



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT INC.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 2nd floor 222 Pitt Street, Monday 18 April 2011 following the Annual General Meeting.

PRESENT: 38 as recorded. APOLOGIES: Pamela Freeman, Judith Baker, Mina Whybourne, Denise Secombe, Jean Porteous and Val Neilson.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21st March 2011 were confirmed, with corrections on the motion of Lily Hanlon and Heather Badgery. In ACWC report substitute Seoul for Bangkok, delete between "Lyn and communications".

BUSINESS ARISING:

- 1) Dedication Day Order of Service discussed and number of committee likely to attend.
- 2) Spiritual Renewal Day booked at Scots Church, Margaret St Sydney

REPORTS

TREASURER: Helen Richardson reported \$2,951.84 cash book balance at the end of March. Report passed on a motion of Pat Corey and Peg Cameron, carried.

It was agreed to close the Glebe Income Account to cover cost of conference, passed on a motion of Jennifer Pepper and Isabel Hewitt, carried.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN: Lillian Hodges has speaking engagements at Jannali U/C, St Johns Anglican at Sutherland and Beecroft U/C in April/ May. Her devotion was from India and based on Jeremiah 29: 11-13. "A future with hope is a dream of all people. God, who can turn and convert every hopeless situation into one of hope, promises a future of hope." The everlasting assurance of the liberating and sustaining love of God is the promise. Lillian followed this with a prayer :- The light of God surrounds you; the love of God enfolds you; the power of God protects you; the presence of God watches over you; wherever you are, God is!

ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: Lyn Middleton told the meeting the date for the Multi Cultural Concert this year is Sunday 11th September, at Eastwood Baptist Church, at 2-30 pm. Lyn would like names of any choir etc willing to participate.

SPECIAL DAYS: No report

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP: Judith Cayzer asked us to keep the two new students in our prayers. Arpena in Assam doing her final year of Bachelor of divinity course. Sisaret in Cambodia, preparing to come to Alan Walker for her course in June.

Leinamau (2007) At her next General Assembly in August, her position is up for 3rd term. She would like to do further studies to keep up to date. Imelda(2008) Pray for her daughter back from USA, Imelda still teaching Arabic language to a Muslim community in Manila while waiting placement back at Mid-East. Inise (2009) Finishes her course this year and doing well, her AMP work is less stressful now the 4 year project is complete. Family and church all well. Christy (2009) continues to prepare for overseas placement mid-year, much to do, security surrounds finer details. From Nat. WKS Convener, Christmas replies from Tania Eichler (2006), Susan Liersch (2003), Dorren Tang (1990) – more details in Newsette. 2012 applications due into Trustees by 31st may, Pray for wisdom and discernment.

SOCIAL ISSUES: Carmel Keys reported on Education: danger of charter schools model that would see all non-government schools become fully funded by government, resulting in catholic and other denominational schools no longer being able to fulfil the purpose for which they were founded. PM Julia

Gillard has affirmed her support for traditional values, eg. Marriage between male and female, no euthanasia, freedom of religion, good points to keep in mind when these subjects arise in parliament again. New facilities proposed for high care and dementia patients,. Adequate wages are needed to meet the basic needs of family, the Nat. minimum wage of \$569.90 is inadequate. Child safety, Email, chat rooms, face book and internet must be monitored by parents to protect the young. Rights of the child to be protected from narcotics drugs and psychotropic substances (alcohol) includes the unborn child. Selfish stand on refugees. Australia has very few asylum seekers yet we have land, schools that could easily cater for them, and we really need them as we do not have enough people. Organ donation: vital organs can only be removed once death of patient has been reliably diagnosed and the family of the deceased are able to see that death has occurred. Does your church support the current definition of death and organ donation? Have you considered organ donation? If so, tell your family. The elections are over, but you need to keep your politicians informed of your thoughts. Remind them they represent you!

PASTORAL CARE: Jean Porteous home from hospital, but future health is uncertain. Jean wants to resign as a representative and will write when she is stronger. Shirley struggling with her illness, but still feels a part of us, she needs our prayers. Karan Ross's father has passed away.

NEWSETTE: Jennifer Peffer needs all material for inclusion in the next Newsette by 22 nd April.

The reports were received on the motion of Lily Hanlon and Jan Harrison.

Isabel gave us another insight into more ladies found in the Honouring Church Women Book. To day she picked out Betty Ashton, Keelah Day, Joy Harris, Betty Moysers, Audrey Sherwin and while not an ACW member Isabel thought Patricia Brennan worth a mention, she had seen her obituary in a paper and saw that she was a doctor and supported Women in Ministry.

CORRESPONDENCE: (Inward)

- 1) National Executive Minutes
- 2) Enrolment and information form for 2011 Conference in Adelaide
- 3) Reply to National re Insurance
- 4) Occasional Newsletter from National
- 5) Letter from Shirley Wells

CORRESPONDENCE: (Outward)

- a) To Bible Society changing secretary's name
- b) To National agreeing to form conference committee from 2013 – 2015

PUBLICATIONS: Bibles at Work

Correspondence moved by Bev Elliott and Lily Hanlon, passed.

FUNCTIONS ATTENDED/TO ATTEND:

PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS: Nola had attended MU Thanksgiving Service and lunch.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Tricia Graham, reported on the NCW meeting held on 31-3-11, guest speaker had been Jim Coombs LCM, he spoke on Mental Health Issues in the NSW Justice System. There are approx 10,000 people in jail in NSW. 70% (or about 7,000) have a known mental illness. 9% (or about 900) are actively psychotic on admission to jail, but the system can provide a comprehensive mental health service to only approx. 300 of these people. It costs approx. \$100,000 p.p. per year to be kept in jail. Jim believes that hostels should be set up and magistrates should have the power to make an order for an offender to live there and be supervised – if they do not, then jail is the only alternative, he also believes that some treating professional must take responsibility for a prisoner's compliance. The majority of patients are treated with drugs, which are much more effective to day than in times past, but problems arise, because patients feel better when treated, then feel no need to continue taking medication.

Jim feels if this system were implemented, half the jails could be closed. Recommendations from this meeting were for members to contact their local politicians and make representations to the State for Health as well as the shadow minister.

PPSEAWA: Edith Ridge reported that 2 meetings had been held this year so far. In February Peter Berry and Edna from Glenbrook told of their visit with a group from the New Lambton UCA to the Kangra Girls' Hostel in Himachal, India. It provides care and accommodation for girls from remote areas so they can gain access to quality education. This work is organised by the church of North India.

The AGM was held in March, Mrs M. Groenewegen was re-elected as President, Miss M. Wood, secretary, Mrs H. Sulerzyski treasurer and Mesdames Egan, and Kaye-Payten as Vice – Presidents.

\$500 donated to the flood appeal, proceeds from the International Womens' Day Luncheon were also distributed:- \$500 to ANCORW and \$1,000 to UNWOMEN. Members are again making Peace Quilts, a number of these were displayed at the recent IWD luncheon. The Luncheon was a very successful activity for PPSEAWA, some pupils from Abbotsleigh and Hornsby High were welcomed with their teachers. About 90 attended and listened to the speaker, Rebecca Eckert, who told her hearers about the work of ANCORW and the risks in re-settlement faced by refugee women and children.

Thanks to the church of Christ ladies for morning tea, and to the Presbyterians for setting up the room.

CLOSING PRAYER: Nola read William Barclay's Prayer for the Fruit of the Spirit in our lives.

NEXT MEETING: 20 June 2011

CHAIRS: Baptist

MORNING TEA: Presbyterian

Confirmed: _____

Date: _____