



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NSW STATE UNIT INC.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING held on 10th floor 222 Pitt Street, Monday 18 June 2007, 10.30 a.m.

WELCOME: Mrs Carmel Keys welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Carmel showed an icon depicting three angels who represent God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, with Christ at the centre. We can step into the picture and be accepted by all three parts.

PRESENT: 42 as recorded.

APOLOGIES: 16 as recorded.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 16 April 2007 were initialled on the motion of Joan Bird and Jan Harrison.

Minutes of the Council Meeting on 16 April 2007 were confirmed on the motion of Nancy McLaren and Janet Lang.

BUSINESS ARISING:

1. An excellent Service of Dedication was held at St Brigid's Church Millers Point. Appreciation was expressed for Major Elaine Johnson, National President as guest speaker, Pamela Freeman as organist, and the parish helpers who helped serve the food. Lyn Middleton commended Carmel Keys for her attendance despite the fact that she was still recovering from shingles.
2. Spiritual Enrichment Day: The venue is Scots Church, Margaret Street, near Wynyard from 10.30 to 12.30, followed by BYO lunch. Morning tea is to be provided by members of Executive and a gold coin is requested to give as a donation to the church. Four sessions on spiritual enrichment will focus on scripture, mission, social issues and neighbour. Leaflets were available for Council members to publicise this event.
3. ACW Website: Work continues and the launch of the website is to take place at National Conference.
4. 'Profiles' of Presidents NSW Inter Church Council/ACW NSW Unit continues. Eight photos had been received since last Council meeting and only six are still outstanding. However, information is still needed for some of those for which there is a photo.
5. National Conference – Geelong 23-28 September 2007. Executive had considered the appointment of Delegates and Observers from NSW Unit. It was agreed that Council appoint the President and Secretary as Delegates, and President Elect and Treasurer as Observers. Following what was done in 2005 it was proposed that fares, registration and accommodation be paid for Delegates, registration and accommodation for Observers.
6. National Executive has foreshadowed the need for hospitality for Shu-Wen Chiang 3-4 October 2007 following National Conference which Shu-Wen will attend on a Winifred Kiek Fellowship. People who may be able to help with hospitality include Ramona Cowle, Norma Dumbrell, Winsome Penn, Nancy McLaren and Jan Harrison.
7. Asian Church Women's Conference Celebration is to be held at The Salvation Army Hurstville on 21 October 2007 at 2.30. A number of items have been confirmed, but Beryl Kirkwood said it would be helpful to have one or two in addition.

There is still a need for an ACWC Convener, and Carmel Keys reported that those who had been approached had been unable to take up this portfolio. Members were asked to consider taking on this role.

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REPORTS:

TREASURER: Helen Richardson reported that the cash book balance at the end of May was \$2829.37.. Moved Helen, seconded Norma Dumbrell that the report be received and accounts paid. Carried

PASTORAL CARE: Olive Edmondstone welcomed Peg Blake to Council, and reported that she had recently seen Lucelle King who is now confined to a wheelchair. Rosalyn Bemrose is still struggling. Isabel Hewitt reported that in the quest for profiles of past presidents she had learned that Reta Farr who was President 1959-60 is in a nursing home in Adelaide and had extended greetings from NSW to Reta.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN: Janet Lang reported that Circle of Prayer 18 has been received and copies will be available next meeting. In the grants for this year, one has gone to Tasmania and one to South Australia, but details are not known as present. Janet led a devotional prepared by Beryl Kirkwood – To Soar like an Eagle – based on Isaiah's trust in the lord for help, and the woman in Luke's gospel whose life was changed. We, like them, can allow God's spirit to lift us above life's ills.

SPECIAL DAYS: Pamela Freeman reported that the eight helpers at packing day had sent 22 parcels to Branches for Fellowship Day. New instructions have been received from Australia Post on mailing procedures. If possible, packing for World Community Day will be held after Council on Monday 20 August. The Order of Service for WCD prepared by NSW has been sent to National Executive.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP: Judith Cayzer reported on her experiences with Leinamau Seru from Vanuatu who is attending Alan Walker College at North Parramatta. Judith had attended a service at Grantham Uniting Church where Leinamau had preached and was really impressed. The other Scholar for 2007 is Cathy Paraka from Papua New Guinea but Judith has not heard from her. Leaflets on these two Scholars were available for Council members. The choice of the scholar for next year should be known in the near future.

