



MINUTES – DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

MEETING OF KNOX INTER-FAITH NETWORK

Held Monday 1 June 2015 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

APOLOGIES:

(Publicity Officer)	Uniting Church, FTG
	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
	Egyptian Coptic Church

GUESTS

Joan Pepi (part of meeting)	Multicultural Communities Officer, Knox Council (part of meeting)
Cr. Joe Cossari (part of meeting)	

WELCOME AND OPENING BLESSING:

Pat opened the meeting at 7:10pm and provided the prayer.

The draft agenda was reviewed and accepted.

1. ITEMS RAISED BY KNOX COUNCIL

1.1 *Tours of places of worship:*

Joan talked about the intent of the program. She noted she will be asking Maher to raise it at the next KMAC meeting as the KIN representative to KMAC. This will include a request to establish a working group to explore the possibility of running these tours and to pursue it if feasible. Members present supported the idea. Gwenda noted it may be of benefit to include visits to multicultural places, not just places of worship. This can be considered by the working group.

ACTION: Pat will brief Maher prior to the KMAC meeting, which is on 15 June 2015.

1.2 *Location for KIN meetings:*

Joan explained that KIN meetings have always been able to run at Council if there are other meetings scheduled to run, but not if it is the only meeting, due to staffing costs. Procedures have been established to address the possibility of late cancellations of all other meetings which would mean the KIN meeting would not be able to run at Council:

- Joan will check one week out from a KIN meeting whether other meetings will run and advise KIN if it cannot run at Knox Council.
- The alternate location is agreed as the Janssen Spirituality Centre.

1.3 *Connecting with the local Muslim community:*

Cr. Cossari provided details of a meeting he had with Shia Muslims in Nunawading. KIN members present are keen to meet with this group and Cr. Cossari will pass this interest to that group.

2. MINUTES/ACTIONS FROM LAST NETWORK MEETING

2.1 *Minutes of meeting of 13 April 2015:*

Minutes moved for acceptance: Mark; Seconded: Gwenda. Approved.

2.2 *Actions Arising:*

- Peter reported that the Consumer Affairs report has been submitted.
- Mark noted the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission submission is ready. **ACTION:** Peter to check this and submit before 30 June 2015.
- Gwenda contacted Abhay. The Hindu community was to have a meeting last week at which the possibility of working with KIN was to be raised; feedback is pending.
- Pat and Peter will try to meet someone at ISOMER at 10am, Thu 18 June.

3. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

1. The end May bank balance is \$XXX, all of which is Network assets.
2. \$YYY in annual fees was paid at the meeting.

4. EVENTS ATTENDED:

1. Multicultural Harmony Festival, 19 April
 Total numbers appeared to be down, possibly due to the weather. KIN made contact with several people at the event. No one showed interest in purchasing one of the KIN photographic books.
2. Pat attended a musical day at the Truth and Liberation Church.

5. EVENT PLANNING

5.1 Visit to the Islamic Museum

Members agreed that visitors would gather at 9am for a 915am departure from the Temple Society premises at 31-41 Elizabeth St, Bayswater. We would arrive about 10am, register and participate in the tour, then have lunch. The goal is to arrive back at the Temple Society about 2pm. **ACTION:** Peter to advertise the event in EventBrite for 22 participants with a cut-off 17 July so we can advise the Museum.

5.2 Visit to Southern Cemeteries

The normal tour length is 3.5-4.5 hours and is complimentary for interfaith groups with a complimentary lunch provided. We would need to make our own arrangements to get there. Members agreed this would be a good event to raise as a possible joint event with KMAC at the November meeting for a trip early next year.

5.3 Spirituality / Faith Festival

a) Contact other IF networks – Dr Philip Hughes/Nick (Maroondah – maroondahinterfaith@gmail.com); Harry (Monash)

b) **ACTION:** Pat to contact Sant Nirankari expressing interest, noting our intent to contact other networks and suggesting a different timing – a meeting of a few

5.4 Campfire Film

Peter reported on the response from Richard Leigh at Campfire to his enquiry.

ACTION: Peter to set a time and others to attend if they can.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

- Religious Education in state schools.
Pat raised the query from Geelong Interfaith Network about what action, if any, had been taken by other interfaith networks to respond to proposed changes.
 - **ACTION:** Pat will respond noting that while KIN is watching developments on this topic, it has not undertaken any activity on this at the moment.

7. MEETINGS FOR 2015

- 7.1 Dates for meetings:
- 3 August 2015 – suggest a meeting with Sant Nirankari – either at Knox or at their place
 - 5 October 2015
 - November – likely to be the annual joint meeting with KMAC on a date to be advised

8. NEXT MEETING

3 August 2015.

Meeting closed at 8:30pm.