



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT INC.

Minutes Council Meeting Monday 15th June 2015 at 10.00 am at 222 Pitt Street Sydney

WELCOME: President Natalie McLeod welcomed all to the meeting and thanked the Uniting Church ladies for the morning tea, the Catholic ladies for setting up the chairs, and the Church of Christ ladies for the trading table.

DEVOTIONS: Jesus as Shepherd, John 10: 1-6 'sheep follow him because they know his voice'. Jesus used this figure of speech but they didn't understand what he was telling them. Jesus the shepherd is a great comfort to us. A shepherd leads his sheep, cares for his sheep, is always there. When we stray he wants us back. He seeks us – we are precious to him. People do wander and stray, become distracted; we fall down. Jesus our Shepherd is still there ready to guide us back to our heavenly home. Natalie prayed for the meeting and thanked Jesus that he is our shepherd.

ATTENDANCE: 27 **APOLOGIES:** 8

MINUTES OF AGM 2015: Confirmation of the ACW NSW Unit AGM Minutes of Monday 20th April – moved by Lyn Middleton, seconded by Shirley Mitchell. The Minutes were initialled as correct.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING: The Minutes of the Meeting of 20th April were confirmed as correct. Moved by Lillian Hodges, seconded by Carmel Keys. Passed

BUSINESS ARISING:

1 National Executive Lyn Middleton reminded everyone of the Early Bird price for Open Day at the National Conference. The question was asked of those who intend to come to the conference full-time if anyone has first-aid qualifications – if so, please see Lyn, Isabel or Denise. Lyn also requested ideas or help in regard to stands for the banners at conference. Jennifer Peffer and Pat Cory both had suggestions for this.

Forward Group Essay competition: St Scholastica's College was approached by Carmel Keys and word has been received that they are happy to participate in the competition. Information has been sent to the co-ordinator. Applications are due on 1st July, but 20th July originally mentioned.

Lyn commended NSW Unit for replying to requests promptly: all information needed for the conference has been sent (Delegates, Observers, NSW Unit Report, those to be remembered). Lyn asked if anyone from NSW Unit has received an Honour (such as Queens Birthday, Australia Day, Community Awards etc.) to let her know.

2 National and State Archives Isabel Hewitt advised that work on the archives is continuing; work on Winifred Kiek material has begun.

3 Special Project 2015 See Special Day Report.

4 HACW - Entries for NSW are in and ready to go.

5 Dedication Day: Natalie commented that it was lovely to see so many in attendance. A letter of thanks will be sent to the Epping ladies for their hospitality on this occasion.

REPORTS

Treasurer: Pat Cory thanked Helen Richardson for working as Treasurer for so long and for her assistance during the changeover period. Pat reported that the total income for April & May was \$1779.13; Payments for April (none for May) were \$1583.55, giving a Bank Balance at 31st May 2015 of \$5722.20. Pat moved that the Report be received and accounts presented to the meeting be paid. Seconded: Tricia Graham. Passed unanimously.

Fellowship of the Least Coin: Major Lillian Hodges reported that Mums Cottage has now received their funding from ICFLC. They will be conducting a medical workshop in the next few weeks when the extended meeting area in the church is complete. Lillian thanked everyone for supporting FLC in the branches and churches. Lillian shared a devotion from Past National ACW President Laurel Pearce. Psalm 27:14 'Wait on the Lord, be of good courage and He shall strengthen thine heart.' To wait on the Lord means to spend more time with God in prayer, to share my joys and difficulties but more importantly to listen to Him. Lillian prayed that we will live in tune with His will for us.

Special Days: Lyn Middleton wished everyone the best as Fellowship Day services are prepared, and gave a reminder to email the details of the services to Brenda so she can put them on the website.

Lyn advised that she has received the material for WCD and these will be ready to take at the August meeting or be mailed out. *The Special Project* is Cana Communities based in Sydney, who care for people who are homeless, mentally ill, suffering from addiction etc. The funds will be directed to the Nagle House in Redfern, which supports women who are marginalised and need to be encouraged to start again.

