



MINUTES – DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

MEETING OF KNOX INTER-FAITH NETWORK

Held Monday 6 February 2012 at Knox Civic Centre

PRESENT:

Representatives of Faith Communities present:

(Treasurer)	Temple Society Australia
(Secretary)	St Simons Catholic Church, Rowville
	Uniting Church, FTG
	Uniting Church, FTG
	Janssen Spirituality Centre, Boronia

APOLOGIES:

Amy Gough	Knox Council, Access and Inclusion Officer
	Egyptian Coptic Church
	Temple Society Australia
	Islamic Society of Melbourne, Eastern Region (ISOMER)
	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

GUESTS

Blood 4 Harmony Program (part of meeting)
 Modern Day Druid

WELCOME AND OPENING BLESSING:

Peter opened the meeting at 7:35pm. He re-read the UN resolution on World Interfaith Harmony Week, noting that we are meeting in the Week as it is the first week of February. (This is repeated below for the information of Network Members not present.)

On 20 October 2010 the United Nations General Assembly unanimously established the World Interfaith Harmony Week with the following resolution:

The General Assembly:

1. Reaffirms that mutual understanding and interreligious dialogue constitute important dimensions of a culture of peace;
2. Proclaims the first week of February of every year the World Interfaith Harmony Week between all religions, faiths and beliefs;
3. Encourages all States to support, on a voluntary basis, the spread of the message of interfaith harmony and goodwill in the world's Churches, Mosques, Synagogues, Temples and other places of Worship during that week based on Love of God and Love of the Neighbor, or based on Love of the Good and Love of the Neighbor, each according to their own religious traditions or convictions;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed of the implementation of the present resolution.

1. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 1.1 Only four voting members were present, which does not constitute a quorum under the Rules of Incorporation for a General Meeting (Clause 13), although it does constitute a quorum for a Committee Meeting. The members present agreed by concensus to continue with the planned business for the Annual General Meeting, with all decisions subject to review at the April 2012 meeting.
- 1.2 (The Chairperson noted these had already been reviewed and approved at the 4 April 2011 Committee Meeting.) To complete for formalities of the AGM, the minutes of the 2011 AGM were moved for acceptance: Mark; seconded: Gwenda. Approved unanimously.
- 1.3 Mark presented the Financial Statement for the 2011 year.
In summary: Opening Balance of \$XXX; income of \$XXX (including grant from OMAC) and expenditure of \$XXX, giving a closing balance of \$XXX (including the \$XXX grant from OMAC for the April 2012 event).
RESOLUTION: Mark moved the acceptance of the Financial Statement; seconded by Tina. Approved unanimously.
- 1.4 Peter confirmed he had run an internal audit on the income receipts, bank statement and cheque book and that the audit showed the Financial Statements were complete and accurate.
RESOLUTION: Peter moved that the financial statements be accepted as presented on the basis of an audit without reservation; seconded by Gwenda. Approved unanimously.
- 1.5 Mark raised the issue of whether the current membership fee of \$20 per annum was adequate given Network plans and the recommendation of the Network taking out public liability insurance.
ACTION: Mark to investigate options for public liability insurance.
DEFERRED DISCUSSION: Discuss the membership fees at the next available Committee Meeting with a quorum.
- 1.6 Election of 2011 Office-bearers
Nominations were received as follows:
- President: Pat
 - Vice President: None
 - Administrative Officer (Secretary): Peter
 - Treasurer: Mark
 - Publicity Officer: None

The three nominated people were elected unanimously and unopposed.

Regarding the other roles, discussion was carried over to the next meeting.

The Chairperson noted that Maher had confirmed by email his willingness to continue as the Network liaison to the Knox Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee. Network members supported this.

- 1.7 Other AGM business
Members discussed the need to broaden membership further to include other faith communities. Members should share contact details of relevant communities by email or contact them directly.

The goal of the proposed celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Network (photo exhibition), the subject of an application to OMAC for a grant, would include a campaign to recruit new members. Mark described this proposed project and noted that a decision was needed on whether to progress with this before the funding decision is made.

ACTION: Mark to contact Swinburne University to see if a student might be available to act as a project officer.

DEFERRED DISCUSSION: Discuss the 10th Anniversary event at the next available Committee Meeting with a quorum.

- 1.8 Gwenda thanked all members present for their efforts in the last year.
- 1.9 **ACTION:** Peter to prepare the report for Consumer Affairs as per requirement.

