



MINUTES – DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

MEETING OF KNOX INTER-FAITH NETWORK

Held Monday 4 February 2013 at Knox Civic Centre

PRESENT:

Representatives of Faith Communities present:

(President)	Uniting Church, FTG
(Vice-president)	Janssen Spirituality Centre, Boronia
(Treasurer)	Temple Society Australia
(Secretary)	St Simons Catholic Church, Rowville
	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
	Uniting Church, FTG

APOLOGIES:

Jaya Manchikanti	Knox City Council, Community Development Officer - Diversity
	Egyptian Coptic Church
	Islamic Society of Melbourne, Eastern Region (ISOMER)
	Blood 4 Harmony Program
	Janssen Spirituality Centre, Boronia

GUESTS

Knox Presbyterian Church, Wantirna
 Hindu Foundation
 Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Bayswater
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WELCOME AND OPENING BLESSING:

Pat opened the meeting at 7:35pm with a prayer in the Hindu tradition.
 The draft agenda was confirmed.

1. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 1.1 Quorum was confirmed with five voting Members present – the first five on the attendance list above.
- 1.2 *Minutes of the 2012 AGM* (from 6 February 2012, as carried over to 2 April 2012 and 4 June 2012 for some items).
 The minutes of the 2012 AGM were moved for acceptance: Mark; seconded: Peter. Approved unanimously.
- 1.3 *Financial Statement*: Mark presented the Financial Statement for the 2012 calendar year. In summary:
 - Opening Balance of \$xxx
 - Income of \$xxx (including grants of \$xxx from OMAC and \$xxx from Knox Council)

- Expenditure of \$xxx (including \$xxx for parts 1 and 2 of the OMAC funded forum)
- Giving a closing balance of \$xxx (including the \$xxx grant from OMAC for the 2013 photographic event and the residue of \$xxx from the OMAC funding for the 2012 events)
- Effective closing balance excluding grants is \$xxx.
RESOLUTION: Mark moved the acceptance of the Financial Statement; seconded by Gwenda. Approved unanimously.

1.4 *Internal Audit Report:* 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 Lee. Approved unanimously.

1.5 *Election of 2013 Office-bearers*

Nominations were received as follows:

- President: Pat
- Vice President: Gwenda
- Secretary: Peter
- Treasurer: Mark
- Publicity Officer: Lee

All were declared elected unopposed.

1.6 *Other AGM business*

Pat noted that a major goal for 2013 was the recruitment of new members. She suggested that if new members joined and were willing to serve on the KIN Executive then this should be considered favourably. Members present agreed in principle to this.

1.7 **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 December 2012:*

Pat noted that the minutes should add to item 3.1 that photos had also been taken as of the date of the meeting at the Ferntree Gully Uniting Church.

Minutes moved for acceptance with this amendment: Mark; Seconded: Peter. Approved.

2.2 *Treasurer's Report:* Mark reported that the balance at the end of January was unchanged from that reported in the AGM for end December (per Item 1.3 above). Mark further noted that the \$50 annual fees are due for all Network Members.

Rowland commented that this amount could be considered a barrier for small communities or people wishing to join as individual members. Members present agreed that they would consider requests for a reduced amount on a case-by-case basis.

3. EVENT REPORTS

- Pat attended a breakfast of the City of Greater Dandenong Interfaith Network at Noble Park; a Buddhist speaker presented.
- Gwenda reported on a presentation by the Focolare Movement (<http://www.focolare.org/en/focolare-worldwide/oceania/australia/>); she noted they might provide a suitable speaker for a future KIN meeting.
- Mamta attended a meeting at the Dandenong Library where she was on a panel which answered questions about the Hindu faith that had been pre-submitted in a box in the library.

4. PLANNING FOR 2013 PHOTOGRAPHIC EVENT

4.1 Mark reported that he, Pat and Peter had met with Angie (Curator and Consultant for the event) immediately prior to the AGM. The event is developing well and activity will now ramp up considerably over the next few weeks.

4.2 Key items to note were:

- Angie has been engaged under a formal contract outlining the services expected and within the budget as adjusted by Mark and Peter per the action from the previous meeting.
- Ten discs of containing about 1000 photos taken by the Knox Photographic Society were provided to Angie to start selecting photos. These include a mix of Christian and non-Christian communities.
- Wording will be prepared for the posters to be displayed with the photos.
- Contact will be made with only a couple more communities for further photos.
- The pre-meeting discussed event planning, including location and materials.
- KIN is still hoping to launch the event at the Knox Festival on 2-3 March; Angie will contact the Eastern Region Library at Ferntree Gully (which is within the Festival precinct) to test this possibility.
- Mark will prepare a key contact list and distribute to Angie, Pat and Peter.
- Follow-up of communities contacted is a key part of the project – they will be invited to the next KIN meeting.

5. KNOX FESTIVAL

This runs 2-3 March 2013; 10am-5pm. The location is Wally Tew Recreation Reserve at Brenock Park Drive, Ferntree Gully. KIN will be hoping to be located with the photographic event launch in the Ferntree Gully Library.

There is a mandatory meeting for stallholders on Tuesday 19 February, 6-8pm at the Ferntree Gully Football club. Gwenda and Mamta will attend on behalf of KIN and will provide a briefing to KIN Members by email as it is before the next KIN meeting.

Decisions on how KIN will participate in the Festival will be made once we know whether we will be located in the Library. One idea is for communities to provide a range of recipes.

6. KNOX MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (KMAC)

Peter reported that Maher had confirmed KMAC / Knox Council have received the funding for this Harmony Day event - 20-21 April at the Hungarian Community Centre, 760 Boronia Rd, Wantirna.

7. OTHER EVENTS

- Sant Nirankari Mission – Community Kitchen Hall Launch; Saturday 23 February, 11am-1pm, 1377 Stud Rd, Rowville – Pat can attend and others are welcome
- Changes to the Incorporation Act workshop, Knox Council; Thursday 21 February, 7-9:30pm – Mark registered to attend
- JCMA Women’s Event is due to run 10-13 February

8. OTHER PLANS FOR 2013

- 8.1 *Third segment of event funded by OMAC (“Policing and sensitivity to faith in Knox”):* Pat reported on contact with Stephen Noy of Victoria Police who is positive about the event and participating. This could potentially run on 3 June to allow it to run within the 2012-2013 financial year.
- Rowland noted that there is information available on various web-sites about the break-down of languages spoken in various geographic and faith communities. (Refer www.sbs.com.au/census and the ABS data.)
- 8.2 The City of Greater Dandenong Interfaith Network has sought funding to extend its program of visiting places of worship. KIN will support this program should it be funded and help promote it to faith communities in Knox.
- 8.3 Pat and Gwenda suggested Mamta could present at a future meeting – Mamta agreed.
- 8.4 Other topics could be:
- What is Inter-faith Dialogue?
 - David Spitteler from the Asylum Seekers Centre.

9. OTHER MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST

Mark noted funding opportunities currently open:

- Unity through Partnership Program (for events) – due 5 April. Mark will circulate information on this.
- A DIMAC (Department of Immigration, Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship) program with applications due 1 March. Given other events on, KIN will not seek to respond to this.

10. NEXT MEETINGS

Monday, 18 March, 2013 –
Monday, 3 June, 2013 –
Other dates to be confirmed

Meeting closed at 9:00pm.