Norma Dumbrell reported that she had met the 1999 WKS Scholar Mai Zin Zin Wah when she was in Myanmar earlier in the year.

SOCIAL ISSUES: Sr Joan Bird noted that although we were celebrating two hundred years since the abolition of slavery it still existed but in different forms, such as human trafficking. In an effort to extend thinking on the issue of Climate Change copies of a position paper from Catholic Earthcare: *Climate Change – Our responsibility to Sustain God's Earth* were available for purchase. Council members were reminded that everyone can contribute to Social Issues by drawing attention to needs in the community.

NEWSETTE: Beryl McLaughlin gave the deadline for copy for the next issue 16 July 2007.

PUBLICITY: Nancy McLaren had prepared leaflets advertising Spiritual Enrichment Day and publicity for Fellowship Day which was included in parcels sent.

The reports were received on the motion of Beryl Duncan and Jean Porteous.

CORRESPONDENCE: (Inward)

National Executive: Minutes 16/4/2007; 14/5/2007; 2007 Special Project; Nat. Conf. Registration Forms;

Circular Letter 7/07; Shu-Wen Itinerary; proposed Amendments to Constitution

Edith Ridge – ACW report to PPSEAWA

Elaine Johnson – re Sydney visit

PWA – Invitation Annual Conference 2/7/2007

Cmr Coral Strong – re Salvation Army representatives

Beth Skilbeck – re 2007 Special Project

Jennifer Pepper – re overseas trip, Dedication & Installation Service 2008; President Profiles

Nancy McLaren – profile

Prison Fellowship – prayer calendar

National Council of Jewish Women – re Christian speaker – and cancellation of request

CWLA – leadership workshops

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Correspondence Inward continued:

PPSEAWA - Luncheon 27/6/07

Joelie Hancock – re Reta Farr NSW WICC President 1959-60

Marjory Verco's family – return thanks

UNSW Domestic & Family Violence *Paper 13; Newsletter 28; PWA Span 6/07*

CORRESPONDENCE: (Outward)

National Executive: NSW Minutes 19/3/2007, Annual Report, NSW addresses, National Conference

Elaine Johnson – re Sydney visit

NSW Ecumenical Council – Pamela Freeman ACW rep

Mina Whybourne – re WKS & PPSEAWA

Joan Tong – Associate membership, HACW entry

FUNCTIONS ATTENDED/TO ATTEND:

PWA Conference 2/7/07

OTHER ORGANISATIONS:

PAN PACIFIC & SOUTH EAST ASIAN WOMENS ASSOCIATION: Joan Bird had attended her first meeting as our representative. The speaker was an Afghani woman, Mahboba Rawi, author of *Mahboba's Promise*. The profits from the book are used to fund very basic education in Afghanistan in an effort to help women and children. Joan strongly recommended the book to Council members.

PPSEAWA Winter Luncheon will be held next week and Lyn Middleton will attend on behalf of ACW.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Jan Harrison reported that organisation for next year is proceeding well. Jan encouraged Council members who will be hosting services next year to take advantage of the Hostesses Day set down for November. More information will be forthcoming in the near future.

GIRLS BRIGADE: Working on a new program to keep up to date and so appeal to young people.

WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION: The setting up of a foundation is still being pursued.

NSW ECUMENICAL COUNCIL: Pamela Freeman is to attend the AGM on Saturday 23 June 2007.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Thora Thomas told of her latest overseas trip and of her contributing to a website for teenagers. She asked for prayers for a speaking engagement at Byron Bay 24 July 2007. Normal Dumbrell offered prayer on Thora's behalf.

CLOSE & BENEDICTION: Carmel Keys read the following thoughts:

Take time to THINK – it is the source of power

Take time to PLAY – it is the secret of perpetual youth

Take time to READ – it is the fountain of wisdom

Take time to PRAY – it is the greatest power on earth

Take time to LOVE and BE LOVED – it is a God-given privilege

Take time to BE FRIENDLY – it is the road to happiness

Take time to LAUGH – it is the music of the soul

Take time to GIVE – it is too short a day to be selfish

Take time to WORK – it is the price of success

Take time to DO CHARITY – it is the key to heaven

NEXT MEETING: 20 August 2007

CHAIRS: Baptist

MORNING TEA: Churches of Christ

Confirmed: _____

Date: _____