

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW UNIT
Minutes of the Council Meeting, held at 222 Pitt St,
Monday August 17, 1992

OPENING: The president Miss Phyll McKinnirey welcomed all members of council; new representatives - Elaine Giddey (Catholic), June Coughlan & Mrs Major Pam Hodge (Salvation Army); visitors - Margaret Patterson & Nola Dickson (Neutral Bay); Associate member - Olga Badger; special mention was made of the presence of Helen Stutchbury who has been unable to attend meetings since a calamity last November, Helen responded with thanks for prayers, letters and phone calls.

THOSE PRESENT were recorded as 50 representatives, 3 visitors, and 14 apologies were recorded in the attendance sheet.

In the absence of the secretary Mrs Edith Ridge, who is indisposed following surgery, Joan Tong took over the role for the meeting.

DEVOTIONS: Marjory Baker lead the devotions with a reading from Romans 8, a reading full of encouragement - 'Who shall separate us from the love of God ...', and something from Corrie Ten Boom which gave strength to the fact that we are in a world 'that God so loved'.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING Monday June 15, 1992 were circulated to all in attendance, taken as read and confirmed as a correct record.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

1. The new membership list was circulated to all present. A request was made for alterations and corrections to be given to Marie Majoor. It was noted from the floor that the list of branches is 'out of date'. These are to be up-dated.
2. World Community Day services were prepared for distribution on Aug. 10. Thanks were given to those who assisted with this.
3. MAPA - a further meeting has been called to continue to keep this project in profile. Marie McCann, Heather Reid and Joan Tong continue to serve on this committee, Jeanne Sutherland has become the publicity person for the project.
4. NEWSETTE: Beryl McLaughlin (Editor) and Marie Majoor (Secretary) were congratulated on the latest edition. The meeting was advised that owing to proposed changes in the postal regulations for such publications, further promotion is necessary if we are to bring the number of our subscribers into the 'minimum' number for qualification for special rates. At the moment the changes have been postponed for 12 months due to public outcry.

Denominational groups were encouraged to work on this. (DENOMINATIONAL TASKFORCE)

5. SPIRITUAL REFRESHMENT DAY: The programme was confirmed as per the information given to all in attendance: (attached)

CORRESPONDENCE: The outwards correspondence was noted, and the inwards correspondence received and dealt with.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Building a Church for the Unchurched. Sydney November 11-13, 1992. leaflets available for interested persons.
2. An invitation was received from the Anglican women of the Goulburn region to provide a speaker on September 14, at St Nicholas, North Goulburn, to specifically share the work and story of the FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN. Joan Tong and Shirley Wells (FLC Convenor) to take responsibility.

3. The Australian Council of Churches meeting, "Living Under the Southern Cross" was announced to the meeting, as a continuing item for attention. It was also noted that a delegate from ACW will be appointed in due course; and that we have been offered space for publicity at the function. Peg Blake and Jeanne Sutherland to co-operate in this.
4. WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION: A thanksgiving offering was requested and ACW has responded with a gift of \$20.00 (to be ratified for payment with Treasurer's report).
5. Copies of the leaflet circulated by the Australian Council of Churches were made available for all interested persons. The Ecumenical Decade of Churches in Solidarity with Women Task Group is calling for contributions from women and men of all sectors of the community for a publication providing personal and group devotional material.
6. Meeting invitations: Bush Church Aid Society, Thanksgiving Rally & Luncheon Thursday Aug, 20, 11.00 a.m.
Presbyterian Women's Assn. PWMU Annual Rally, Thursday Aug. 20, 10.30 a.m. President Phyll to attend.
7. Australian Council of Churches - BURMA APPEAL - the relevant information was read to the meeting, with the suggestion that individuals respond personally.
8. A letter was received from Marie McCann requesting that if possible time be given in a council meeting for someone to speak regarding promotion of special day services in the branches. (This was done later in the meeting by Peg Blake).
9. It was noted that letters had been written to the Victorian Unit congratulating them on their jubilee and new banner; also to Dame Monica Gallagher wishing her a good recovery following recent surgery.

REPORTS:

1. TREASURER: The Treasurer's report was received and adopted. Accounts for ratification. The accounts listed on the attached financial report were passed for payment by the motion of the meeting. (To assist with payment for flowers (Spring Festival, St Andrews) members present were asked for a free-will offering. Approximately \$54.00 was given.)
The treasurer reported that money for the Fellowship Day offerings is now coming in.
2. FLC: Joan Tong read from the voices of Lebanon as the offering was received
3. WKS: In the absence of Mina Whybourne, Peg Blake read a written report pertaining to the visit of the 1992 scholar - Ana. This was a most successful visit during which Ana visited many meetings, at which she both spoke and sang.
4. MEMBERSHIP: Marie made a further request for notice of any additions or alterations to the membership list.
5. PROMOTION/PUBLICITY - Peg Blake and Jeanne Sutherland, together presented maps of Sydney and NSW showing ACW activity areas, with the suggestion that we work to fill the gaps.
Peg reported that some areas now only wish to conduct one of the special day services, although, even where the World Community Day is not held, the FLC offering is still made.

Some discussion followed regarding geographical areas for branches. It is currently felt that women can be invited to attend a service in any area, particularly if there is no activity in their own. To date, no boundaries for branch activity have been made.

It was suggested that on receipt of FLC monies from areas where no service is held, that promotional material be sent, with the encouragement to commence ACW special day services.

It was also asked if promotional material could be made available for the World Day of Prayer Service in March 1993. This is to be looked into.

A request was made for more promotional material for branches - e.g. Posters for special day services. It was suggested that branches can do their own promotion, as further explained by Peg Blake.

Peg then gave a talk regarding the way in which the Sutherland branch have mobilised themselves, their action includes: invitations to every church in their area, notices for the church notice board, publicity in local papers and church bulletins. Then their meetings include enthusiasm, a good speaker, information of ACW activities (FLC & WKS). Peg emphasised the value of personal, 'eyeball to eyeball' communication.

PUBLICITY: Jeanne Sutherland reported that Carolyn Jones (ABC/2BL) has placed President Phyll on a list for possible inclusion in a 'Search for Meaning' interview. Jeanne requested prayer for this to happen as there are many nebulous speakers being heard.

NEWSETTE: Beryl McLaughlin requested that reports of happenings from any denominational bulletin could be included in Newsette and she would be glad to receive these.

PRESIDENT: President Phyll reported on the meetings she has attended - PPSEAW, and PWU, enjoying both these occasions immensely.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

United Nations Petition against injustice to women distributed.

Joan Tong farewelled Desley Dawkins and thanked her for her work during her term as a Salvation Army representative.

Mary Andrews asked for assistance for the trading table, and also for prayers for Eunice Kim (Executive Sec. Asian Church Women's Conference)

CLOSE: There being no further business, the president thanked the Uniting Church women for setting up the room, and the Anglican women for looking after the morning tea.

NEXT MEETING: The council will meet on Monday September 21 at 10.00 a.m. for morning tea provided by the Churches of Christ.

BENEDICTION: The president closed the meeting with a benediction.

CONFIRMED



21.9.92