letter of thanks to Mina Whybourne for her many years of service as Anglican Representative on ACW NSW State Unit Council
Correspondence received on motion of Pamela and seconded Lyn Middleton.

BUSINESS ARISING from CORRESPONDENCE:

Possible visit of Esther Kilagblian [ICFLC] prior to National Convention in October 2013

HONOURING AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN: Isabel gave snippets from the lives of Dorothy Fry [Baptist , Victoria]; Lena Meadows [Presbyterian , Queensland]; Stella Taber [Anglican – Bathurst and Canberra] Joan Davis [Anglican , Tasmania]; Jessie Horton [Presbyterian / Uniting, South Australia].

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

Bible Society :No report

Churches Together: Isabel attended dinner at the meeting house of the Quakers and Taizé service at Carcoar. Brother Ghislain was in Australia, visiting Wollongong, Newcastle, Sydney and Carcoar.

Girls' Brigade: Ruth Dickinson In October – get-together of former members of Girls' Brigade, where experiences were shared.

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National Council of Women: [NCW] presented by Tricia Graham. In September 90 people attended the Marie Bashir Peace awards Ceremony where the Governor presented awards [\$250] to 7 female school students for their work to promote peace and harmony in their communities. 4 others received 'Highly Commended' Certificates. Tricia was elected as NCW President for another year. Triennial conference of NCW was held in Canberra in September. Female speakers on - Women in Science, Women with Disabilities; Communication and other topics. Attended the Australian Human Rights Commission – Launch of 'Working without Fear' – which came from the results of National telephone Survey 2012 .

The delegates registered disappointment about the behaviour of parliamentarians. Sex discrimination officer has noted that in 2012 sexual harassment continues and male on male harassment is on the increase though rates of reporting are low. 51% of witnesses are likely to report the harassment. Attended the United Nations Week Lunch at Parliament House.

Pan Pacific and South East Asian Women's Association [PPSEAWA] Edith Ridge reported: *August* speaker from 'Pyjama Foundation' – working towards a brighter future for children in foster care by interaction encouraging the increase of their numeracy and literacy skills; *September* - Work to eradicate polio since 1985 Rotary International 'End Polio Now' program in partnership with contributors. India almost free of polio- Polio still exists in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nigeria; *October* - Robyn Gaspari spoke on the formation of this diverse group which works together to achieve a creative approach to the balance of work, life and family for women. AWC developed and presented the SHOUT program for young women [18-25]; and HELLO, specifically dealing with osteoporosis. PPSEAWA conference to be held in Fiji 2013

World Day of Prayer Shirley Mitchell: At last meeting for 2012, 22nd October - Elizabeth Clarke was appointed the National Liaison person. World Day of Prayer materials 2013 have been prepared by women in France – theme: *I was a stranger and you welcomed me*. Information has been sent out in preparation for the Day on Friday March 1st 2013.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Calendar for 2013 was available to Council members.

Sonya Pell scheduled to speak at February [2013] Council meeting.

Prayer was requested for Norma Dumbrell, who is moving, and about to go to Myanmar again.

Heather Reid suggested that individuals write to David Jones thanking them for the Nativity Scene in the city store in 2012.

Nola Dickson told about Kate Bracks - cooking night sharing her testimony. Further details from Nola.

Story of Croker Island to be seen Tuesday 20th November ABC 8.30 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 18th February 2013.

Morning Tea: Anglican ladies

Chair duties: Uniting ladies

CLOSE: Time of thanks for what we have done today. A period of Silence was followed by spoken prayer to close the meeting. Meeting closed at 12.05 pm.
