



## AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT INC.

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MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 2nd floor 222 Pitt Street, Monday 21st March 2011, 10.30 a.m.

**WELCOME:** The President welcomed everyone, pleased so many had come despite the weather. Special welcome to Sr. Joan Bird returning after an absence, we are sorry that she is unable to continue as a PPSEAWA representative, Elizabeth Clarke an Associate member and Tricia Graham a new Anglican Representative.

**DEVOTIONS:** Nola based her devotion on 2 Corinthians vv 7 – 9 reminding us of the World Day of Prayer Theme “ How many Loaves have You”? We have more than we can ever need thanks to His bounty we should give gladly, not with a sense of duty but willingly. He gave us the ultimate gift - His only Son, Jesus Christ.

**APOLOGIES:** Lorraine Hughes, Olive Edmondstone, Jan Jeffrey, Ramona Cowle, Bernice Baker, Val Neilson, Beatrice Kay, Natalie McLeod, Norma Dumbrell, Sandra Wise, Karen Ross, Ineke Nieuwland, Peg Blake and Mina Whybourne.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21st February 2011 were confirmed on the motion of Carmel Keys and Lily Hanlon.

### BUSINESS ARISING:

1. The amendments to the Constitution have been completed. Jennifer told the meeting that these were necessary as the Dept. of Fair Trading has changed some requirements. The committee formed to oversee this had endeavoured to make it an easier document to follow. Two months must elapse before the document is brought up for acceptance and passing.
2. AGM 19 April 2010 - Nomination forms for most Conveners have been received. A reminder was given of the need for Annual Reports.
3. Service of Dedication is to be held at 10.30 am 16th May 2011 at Epping Presbyterian Church with lunch to follow, guest speaker will be Mrs Christine Jensen.
4. Anglican representation on Executive will be filled by Jan Harrison and Heather Badgery alternately.
5. Isabel was congratulated on her nomination of President Elect.

### REPORTS

**TREASURER:** Helen Richardson reported \$1,743.26 Bank Balance at the end of February. Books have been audited for 2010.

On the motion of Helen Richardson and Jennifer Peffer, the financial report was received and payment of accounts passed. Carried

**FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN:** Lillian Hodges reported that she had spoken about FLC at St Phillips Anglican Church at Caringbah and the U/C at Gerringong, she was pleased with the visits. Tomorrow Lillian goes to Blacktown S/Army Home League. She read part of a letter from the Treasurer of the International Committee of FLC as her devotion, who praised all who contribute to our organisation, rich and poor. Prayers are so important for everyone. Prayers also for those who have NO needs, but their concern for those who are needful. Lillian thanked our Lord for our chance to help people with less. Hopes to receive new edition of Circle of Prayer in time for distribution at National Conference and requests help transporting them.

**ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE:** Lyn Middleton had checked the ACWC Web site on Saturday night, but nothing new to report. Executive Secretary has changed office, in Bangkok now. Lyn wonders if earthquake has upset communications. Three new projects – Myanmar, Cambodia and Thailand.

**SPECIAL DAYS:** Pamela Freeman has received material for Fellowship Day. After Executive Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> April she hopes to pack these for posting with the help of her team. The Theme is “Living in the Light”, by the women of Alice Springs. Contact Brenda Dickinson if anyone has information that should go on the website detailing location of Services etc.

\$4,821 has come through for Allowah Hospital from the 2010 Project

South Australia Unit preparing the Community Day Service. The Special Project for 2011 is Red Cap Program which runs in ACT schools.

**WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP:** Judith Cayzer reported that Christy Ferguson (2009) was contacted by National WKS at the time of New Zealand earthquake, all her family were safe. Christy’s card as introduction from Interserve has arrived, she will leave for South-East Asia about June, meanwhile training takes place, she requests prayer as she prepares for long-term mission. Una Birtchnell (Victoria) went to Christy’s Information afternoon last week to represent ACW.

Tonu (2010) has called a few times to keep in touch, hopes to work in Australia, plans have not gone well. Praying for applications from Multi-Cultural Australia for 2011, need to be in by 31<sup>st</sup> May. Remember the two girls for this year, Arpona and Sissaret.

**SOCIAL ISSUES:** Carmel Keys pointed out that with state elections coming up there are important issues of which we should be aware : euthanasia – puts elderly and disabled most at risk, same sex marriage and adoption, surrogacy, human cloning, this should no longer be an issue as science has better responses. Write or speak to your local candidates who should stand for fundamental values of life. From National Council of Women, changes to victim’s compensation scheme, which will disadvantage victims of crime in NSW – men, women and children. Check on what the children in your care are watching on TV. Nestles and Cadburys re cocoa sourcing. Effects on children watching disaster reporting on TV should be monitored, can cause undue distress.

