



MINUTES – DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

MEETING OF KNOX INTER-FAITH NETWORK

Held Monday 3 October 2011 at Knox Civic Centre

## PRESENT:

Representatives of Faith Communities present:

(Secretary)	St Simons Catholic Church, Rowville
(Treasurer)	Temple Society Australia
	Janssen Spirituality Centre, Boronia
(Publicity Officer)	Islamic Society of Melbourne, Eastern Region (ISOMER)
	Egyptian Coptic Church
plus Amy Gough	Knox Council, Access and Inclusion Officer

## GUESTS

Blood 4 Harmony Program

## APOLOGIES:

(Vice-President)	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
	Temple Society Australia
	Uniting Church, FTG
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	Knox Presbyterian Church, Wantirna
Cr Sue McMillan	Knox City Council, Dobson Ward and Mayor

## WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER:

Peter opened the meeting at 7:40pm with a prayer.

### 1. INTRODUCTORY MATTERS

- 1.1 The agenda was agreed as drafted.

### 2. MINUTES/ACTIONS FROM LAST NETWORK MEETING

- 2.1 Minutes of meeting of 25 July 2011: Mark noted two minor changes. The location was the Janssen Spirituality Centre, not Knox Civic Centre. Several instances of OAMC should read OMAC. Minutes moved for acceptance with these changes: Mark; Seconded: Riad. Approved.
- 2.2 Blood for Harmony Program
- David reported that there were only 3 takers for the 6 October event.
- Wantirna runs the event every 12 weeks, so we will try again in 2012.
- Discussion on how to enhance the poster led to the following suggestions:

- Incorporate a multi-faith symbol
- Emphasise the action as a gift of life
- Promote the event as an opportunity for cross-network discussion

**ACTION:** Mark to send a multi-faith symbol to David. David will update the poster, targeting completion before the next KIN/KMAC meeting.

Members present thanked David again for his efforts.

- 2.3 Treasurer's Report: Mark reported that the balance in the account as at 31 August 2011 included the funding received from OMAC/VMC for the 2012 event and was \$XXX. An expense outstanding of \$XXX is for the banner, leaving a balance of \$XXX (including the \$XXX from OMAC/VMC for the 2012 event).

**ACTION:** Peter to prepare a letter thanking elected councillors for the funding received for the banner.

Peter requested approval to renew the Knox Inter-faith Network domain name for 2 years for \$59 – approved. He suggested also that the Network prepare a delegation of approvals document for expenditure.

**ACTION:** Peter to prepare a delegation of approvals for expenditure document. (Distributed with these minutes for review.)

### 3. EVENT REPORTS

- *VMC/OMAC Community Consultation on Strengthening Community:* Maher attended on behalf of the Coptic Church and the Knox Inter-faith Network. There were two sessions:
  - *Strengthening our community:* Information was provided by VMC/OMAC. Maher provided a copy of the *Victorian Government Report on Multicultural Affairs 2009-2010* and *Regional Advisory Councils Expression of Interest Information Handbook 2011* to Peter.
  - *2011 Community Consultations:* Grants of up to \$20k are available for inter-faith and multi-faith events. This opens early October and closes mid-December.
- *Hindu Foundation:* Gwenda reported that the Hindu community is building a new venue in Bayswater. **ACTION:** Gwenda to invite the community to join the Knox Inter-faith Network.

### 4. FUTURE ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Peter to try to attend the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering of the Interfaith Network for the City of Greater Dandenong (19 October) on behalf of the Knox Inter-faith Network.
- There is some confusion about the date for the VINAC Annual Meeting as it has changed several times – it currently looks to be 1:30-5:00pm on 27 November at the St Kilda Town Hall. **ACTION:** Amy to try to confirm the date and location.

### 5. CONCRETE PLANS FOR 2012

#### 5.1 Major event – *The Golden Rule + The Role of Faith in the Palestine-Israel Process*

- 5.1.1 Mark has prepared a subsequent application for funding to DIMAC – members present thanked Mark for his work on this.
- 5.1.2 Members present reviewed the current project task list, with the following arising:
- Professor Joe Camilleri was confirmed as the preferred facilitator; **ACTION:** Mark to advise OMAC.
  - A suggestion was made of Councillor John Mortimer as the backup facilitator; **ACTION:** Peter to approach Councillor Mortimer to check interest and availability.
- 5.1.3 The length of the proposed event was discussed with some concern it was too rushed. Suggestions included lengthening the session or cutting the time assigned to the overview of *The Golden Rule*.

- 5.2 Meeting dates for 2012 were agreed as:
- 6 February – also the KIN AGM
  - 2 April
  - 4 June
  - 16 July
  - 1 October
  - 26 November (to be confirmed) – joint meeting with KMAC
- 5.3 *Knox Festival, 3-4 March 2012*  
Malcolm Russell had approached Mark about KIN providing a channel for funding from VMC to Knox Council as the Council can no longer apply directly. There had been no further information or request from Malcolm.  
**ACTION:** Amy to follow up with Malcolm.
- 6. MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST**
- 6.1 *Should KIN accept a presentation from a member of the 'pagan' community?*  
Discussion ensued about this request, distributed prior to the meeting by email. The general view was that the Network was open to such a request provided there was clarity on the aims of the community and their presentation.  
**ACTION:** Peter to follow up with the community seeking this clarification.
- 6.2 *Presentation by the Jewish Museum:* Peter has had contact with the Museum about a presentation. As it had turned out, October was not a suitable time for them.  
**ACTION:** Peter to approach the Jewish Museum offering a June 2012 date for a presentation.
- 7. NEXT MEETINGS**
- Monday, 28 November 2011 (Joint meeting with KMAC)
- Meeting closed at 9:15 pm.