



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Rec'd 9/7/01

NSW State Unit

MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETING held at 222 Pitt Street, Sydney on Monday, 19th March, 2001 at 10.30 a.m.

President Jan Harrison welcomed members and especially Alison Todd and Noeline Roose (after their surgery), Glenys Holley from Rockhampton, and Rev. Sandra Dodwell from the NSW Federation of Congregational Churches. Jan told members of the death of long time faithful member, Mrs. Lila Beckingham. Mrs. Padma Ebenezer is back in Australia to support her daughter and Mrs. Alwyn Warren formerly from ACT is facing surgery next week. An interesting letter had been received from Dss. Thora Thomas from U.K. For Devotions, Jan read from Philippians, Chapter 2, "Christ's humility and greatness" - He gave up all He had"; and opened the meeting with prayer.

PRESENT: 47 members as recorded.

APOLOGIES: Dss Thora Thomas and 6 others as recorded.

The Minutes of Meeting of 19th February, 2001 were read and confirmed after correction Page 3, Fellowship of Least Coin - "Methodist" Church - not Uniting - on motion of Lily Hanlon and Daphne Peterson. Carried.)

BUSINESS ARISING:

- QUESTIONNAIRE - Rev. Elizabeth Walker had summarised Questionnaire replies: Eleven members had responded - summary attached. President thanked Elizabeth for collating replies and thanked members who submitted replies.
- ANNUAL SERVICE OF DEDICATION - Monday 21 May, 2001, 10.30 a.m. St. Thomas' Enfield - speaker, Miss Sue Nitrai - (2000 WKS Scholar) - members asked to contribute to lunch - clipboard circulated. Flyers available for publicising event.
- SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT DAY - Monday 16 July, 2001 - Sr Colleen O'Sullivan happy to come. Helen Richardson has this in hand.
- ACW TRANSFERS FROM OTHER UNITS/INTERESTED PEOPLE: proposed Constitution change - "Associate Members: Former members of Australian Church Women NSW Unit Council and other women who are in agreement with Australian Church Women NSW Unit Statement of Faith, Constitution and Bylaws, Aims and Objectives, may become Associate Members and attend Council.
 - Associate Members may speak at meetings but not vote, and are not eligible for Executive Office.
 - There shall be an Annual Fee for Associate Members which shall be set by Council.
(To be ratified at April Council Meeting.)
- HISTORY completed - thanks to Marie Majoor - cost of printing to be investigated - possibly by Salvation Army - Joan Tong to cost.
- TASK FORCE - Peg Blake asked that Denominational members meet together after Council for discussion as to how our Statement of Faith, Aims and Activities, etc. may be made known - and as this is the Year of Volunteers, one speaker from each denomination to speak at June meeting to describe what being a "volunteer" in her Church means (5 min. each speaker).
Sr. Marie Craddock, our representative on PPSEAWA, said that at their National Conference in June there would be an Open Seminar - "Share and Tell" of the voluntary work done by members of the affiliated organisations attending.
- TRADING TABLE - President Jan thanked Elsie Cox for "manning" the Trading Table and those members who had contributed and those members who had purchased.
- ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Council Meeting 23 April 2000 - nominations required for several positions - Membership/Pastoral Care to be two Convenerships. Isabel Hewitt has agreed to be Secretary/Minute Secretary.

BUSINESS ARISING: (Cont.)

9. STATE CONFERENCE 2002 - to be considered - whether to hold on ONE DAY only - from 9 to 5 in usual Meeting room - with speakers in the morning and discussion in the afternoon - or OVERNIGHT - at a suitable venue. Perhaps hold in September/October in the alternate year to National Conference.
10. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE 2003-2005 - we to confirm to National Executive our willingness to become National Executive 2003-2005.
11. REPORTS FOR ANNUAL REPORT - All reports from Conveners and Branches, etc. required by Secretary as soon as possible.

REPORTS:

TREASURER: Marie Majoor said that finances were very satisfactory. Her report was circulated - appended. It was moved Marie Majoor seconded Joan Tong that we make a contribution to the Uniting Church for the use of their Meeting Rooms - \$200 for 2000 and \$250 for 2001. Carried.
Marie Majoor moved seconded Margaret Redmond that her report be received and accounts passed for payment. Carried.

PUBLICITY: Peg Blake had prepared and had flyers available for distribution for Dedication Day 21 May. Flyers for Spiritual Enrichment Day would be available on 21 May. She mentioned that the recent World Day of Prayer had received publicity in the St. George & Sutherland Leader - a letter giving background had been personally delivered to office. A photographer and reporter had actually attended Service at Caringbah. We must persevere with our publicity for Fellowship and World Community Day.