2. COMMITTEE MEETING: MINUTES/ACTIONS FROM LAST NETWORK MEETING

- 2.1 Minutes of meeting of 3 October 2011:
Minutes moved for acceptance: Mark; Seconded: Gwenda. Approved.
- 2.2 **RESOLUTION:** Peter moved adoption of the Proposed Expenditure Delegation Levels distributed with the meeting agenda; seconded by Mark. Approved unanimously.
- 2.3 Red Cross – Blood for Harmony Program: David spoke to the work he had done with the first date for 2012 being Wednesday 4 April with appointments from 6:50pm. Donations will be given at The Seventh Day Adventist Community Centre, 119 Mountain Hwy, Wantirna. Responses to David at Blood4Harmony@Live.com or 0403 047 859 by 9 March. David asked all members to promote this actively.
- 2.4 Treasurer's Report: Mark noted that annual fees are due for all Network Members; the amount will be decided at the next meeting. Peter noted that the web-site subscription for 2012 has been renewed for \$72, leading to a balance of \$XXX as of 31 January 2012 (including the \$XXX for the OMAC Grant).

3. EVENT REPORTS

- Gwenda attended the VINAC Annual Meeting on 27 November 2011 on behalf of the Network. It was well attended and Gwenda reported favourably on it.
- Pat attended the Dandenong Interfaith Network breakfast on 3 February 2012.

4. PLANNING FOR APRIL 2012 EVENT

- 4.1 The funding request to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship was declined.
- 4.2 Riad has email confirmation that Rabbi Dr John Levi can present on behalf of the Jewish faith.
- 4.3 Riad has a potential speaker for the Muslim faith – Mr Mehmet Ozalp.
- 4.4 **ACTION:** Gwenda to confirm Sr Mary Raeburn is still available for 22 April.
- 4.5 **ACTION:** Peter to prepare a draft brochure by 12 February for distribution to all Network members for review. Following revision and approval, Peter to distribute to other Inter-faith Networks and to media contacts provided by Amy.
- 4.6 The preferred venue is the Uniting Church of Australia, Ferntree Gully. The location will be advised to potential attendees upon registration.
- 4.7 Catering has been identified by Riad for \$15 per head. Gwenda recommended the use of paper plates. We need to check if this is for delivery or pick-up.
ACTION: Peter to send email to Network members.

- 4.8 Tina showed samples of the pens to be offered to the facilitator and speaker.
ACTION: Tina to source 10 of the red gum pens @ \$15 each.
- 4.9 Insurance is available at the Uniting Church for \$55.
ACTION: Mark to complete the insurance application form.
- 4.10 A security firm will need to be appointed. Two guards are recommended.
- 4.11 **ACTION:** Peter to investigate the online registration system. Information to be collected in addition to name and contact details is: A) Are you a member of a faith community? B) If so, please identify the community or faith. C) What is your interest in the event? D) How did you find out about the event? E) Do you want more information about the Knox Inter-faith Network?
- 4.12 A follow-up meeting is proposed specifically on the event at the Ferntree Gully Uniting Church at 7pm on 27 February.

5. KNOX FESTIVAL

This runs 3-4 March 2012; 10am-5pm. The location is Wally Tew Recreation Reserve at Brenock Park Drive, Ferntree Gully. There will be no Multicultural Stage Area this year, so KIN will need to consider how to present itself.

Mark reported that he has been able to negotiate the waiver of the insurance requirement. Members thanked him for this effort and outcome.

ACTIONS:

- Gwenda and Mark to attend the information session – Tuesday 7 February, 6-8pm at the Knox Council and report on the outcomes.
- Peter to bring colouring materials and origami material left over from 2011.
- Gwenda to bring a CD player.
- Members attending were asked to bring any remaining KIN booklets.

The roster is for Knox Inter-faith Network on Saturday (to represent the Network) and for individual faith communities to use the space (if desired) on the Sunday.

The roster so far is:

Saturday, 3 March: KIN

All day – Peter, Gwenda

9:00am-1:00pm – Riad (notified by email after the meeting)

1:00pm-5:00pm – Tina, Pat

Sunday, 4 March: Any communities to attend in their own right

ACTION: Any other Members to advise availability.

6. OTHER EVENTS

Pat noted the Ferntree Gully Uniting Church is having a celebration for Pancake Tuesday at 6:30pm on Tuesday 21 February.

7. NEXT MEETINGS

Monday, 2 April, 2012 – Final planning for April event; Gwenda

Monday, 4 June, 2012 – Elkie White to present on her faith

Monday, 16 July 2012 – Detailed planning for 10th Anniversary

Monday, 1 October 2012 – 10th Anniversary Meeting

Monday, 26 November 2012 (Joint meeting with KMAC – date to be confirmed)

Meeting closed at 9:45pm.