Winifred Kiek Scholarship Judith Cayzer thanked everyone for help on the trading table. Jean Porteous sent greetings to everyone. News has been received from Leinamau (2007) now studying in Fiji. Her family are rebuilding and replanting after storms in Vanuatu. Exams are on now. It helps Leinamau to know we are thinking of her. Yane (Humpty Doo, NT) appreciates our prayers and is enjoying studies. This Semester she undertook a unit called Best Practice in Ministry. Next semester she begins a Research Unit and needs to find a 2nd Supervisor very soon

Social Issues: Rae Goth highlighted 3 issues for attention: 1) Domestic Abuse, suggesting a letter to Anglicans congratulating them on their stance and perhaps to other denominational leaders. 2) Truckies and Drugs – address concern to Police Commissioner; and 3) same sex marriage, address concern to the Prime Minister.

Membership: Martha Noel asked everyone to make sure that their Emergency Contact details are correct and up-to-date.

Pastoral Care: Helen Hill sent apologies for the meeting. Helen reported that she has spoken to Jean Porteous who sounds very well with no pain and Jean hopes one day to feel strong enough to make the journey into town to attend a meeting with us. Helen hasn't had a reply yet from Rhylliss Davey who was planning on returning to New Zealand to continue treatment and into the care of her brother. It was good to see Jan Jeffrey at the Dedication Day Service.

Newsette: 6th July is the deadline for items to go into Newsette.

It was moved by Carmel Keys and seconded by Valerie Hazlewood that the Reports be adopted. Passed.

CORRESPONDENCE (Inwards)

NCCA Newsletter
Elizabeth Clarke, WDoP, NSW – Change of Address
Jan Currie, PPSEAWA Minutes & Invitation
Jan Currie PPSEAWA Meeting Minutes & Reports & Membership form
ACW ACT Unit Newsletter
Girls' Brigade *Brigade Affect* Newsletter
NCW NSW – Newsletter, Renewal form, Recognition Award Form
ACW TAS State Annual Meeting Minutes 25/5
ACW TAS General Meeting 25/5
Marie McCann – Letter of thanks re Jean Arnot lunch
PWA Australia NSW – SPAN
Jan Harrison – Letter of thanks re State Life Membership & HACW
Jan Currie PPSEAWA Minutes 27 May
Girls Brigade – June Report
Connexion UCAF June 2015
CLRI Sr Sharon Price, re resignation of Sister Marie Craddock
ACWC Newsletter

CORRESPONDENCE (Outwards)

Office Bearers of NSW State Unit Inc. To National Secretary and other organisations
Letter in response to resignation of Joan Bird as Catholic representative
Act Unit Newsletter
To State Council Members – prayer request for Rhylliss Davey
To State Council members Girls' Brigade 'Brigade Affect'
Materials regarding ACW to Very Rev Fr Shenouda Mansour
NSW Ecumenical Council
Girls Brigade June Report

BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from Marie McCann – Natalie commented that the Jean Arnot lunch on 8th May was a very pleasant occasion which Marie enjoyed very much. Marie was NSW Unit President 1978-79.

FUNCTIONS ATTENDED/TO ATTEND: Natalie will attend the PWA Conference on 29th June.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

Bible Society: No Report

Girls Brigade: Elizabeth Neale reported that the Girls' Brigade NSW celebrated their 75th birthday in April. On 2nd May GB NSW had their Annual State Conference, the theme of which was 'Built on a Strong Foundation'. A special luncheon was held for the women who were part of building the foundation in Girls' Brigade NSW. After the State Conference two weekends of Pioneer Leadership Training was held. One weekend was at Cootamundra, then the following weekend at Brigade House. On Saturday 13th June, GB celebrated their birthday with the animals of Taronga Zoo. Four hundred girls, leaders and their families attended the party. GB NSW has adopted a Pygmy Hippo at the zoo for 12 months. Elizabeth thanked everyone for the warm welcome she receives at ACW meetings.

NSW Ecumenical Council: No Report

National Council of Women (NCW): No Report

Pan Pacific & South East Asia Women's Association (PPSEAWA): Helen Richardson attended the Winter Luncheon. The Guest speakers were Dr Guy Barry and Carol O'Connor from the Garvan Institute

World Day of Prayer: No Report

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Pamela Freeman, President Elect: Pamela gave a brief outline of her association with ACW and her family life. Pamela will be the first non-commissioned officer of the Salvation Army to be President of ACW

Judith Cayzer reminded everyone that ACW ladies who are no longer able to come, still stay connected and we need to think of them and keep them in our prayers.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 17th August 2015

Morning tea: Catholic ladies Chairs: The Salvation Army

Trading Table: Churches of Christ

President Natalie closed the Council meeting with prayer at 11.45 am.

Signed Date