FELLOWSHIP OF LEAST COIN: Shirley Wells said she had new Guidelines for each denomination.
The International Committee had made 44 grants, and Australia had received three. The response to World Community Day was very good.
Shirley read from Circle of Prayer 15, Voice from the U.S.A. "The Road toward Reconciliation". 2 Corinthians 5:17-21. "A saint is a person that the sun shines through" - Shanti Solomon was such a person and we give thanks for her life.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP: Edith Ridge had sent report - Sue Nitrai, WKS scholar 2000, had passed all her exams with high results. She has expressed appreciation of the Scholarship which allowed her to proceed with her studies.
Miss Celestial Lusi of Honiara in the Solomon Islands (South Pacific Area) was chosen as the 2001 Scholar sponsored by the Roroni Women's Fellowship Group of the South Seas Evangelical Church. Celestial will undertake the final year of her Diploma in Theology at the Christian Leaders' Training College of P.N.G. and the South Pacific. We understand that she has already begun her studies for 2001.

NEWSETTE: Beryl McLaughlin said that deadline for articles for May issue will be 9th April.

SOCIAL ISSUES: Heather Reid reported -

1. Pacific Prayer Partners gave praise to God for the Fellowship of Least Coin Grant which enabled a canoe to be purchased to travel throughout the Solomon Islands visiting the various Girls' Brigade groups.
2. Cela Cooper had written David Jones in appreciation of their beautiful window depicting the Christmas scene - the Babe of Bethlehem.
3. Racial and Religious Legislation - we as Christians could be prevented from evangelising.
4. Women's News - "No Sweat Shop" label has been launched - Fair Wear Campaign
5. A circular "Hints for Talk Back Radio" produced by Women's Media was copied and distributed to members.
6. National Drug Committee - Major Watters - encouraged by new booklet "the strongest defence against the drug problem - distributed to each household.

REPORTS: (Cont.)

ACWC -(ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE): Joan Tong - we work together with 17 countries - including New Zealand, Asia and Pacific. A Conference is held every four years - last one in Bangkok - special speakers, Bible Study leaders; FLC was affiliated but now an independent body - members from ACWC form the Committee.

Every second Conference a representative from Australia is elected - our present representative is Barbara Lacy. Joan was involved as a Member of ACWC General and Executive Committees for several years.

We have a commitment to ACWC for the Endowment Fund - \$500 over a period of ten years - money raised by sale of calendars. This will be the last year for the calendars and this will enable us to pay our full commitment.

We will need to consider other ways to raise money for any future commitments.

MEMBERSHIP/PASTORAL CARE; Heather Badgery - she has a Video available on "Pilgrimage to the Heart".

She had sent congratulations to Dss Beth Hayward on the occasion of her 60th wedding anniversary. Had sent greetings to Alwyn Warren, and Ethel Wladysiuk. Minutes will be posted to those who are absent.

SPECIAL DAYS: - Irene Carder - Submissions for Special Project for World Community Day in October 2001 submitted by N.S.W. Unit - "Semoid for Ultra Sound Equipment at a hospital in India" - and Bimbadeen College for training modules for aboriginal women.

List of Special Day venues will be available one month in advance.

Reports received on motion of Margaret Jessup and Noeline Roose.
Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: (Inward)

1. Anglican Board of Mission Sydney Auxiliary - notice of Annual Meeting 28/3/2001
2. Anglican Archbishop of Sydney - thanks.
3. ACW National Executive Circular: 2001/12, Minutes 20/2/2001.
Motions required for National Conference by 24th July.
Names of members who have received Awards since last Conference required.
(Dame Monica Gallagher, Papal Honour; Peg Blake and Olive Beverley Community Awards).
Names of members who have died: Vi Minty, Lila Beckingham. Maureen Bowen.

CORRESPONDENCE: (Outward)

1. Catholic Women's League - denominational representatives
2. Mrs. Robin Toohey - congratulations on Australia Day Award
3. National Executive - Minutes 16/10/2000, 20/11/2000, 19/2/2001
4. Ald. Frank Sartor - Christmas decorations
5. David Jones Limited - 50 years of Carols, Christmas decorations.

Correspondence inwards received and outwards endorsed on motion of Joan Tong and Rhoda Gates. Carried.

PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS:

1. Letter of congratulation sent to Dame Monica Gallagher regarding her recent Award.
2. Order of Australia application forms have been received - we to be encouraged to submit names.

REPORTS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS:

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - Service prepared by women of Samoa - very thoughtful - Brenda Dickinson attended Service at Southside Christian Fellowship where a Samoan lady had been the speaker - attendances at other Service venues were very encouraging.

Noeline Roose distributed new World Day of Prayer Leaflets - excellent production.