**PASTORAL CARE:** Nola remarked that it was good to see Beryl Kirkwood with us today, looking well, Norma Dumbrell is improving and Peg Blake’s knee operation has been postponed. Nola prayed for all those suffering problems.

**NEWSETTE:** Jennifer Peffer advised that the deadline for copy for the next issue is Good Friday.

**PUBLICITY:** Isabel Hewitt has prepared an attractive poster for Fellowship Day Services Isabel has also prepared a Table Copy of Honouring Church Women which will be available at each meeting. To day Isabel chose to speak about Mabel Wylie, Jean Banyard, Catherine May Goudie, Mary Wood and Margaret Napier.

**MEMBERSHIP:** There were 35 ladies present with 14 apologies.

The reports were received on the motion of Nola Dickson and Lyn Middleton .

**CORRESPONDENCE: (Inward)**

- a) National Minutes
- b) MU to attend Annual Festival Service and Lunch
- c) Victoria State Unit Newsletter
- d) Anglican Board of Mission – Aust. Exec. endorsing Mrs T. Graham as an Anglican Representative
- e) Rev. J. Deane Exec. Dir. A.B.M. – Aust. endorsing Mrs T Graham as an Anglican Representative
- f) Australian Baptist Women advising Shirley Wells retiring as representative and notifying that Mrs R. Goth as new representative, also notifying ACW that Mrs W. Penn is resigning as representative.
- g) UCA invitation to attend Mission Day Group Annual Get Together
- h) UCAF NSW/ACT Synod Committee nominating Mrs Isabel Hewitt for ACW President for the Uniting Church’s term for Australian Church Women.
- i) Invitation from National Council of Jewish Women of Australia NSW Division to Women’s Interfaith Seder.

**CORRESPONDENCE: (Outward)**

To National with information of Theological Colleges Website  
Letter to National regarding Insurance.

#### BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

Welcome to new representatives

Congratulating Isabel on her nomination as President Elect.

#### FUNCTIONS ATTENDED/TO ATTEND:

PPSEAWA Luncheon and Mother's Union Service and lunch.

#### PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS:

#### OTHER ORGANISATIONS:

PAN PACIFIC & SOUTH EAST ASIAN WOMENS ASSOCIATION: Edith Ridge reported that she had not been able to attend meetings of late but hoped to be at the next one. She had enjoyed the PPSEAWA lunch at Glengarry along with Nola, Helen Richardson and Helen Hill. Edith expressed sadness that Sr. Joan Bird was unable to continue as representative and hoped someone might come forward to fill the position. She added her recollections of Catherine May Goudie to those of Isabel.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Shirley Mitchell had no report but thanked everyone who had enquired about her grandson Noah, he has had surgery and is doing well.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN: Nola told the meeting about a booklet the Council has prepared on Support Services Helpline and offered to print a few copies for people to see, if the committee agreed, however Tricia Graham had an update on this and told the meeting that this is still in draft form, more to be added.

GIRLS' BRIGADE: There were around 300 Boys and Girls Brigaders in attendance on the week end of 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> March at Jamberoo, a great success. The GB training officer was encouraged by the number of younger girls attending training in preparation to become leaders. Prayer sessions have been commenced during all training sessions, anyone interested in the growth and well being of Brigade has been invited to attend. First session was held in March and was well attended. Last Saturday a reunion was held at Caringbah Baptist Church, with over 95 present and past leaders and helpers in attendance, 3 State Commissioners with 3 State Chaplains and a DVD from a past commissioner serving in India. Lunch was enjoyed by all, cooked and served by some of the young ladies from the church. Also a display of old and new uniforms was on show which was very interesting. Looking forward to the next gathering.

CHURCHES TOGETHER: No report

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Application form had been received for the luncheon at Parliament House honouring women in their 90<sup>th</sup> year. No one, at the moment is eligible to receive that honour.

A request from National Executive have asked us to confirm that we would be taking on the conference for 2014 – 2016. Passed on the motion of Lyn Middleton and Jennifer Peffer.

Thanks to the Salvation Army ladies for morning tea, and to Church of Christ ladies for setting up the room.

CLOSING PRAYER : Nola chose an Irish Prayer which she read to the meeting, because St Patrick's Day had been celebrated recently, she felt this was appropriate.

**NEXT MEETING: 18th April 2011 – AGM - followed by Council Meeting.**

**Morning Tea: Church of Christ  
Chairs: Presbyterian**

Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_