



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC.

ABN 68 539 329 715



Minutes of the ACW National Executive Meeting Held on Monday 19th January 2015 Eastwood Baptist Church

Welcome: Lyn welcomed everyone to the meeting which began at 10.00 am and thanked Jennifer for providing morning tea and organizing the venue for the meeting.

Devotions: Tricia led the devotions around the theme of 'community', based on Philippians 2: consider the other person better than yourself – think of other people's interests. Community is a quality of the heart: living for others, not ourselves. Tricia closed the devotions with prayer.

Present: Lyn Middleton (Chair), Brenda Dickinson, Pamela Freeman, Tricia Graham, Isabel Hewitt, Lillian Hodges, Joy Inglis, Elizabeth McEwen, Natalie McLeod, Shirley Mitchell, Jennifer Peffer.

Apologies: Nancy McLaren

Minutes: The Minutes of the Meeting of 17 November 2014 were accepted and signed as correct. Moved by Tricia and Seconded by Brenda.

REPORTS

President's Report

Lyn wished the NE a happy New Year and thanked everyone for faithfulness to their tasks during her absence.

Correspondence:

- Invitation from United Church Adult Fellowship Service on 11th February: she will be attending.
- Letter of condolence sent to the ACT Unit for Margaret Lawton's death, which was passed on to the family.
- A card sent to Constance Aronson on the death of her husband and a Return Thanks received.
- Letter and card sent to Edith & Barry Ridge for their 60th Wedding Anniversary.
- Email from Helen Raymond advising of her absence from 26th January to 3rd March – Lyn and Isabel will attend to ACWC prayer requests.
- Email to Marion Rowe Vic Unit re the passing of Una Birtchnell expressing condolences of NE to both Vic Unit and Una's family.

Lyn has booked her flight to Queensland to attend their AGM on 23rd February. Her talk will be 'From History's Page' with the theme of ecumenism.

Lyn is working on the next *E-NEWS*.

Bangladesh is ACW's new prayer partner – no prayer points have been received.

At the AGM Shirley was formally installed as a member of the National Executive. Lyn presented Shirley with the items presented to the NE when installed in 2013: a crocheted angel, Christian mints and ACW National Executive badge.

Vice President 1 – Denise Secomb

Denise thanked everyone for their input at the Conference Planning meeting on 12th January and commented that it had been a very productive meeting.

Vice President 2 – Joy Inglis

Joy has updated the Life Members Book. Joy showed the book and discussed how best to present it. It was agreed that the information should be left as it was when the life member was elected. Some of the photos need to be updated and Joy will contact the people involved.

Secretary – Isabel Hewitt

The devotions roster was passed around and completed until August.

Isabel contacted the WKS Fellowship person coming for the conference, Devika Ukwattte, and received an email in reply. She would like time to visit friends in Sydney and asked how this could be arranged. Isabel will clarify how much time she needs to visit friends and whereabouts in Sydney they are. Devika will be available to visit other cities after the conference and State units will be asked if they would like to host her.

Isabel will write to the ACT Unit to invite them to form the NE in 2017.

While checking on ACW working papers in the National Library Isabel noted that some are yet to be submitted.

Treasurer – Jennifer Peffer

Jennifer advised that the balance at the bank as at 19 January totals \$90,998.22. She commented that Fellowship Day offering for the whole country was only \$4000 and FLC was down on the previous year.

Lyn commented that if a branch decides not to hold a meeting it is always Fellowship Day, which is where WKS funding comes from. The NE agreed that more needs to be done to publicise WKS and also to remind people about FLC.

At the next meeting Jennifer will give a summary for the last three years of amounts contributed for Fellowship Day and Community Day and improve the form sent out to units.

A \$40 donation was sent to St David's Presbyterian Church, Woy Woy, in thanks for the use of their church hall for our meeting on 12 January.

FLC Convener – Lillian Hodges

Two projects submitted by AWC to world office of FLC were accepted. Mum's Cottage in Newcastle received \$US4,600 and Messy Church (after school activities associated with Bible teaching) in Launceston received \$US2,400.

Isabel will arrange a visit to Mum's Cottage at a time convenient to Sister Helen-Anne.

Units need to be advised that FLC applications need to be in by the end of April for projects next year.

WKS Convener – Nancy McLaren

Nancy has been working on the WKS pamphlets and arranging for printing.

Suggested changes to the WKS Guidelines were presented to the meeting and Isabel will send to the Trustees for comment. These will be included in the Working Papers for consideration at National Conference.

The motion that the Incoming NE, together with the WKS Trustees undertakes a review of the legal relationship between ACW Inc. and the WKS Trust has received attention. Lyn will collate the information to prepare a response to the motion.

Special Days Convener – Pamela Freeman

Fellowship Day Order of Service from Tasmania has been received and is being prepared for forwarding to the Units in February.

An application for Special Project for 2015 has been received from NSW for consideration by NE in February.

The Order of Service for World Community Day 2015 has been prepared by the Qld. Unit. This was discussed and a few minor changes were suggested.

Social Justice Convener – Shirley Mitchell

Shirley emailed the Social Justice Representatives in the State Units about human trafficking and quoted ecumenical sources. Angela Devlin from ACT unit advised that Sunday 8th February is World Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action against Human trafficking. This information will be included in E-News.

Website Manager – Brenda Dickinson

Requests from 5th December have been carried out. Update requests have been sent to Units. Barbara Greer requested that WKS information be updated regarding appointments for 2016. Brenda will go through and update links.

The Forward Group requested a copy of the Salvation Army Facebook guidelines. These have not been received yet – Brenda has sent a reminder.

WA Unit sent photos of recipients of the Essay Writing Competition – Brenda advised that permission is needed from parents to publish the photos.

ACWC No report

Australian Women's Coalition Nothing to report

GENERAL BUSINESS

1 Conference Distribution of Registration forms.

Jennifer passed around the Registration forms she had amended from suggestions at the meeting of 12 January.

Single accommodation will be an additional fee of \$100. This is limited and will be allocated on health and mobility needs in order they are received and must be paid up front.

Transport and the time for arrivals at the airport was discussed with the suggestion that perhaps one bus would pick up at the airport at 10.00 am, with another at 12.00. Participants will need to know when the conference finishes and bus times back to the airport to arrange their travel. Anyone needing to leave early can be given information about shuttle bus services.

Denise will post Registration forms to those who sent an Expression of Interest. A pack of 10 will be sent to each unit. NSW needs more, so one form will be sent with each Newsette and a notice about the conference will be in the February Newsette.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.10 pm.

The next meeting will be on 16th February 2015 at 222 Pitt Street, Sydney.