



## AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC.

ABN 68 539 329 715

### *Minutes of the National Executive Meeting*

*Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014*



**Welcome:** President, Major Lyn Middleton, welcomed everyone to the meeting, which commenced at 12.55 pm.

**Devotions:** Joy Inglis lead the Devotions. As we're coming up to Easter and in the period of Lent she was drawn to John 3: 14-15 'Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.' This refers Numbers 21: 4-9. Jesus was lifted up so anyone who looked to Jesus would be restored, healed, and given eternal life. 'I am the resurrection and the life'. Are we looking at Jesus? Joy closed the Devotions with prayer.

**Present:** Lyn Middleton (Chair), Brenda Dickinson, Pamela Freeman, Isabel Hewitt, Joy Inglis, Elizabeth McEwen, Denise Secomb

**Apologies:** Tricia Graham, Lillian Hodges, Nancy McLaren, Shirley Mitchell, Jennifer Pepper.

**Minutes:** The Minutes of the Meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> February 2014 were accepted and signed as correct.

## REPORTS

### President's Report

Since the last meeting Tricia has left for her extended holiday and both Lillian and Jennifer have undergone surgery. Both surgeries went well and both are now in recovery stage. Let us keep them in our prayers.

Lyn thanked Isabel and Pamela for the work they did moving the archives to the new location.

Lyn was pleased that Shirley Mitchell has responded to the request for a Social Justice Convenor. We look forward to officially welcoming her on board once all the formalities have been fulfilled.

Correspondence:

- Lyn received one invitation – Mothers' Union Annual Festival Service, Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April which she will be happy to attend.
- Request from Lee Moon-Sook for a letter of reference to attach to a grant application to WICCC for some funding for the Quadrennial Assembly.
- Letter of Reference to Lee Moon-Sook – tabled.

### Vice President 1 – Denise Secomb

Denise has been contacting people who could lead Bible studies or speak at the Ecumenical Service at Conference. Denise will also follow up on the availability of the Chapel at the conference centre for the Ecumenical Service.



## **Website Manager – Brenda Dickinson**

The website is currently up to date with the latest download links established.

Prayer Requests are now seen on the National Home Page, the latest one dated February 24<sup>th</sup> from Rev. Lee, Moon-Sook and the reply from National President Major Lyn Middleton was posted on February 26<sup>th</sup>.

A photo of the ACW WA committee is now on their web page, as requested.

Brenda asked if anyone would like to send in something for the website to let her know, eg: Special Days, the AGM or meeting dates etc.

## **ACWC**

Lyn advised that a lot of information has been received from ACWC with the announcements for the Quadrennial Assembly. The latest has a report of ACW Conference in it. If we are changing our National Representative an official letter needs to be sent. Lyn will check with Donna about this procedure.

ACWC has sent applications for grants and scholarships – there may be people who are eligible for these. Isabel will check on this.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **1 Special Project 2014**

It was decided that the Special Project for 2014 will be Travellers' Aid Victoria, Pathways to Education:

This program provides student travel passes to young people who are experiencing financial difficulties. In collaboration with referring agencies, such as youth and family services and migrant centres, monthly, half-yearly and annual passes are provided to students in need, including:

- 1) Students from low socio-economic backgrounds
- 2) Students experiencing various stages of homelessness
- 3) Students from refugee and migrant backgrounds

### **2 AGM 2014 – Teleconference Possibilities**

Tricia Graham sent details of the possible use the Australian Board of Missions Board Room and teleconference phone. This will be followed up, and if unavailable the National Council of Churches facilities may be another option.

An enquiry was made from the Wellspring Community who is throughout Australia and their meetings are done by phone. They use Hot Air Conferencing which gives 7-8 hook-ups for about \$140/hour on a tariff free line.

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November has been suggested as a possible date for the AGM. Isabel will continue to pursue teleconferencing possibilities.

### **3 Matters referred from National Conference**

#### **3.1 Archives**

By the next meeting it will be known what needs to be done with the archives. The contract has been signed for the room at Eastwood Baptist Church.

3.2 Public Officer Guidelines – There is a guideline but the Minutes of the last conference state ‘that the attendance of the Public Officer at National Conference and AGM be investigated and appropriate guidelines drafted’. The Constitution/Guidelines/Minute from Conference needs to be put together in a coherent form.

3.3 AGM in Non-conference year: Will follow the pattern from last time. The time requirements need to be followed.

3.4 Relationship ACW/WKS Trust – this matter will be left until Nancy McLaren is present.

#### **4 World Day of Prayer**

Lyn reported that World Day of Prayer had a National Conference and the new National President phoned her and discussed the need for ACW and WDP to support each other. It was suggested that ACW could prepare a flyer or information brochure for the WDP order of service, which would promote ACW ministry, to be inserted in the order of service in 2015. This would be sent to the State secretaries between August and October this year. Lyn prepared a flyer for this purpose. The NE all agreed that this was a good idea and approved the flyer for distribution. Lyn will now follow this up with the National President of WDP.

#### **5 Committee led by Lyn Green**

This committee formed to look at the future of ACW, will meet before the end of the month.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **Electronic Newsletter**

Lyn had a mock-up for comments. This could be put on the website and copies could be printed out by Units for those who want a hard copy. Suggestions were made for the content of the Newsletter, which would be issued twice a year.

There being no further business the meeting closed with prayer, at 2.55 pm.

President .....

Date .....