



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC.

ABN 68 539 329 715



Minutes of the ACW National Executive Meeting Held on Monday 20th April 2015 222 Pitt Street, Sydney

Welcome: The meeting began at 1.00 pm, with a welcome from President Lyn.

Devotions: Denise led the Devotions, and began by giving each person a small cup, which represented the theme 'a moment with my cup'. The outside is what people see; inside the cup, think about your spiritual life – what does it look like? Who helped you in your spiritual growth? What fills and empties your spiritual cup? Emptying and filling, giving and receiving, accepting and letting go. What could we share with others from our cups? What might we need to add.? Denise closed in prayer.

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

Apologies: Nancy McLaren

Minutes: The Minutes of the Meeting of 16th March 2015 were accepted as correct.

REPORTS

President's Report:

Lyn attended the MU Festival Service at St Andrew's Cathedral. It was a lovely service and fellowship was enjoyed over lunch following the service. Interestingly, the guest speaker who was from Perth was to speak at the Perth Unit's meeting the following week so Lyn sent greetings with her.

Forward Group: The Forward Group Discussion Notes were received from Lynette Green from their last meeting. Schools have been contacted in WA and Vic and one is to be approached in Hobart concerning the Essay Competition. A young Christian woman has been approached to be the driver for the competition. Her name is Cynthia Carter and she is from Victoria. The suggestion of National Executive for a prize in each state will be discussed at conference but only the one National prize will be offered this year. Lyn surmised that it could remain with the individual Units if they want to provide a prize for their winning entrant.

The Forward Group will prepare a presentation for Conference with notices of motions arising out of their deliberations. The Forward Group will need to note that these notices of motions have to be received by National Executive before 7th July.

Action: Lyn will write to Lynette Green to remind her that motions need to be with the NE before 7th July 2015.

Vice President 1 – Denise Secomb

Denise has been working on Devotions for the Conference and has made a list of those who can participate. Collaroy Centre need to be advised of final numbers attending the Conference by 6th May 2015, and also suggested meal times, which were discussed.

A First Aid kit needs to be purchased. As no-one appears to have the necessary qualifications in NSW, we may have to look further afield.

The issue of speakers for Open Day from organizations who have received Special Project funding or FLC funding was discussed.

Action: Isabel will write a letter of enquiry to Bear Cottage asking if they would send a speaker to Open Day or material for display; also a letter to Mums' Cottage to Sister Helen-Anne.

Vice President 2 – Joy Inglis

In response to a query from Joy, Lyn advised that the Prayer Room could be set by late afternoon on Monday 7th September. Joy has been working on the Life Members' Book and will bring it to the next meeting.

Secretary – Isabel Hewitt

An itinerary for Devika to visit ACT, SA and Victoria has been arranged and Barbara Gear is making travel arrangements. Devika has been given an outline of what is expected of her at Conference.

The Profile of Past Presidents is underway, and Isabel is still looking for photos. The identification of people in conference photos is continuing.

Work is continuing on the Archives. Working papers from 1972 right through to 2013 have been scanned with only a couple missing.

Treasurer – Jennifer Peffer

The Financial Statement was circulated to the NE.

The funds as at 31st March amounted to \$44,599.79.

This is represented by \$31,090.35 ING Investment plus interest and \$13,509.44 Commonwealth Bank Account.

The Components which are holding the most funds are:

National Conference Fund	\$22,282.54
Administration	\$15,637.83

Accounts for payment (approval required)

Major Nancy McLaren	\$350 (Conference overpayment)
Mrs Tricia Graham	\$350 (Conference overpayment)
Mrs Natalie McLeod	\$ 50 (Refund of Registration)
Mrs Elizabeth McEwen	\$ 50 (Refund of Registration)
Mrs Marie Majoor	\$ 60 (Refund cost of Dinner)
Lynette Green	\$208.40 (Reimbursement for expenses incurred in the Production/distribution of 2014 Essay Booklets)

Conference Registrations

There are now 53 Registrations. Included in this list is one from New Zealand. There are five requests for single occupancy and the necessary money up-front has been received. Day Visitor leaflets/Registration forms have been incorporated into the latest copy of Newsette and also forms were available for state council today.

Jennifer moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted, Seconded by Isabel. Payment of the accounts listed was approved.

Minutes Secretary

Elizabeth commented that the Guidelines for Minutes Secretary are adequate as they are and don't need updating.

FLC Convener – Lillian Hodges

Lillian has contacted the State and Territory FLC Conveners, requesting a report for her National Convener's Report for Conference.

Contact has also been made with Laurel Pearce, WA and Nancy McLaren regarding bus transport to Collaroy. The first bus will leave the airport at approximately 10.00 am. Nancy says that time will give them a few options for times for plane travel.

Lyn confirmed that she will contact Ray Buckland who could drive the bus from Macquarie Lodge to Collaroy.

Lillian advised that there have been no FLC grant applications.

Lyn reminded all conveners that they need to write to their State counterparts asking for reports to collate into reports for the working papers. Nancy and Helen need to be advised – **Action:** Lyn.

Special Days Convener – Pamela Freeman

At the last meeting we decided that Cana would be the Special Project. Pamela has written to ACT and informed them that another project has been selected. Pamela has asked the units for their endorsement and is waiting for their responses.

The preparation for printing for World Community Day will go ahead on receipt of approval from the State units. Pamela has been in touch with Victoria regarding the next State to prepare World Community Day.

Pamela suggested that a couple of NE members should visit Collaroy to get an idea of the layout, and perhaps having a NE meeting there.

Social Justice Convener – Shirley Mitchell

Shirley is considering what issue of national interest can be put forward on Social Justice and has had two replies from the unit conveners. She has asked that reports be sent by 31st May and has received one from SA.

Some of the issues being considered are: rights to water and coal seam gas fracking; constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people; domestic violence and the effect on children; immunization.

Lyn suggested that issues with rationale, be circulated to members of NE, so that an informed decision can be made at the May meeting.

Mary Pearson has been contacted regarding the Order of Service.

Website Manager – Brenda Dickinson

The requested updates have been carried out.

ACWC No Report

AWC No Report. Tricia gave apologies for her absence from the May meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1 **Conference Registrations** – this was dealt with in the Treasurer's Report

2 **Matters referred from National Conference**

Further work was done on the responses to matters referred from last National Conference.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.10 pm. The next meeting will be on 11 May 2015, at 10.00 am at Eastwood Baptist Church, and will concentrate on National Conference.