

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 222 Pitt Street, Sydney, on Monday, 15 April 1991.

OPENING: The meeting opened with Mrs Marjory Baker in the chair, in the absence of the President, Mrs Major Joan Tong. Mrs Baker, in presenting an apology from Major Tong, informed the meeting of the passing of our President's mother-in-law, stating that she and her husband had travelled to New Zealand for the funeral. The deep sympathy of the meeting was extended to the Tong family.

Mrs Baker explained, also, that in the Secretary's absence in Adelaide at a UCA Fellowship Consultation, Mrs Peg Blake was acting in that capacity.

Fallon Visitors and new delegates were welcomed and it was noted that Mrs ~~Rae~~^{Shirley} Aldridge was proxy for Marie Majoor at this meeting.

DEVOTIONS: Miss Jeanne Sutherland brought us devotions, with the accent on the area of "choice" in our lives. We were reminded of the words from Joshua 24:15 "Choose you this day whom you will serve but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Devotions closed with prayer.

THOSE PRESENT and APOLOGIES are recorded on the attendance sheets. There were 48 present and 17 apologies.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING on 18 March 1991 were read and confirmed. Mrs McLaughlin asked that Mrs Yvonne Davis' name be inserted in the minute referring to Nungalinga College, as it was she who was to collate the material available.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

1. Associate Members: It was noted that the Executive intended to add to the By-Laws provision for Associate Members. Council members are now invited to nominate names of people they would like to invite to become Associate Members; such names to be forwarded to the Secretary.
2. Nungalinga College: Mrs Davis read a report on this training and research centre in Darwin. It was noted that the centre is jointly operated by the Anglican and Uniting Churches, with recent interest from the Baptist Church in Darwin. It provides training for Aboriginal people as well as for government and community employees who work with Aborigines. Copy of this report is attached.
3. Spiritual Enrichment Day: The date has been fixed for 28 October in the Salvation Army Congress Hall. All details will be announced later and, in the meantime, members were asked to be sure to keep the date free.

CORRESPONDENCE: The Outwards and Inwards Correspondence was tabled, read and dealt with as read. All Correspondence was received.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE: Invitations were read for several functions:

- a) Deaconess Mary Andrews requested numbers of those able to attend on 29 April, 3rd floor of Bible House, to meet and hear Mrs Prakai Montawasee, President of World Day of Prayer International Committee during 1974-78, ex Moderator of the Church of Christ in Thailand.
- b) The $\frac{1}{2}$ -yearly meeting of the NSW Ecumenical Council to be held on Saturday 4 May at Smithfield; Mrs Col. Florence Peterson to attend.
- c) From Women Authoring Theology Conference, 24-26 May, at Santa Sabina College, Strathfield.
- d) From National Council of Women in NSW, for a Luncheon on Wednesday, 22 May, at the Gazebo Hotel, Elizabeth Bay Road, Elizabeth Bay, at 12 noon.
- e) Activities being planned for the Centenary of the Deaconess Institution in the Diocese of Sydney. The Convention Centre at Darling Harbour has been booked for 8 June 1991 for the Celebration of Women's Ministry.

CONFERENCE SPOT: Mrs Marie McCann referred to the Minutes of 18 March, as had been read, and drew attention to the fact that it was not Melini Weerasinghi who had been imprisoned, but another Sri Lankan Christian, who had been helping the tea pickers. Mrs McCann presented an invitation from The Council of

Christians & Jews on Sunday 21 April 1991, beginning at 2 pm at St Stephen's Anglican Church and Camperdown Cemetery, Newtown, followed by a visit to Western Suburbs Synagogue, Newtown.

Copies of Margaret Knauerhase's book, "Faith of a Lifetime", are still available.

Brochures are available showing Collaroy Conference Centre. There are still jobs waiting to be filled, at Conference, particularly for secretarial work, and members were asked to be sure to add names to list where possible. It was stressed that Wednesday 11 September will be Seminar Day for those folk from branches or other church women's organisations who are not attending the full Conference from 9 to 13 September.

REPORTS: Treasurer. The Treasurer explained that there was no Statement as usual, as the books were with the Auditor. The Report, as given by the Treasurer, was received and approved.

FLC. The Convener, Patricia Burke, commended the plight of the Kurdish people to our prayers and urged members to be involved in their individual church's support where possible. Patricia related the story of the "Praying Hands" and further explained how our own hands tell a story, and we remembered the suffering seen in the hands of our Saviour Christ. She reminded us that praying without good works is dead (James 2:17) and urged us to continue to pray and work together in ACW, using our hands for Christ.

Patricia told the meeting that Glad West faces heart surgery in Royal North Shore Hospital this Thursday (18th) and sought our prayers for Glad at this time. Mrs Baker led a short prayer time particularly thinking of Glad.

WKS. In the absence of Mina Whybourne, on holiday, Lucelle King reported on Rachel Sobana's activities. Rachel is now at Royal North Shore Hospital and will leave on Monday next for Cooma Base Hospital. After that she will have 2 weeks in Canberra from 29 April and will then leave for Tasmania on 18 May for a month.

PROMOTION. The Convener thanked those ladies who had helped on Monday last after the Executive meeting, packing the Fellowship Day Service folders. City parcels were then distributed, the country packets having been posted.

GENERAL BUSINESS: Mrs Baker reminded members of the trading table available at each meeting and Deaconess Andrews endorsed the remarks.

The President's apology was noted concerning parking offered for the Dedication Service on 20 May. Attention was drawn to the fact that "Early Bird" parking at \$7 only covers the parking of cars in by 10 am and out after 4 pm. Parking is available at Goulburn Street Parking area.

Members were asked to be sure to indicate on the appropriate list their intention of attending the Luncheon after the Service (including the numbers of visitors they may be bringing) for catering purposes. This list must be finalised by 10 May.

Members were reminded to take copies of the invitations for distribution.

CLOSE: The hostesses for the day (Salvation Army) were thanked. The next meeting will be 17 June 1991, when the Uniting Church ladies will look after morning tea while the Salvation Army will prepare the room. Devotions will be given by Mrs Edith Ridge.

Members then adjourned to the Annual General Meeting.

Confirmed
17 June 1991



