

MINUTES

MEETING OF KNOX INTER-FAITH NETWORK

Held Monday 29th March 2004 at Knox Civic Centre

1. PRESENT

Representatives of Faith Communities Present:

St. Vincent de Paul/Ferntree Gully Catholic Church
 Temple Society
 Boronia Catholic Church
 St. Simons Church Rowville
 Ferntree Gully Uniting
 Boronia Uniting Church
 Knox Presbyterian Church, Wantirna
 Knox Reconciliation Group
 Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

2. APOLOGIES

Rowville Uniting Church
 Boronia Catholic Church
 Boronia Church of Christ
 Ferntree Gully Catholic Church
 Emanuele Chichiello
 Mayor, Knox Council

2.1 Chairperson informed everyone that Susanne has moved to Melton.
 We require someone to fill the role of Secretary. Carried Over.

3. REVIEW AND CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Chairperson welcomed new attendees.

4. Minutes from Last Meeting (2nd February 2004)

Read and accepted.

- 4.1 [a] Sally attended "Future Communities Together Events" this day, and reported that there was encouraging interest in the Knox Inter-Faith Network, and, on "Understanding Islam". Discussion followed on the topic of understanding and tolerance of the Islamic faith. Future dates for this initiative were noted.
- 4.1 [b] Knox Harmony Day 21/22 March: apologies from Peter; Knox Council sent out the information too late, lots of people could not attend,
- 4.1 [c] Web Site: Peter to follow up with Susanne on work that could have been done.
- 4.1 [d] Anti-vilification Meeting –9 March, no news to report.
- 4.1 [e] Ideas on Logo: held over for this meeting, as more people need to give their comments. Peter to mock up an example that represented themes consistent with the intent of the network – something involving hands shaking within a circle describing the themes of education, visitation and dialogue.
- 4.2 Sikh Gurdwara, Wed 3 March: visit was deferred until a later date.

- 4.3 Treasurer's report: credit \$XXX year to date, 11 subscriptions, no expenses have been paid.

5. Vision on what the Network can put into action going forward:

We've had a successful year visiting various Faith Communities. We need to look forward to how we can use some of the funding by Council to do some of the larger Community projects.

Some other suggestions:

Rowland: a panel of people to give a 3 mins presentation on "authority" in their faith, then open up for Q&A by all to the panel, on topics like "concept of God" or whatever they seem comfortable with. Other topics considered included scripture, sin and salvation, involvement of people of faith in the world.

Sally: we need to work more at Community Awareness: how can we interest people in coming to meetings and taking part?

Phil: target a major Knox event to run with major speakers to present

Graeme: have a conference/workshop on strengthening families.

As there no representatives from other communities present to discuss this topic, we will continue to have this discussion over the next few meetings, where we hope to have a wider representation of people from various communities.

6. Other items of interest for members of the Network:

Phil: to explore his view on the topic of reconciliation, based on what happened in the US and to report back.

Sally: PR work: = Vera Link from the Jewish Community (works for Multicultural Aged Care Education Centre)

Sally also has taken email address for 6 or 7 other members outside Knox who may be interested to come to Knox Interfaith meetings.

Sally visited the Hindu Community in the Basin and got a cool reception

- 7.1 Confirm visitations plan for May or July (Catholic Community).
Peter/Connie to confirm with their parish.

- 7.2 7 June meeting: Phil: to present a view on Aboriginal spirituality and maybe connect with the community in Knox or do a presentation on "YOGA" from a spiritual and scientific aspect.

2 August meeting: Graeme: Church of Later Day Saints, will present

October meeting: Hope to get someone from both the Jewish & Islamic faiths to present. Discuss further at June meeting.

December meeting: hope to get the Buddhist community to present

Next Meeting 7th June 2004

Meeting end at 9:30pm.

Draft for discussion