



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL 17:15 MONDAY 2 September 2013

ATTENDEES:

Peter Farr (President), Sallie Davies (Vice President), Deb Beresford (Secretary), Eve Broadley (Treasurer), Irene Froyland, Ian Jarvis, Barrie Baker, Wendy Dekkers, Don Cook, Lois Joll (Principal).

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES

Annemie McAuliffe (Vice President)

ITEM 2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING: 5 August 2013

Minutes were accepted. (Baker/ Froyland)

Business Arising not covered elsewhere in the Agenda:

- **Outward Correspondence:** Letter to Department of Commerce re: Amendments to the Constitution. The President received a letter in response from the Department of Commerce reprimanding us for submitting the Amendments late and thus incurring a \$26 extra penalty. **N.B.** Changes must be submitted within a month.
- **FaHCSIA grant:** As we were unsuccessful it is suggested that we apply for other grants, as we still need more computers.

ITEM 3 CORRESPONDENCE:

Secretary.

Inward Correspondence: Nil

Outward Correspondence: Nil

Executive Officer: See Correspondence Report.

President:

Inward Correspondence:

Peter Farr received a reply from the Department of Commerce. See Business arising.

Peter Farr received a letter from Les Pyke.

ACTION: Barrie Baker will write a reply to Les Pyke.

Peter Farr received a letter from Shirley Randell (Izett) 1953-1957 who will be visiting Perth from Saturday 7 to Friday 13 September.

Standing Committee Specific: Nil

ITEM 4 STRATEGIC PLANNING

Report One; September 2013 sent out to Council members electronically.

Irene Froyland has suggested that we try again to find someone to facilitate the planning sessions, with the understanding that we write the report. Irene has agreed to do this if we can find a facilitator.

Alternatively we can undertake the process entirely in-house. Irene could help but would prefer to be able to participate.

ACTION. It was decided that members of the Council approach suitable people who may be prepared to act as a facilitator or run sessions pro bono. Report back to the sub committee in a fortnight.

ACTION Sallie Davies has agreed to speak to her daughter Megan who does this sort of work with a lot of volunteer groups. If Megan is prepared to help, Irene will contact her and they can plan the process.

The Annual General Meeting in 2014 is the anticipated deadline when, through proper process and resolution, the plan can be presented.

ITEM 5 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Report sent out to Council members electronically.

Membership.

Janet Holmes a'Court will visit Perth Modern School on Monday 16th September to give the Annual Oration to Year 10 and 11 students from 9.30a.m. -10.15 a.m. followed by morning tea with the Sphinx members from these year groups, and outside guests.

Magazine

Copy deadline: 25 May 2014

Circulation July 2014.

E-newsletter.

The enewsletter sent out to 1500 members for September, included a reminder about the Annual Reunion.

Copy deadline for next issue: 25 October 2013

Circulation: Early November

Annual Reunion Notices.

Don Cook reported that the West Australian Newspaper had not included our Annual reunion notice in the "Can you help" section. In future it may be best to use Community Newspapers as well.

Ian Jarvis reported that there are some 400 registered members flagged as past H & M members, and without email addresses, who did not receive notice of the reunion. Alan Porter raised this issue by email saying that many had not heard about the reunion.

ACTION. Deb Beresford to write to a letter to Alan Porter thanking him for alerting us to a problem of a core group being omitted unintentionally and thanking him for organizing some of them to attend the reunion.

Portal Revision:

Irene Froyland gave a progress report of the website review subcommittee.

The portal has undergone an initial review and is now reasonably current.

A review to make the portal more appealing to younger visitors is to be implemented as part of the Strategic Planning process.

There appears to be a problem with the School's website link to the Society's website. It does not work with all Search Engines and is updated by a myriad of people. Different people are responsible for certain sections of pages. It needs someone who has time and technical expertise to do it.

ACTION. In the interim, Irene Froyland is prepared to look at the website fortnightly. She will contact Ian and Don for assistance.

ACTION. Topic for Strategic Plan

Consolidated and Advancement Database. Ian Jarvis reported that suspected hacking is disrupting the remote access to the database. Turning the modem off for 48 hours has brought some success. Lakes Networking have suggested a permanent solution, which is too expensive.

ACTION: Ian will continue to monitor usage and follow Lakes Networking's recommendation of turning off the modem for 48 hours if necessary.

ITEM 6 FINANCE AND FUNDRAISING

Reports sent out to Council members electronically.

Perth Modernian Society-Operational Finance

Balance as at 2 September 2013

\$12101.03

Invoices for approval:

Don Cook to be recompensed for liquor license for Annual Reunion	\$50.00
Lakes Networking for software support	\$50.25
Lakes Networking “ “ “	\$287.38
Zenith Insurance for insurance	\$1481.00

Don Cook moved that the accounts be paid. Seconded Wendy Dekkers. Carried.

E-newsletter subscription account has been received and may need paying before next meeting.

ACTION: Ian Jarvis will investigate alternative providers.

Sallie Davies moved:

“That the amount of \$443 be set aside for payment of the account “

Irene Froyland seconded. Carried.

Sphinx Foundation

The Board of the Sphinx Foundation Inc. has not met since last meeting.

New member Petrice Judge has accepted her appointment to the Board endorsed by the Council on 5 August 2013, and will join them at the next meeting but one as she is currently away.

Now that the Sphinx Scholarship Fund totals \$530,000, there has been activity through emails among Board members relating to investment management.

Scholarship Fund

See above.

Peter Farr informed the meeting that eventually it was envisaged that a Sphinx Scholarship would be awarded to teaching staff for funding towards further study or for study trips.

Historical and Museum Committee – Operational Finance

No Report.

ITEM 7 HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE

Report sent out to Council members electronically.

Sallie Davies reported that a Grant Application has been submitted to the W.A. History Foundation Inc. with support letters from historians, Perth Modern School Principal, Lois Joll and Professor David Black. It seeks funding of \$10,000 for a pilot organizational support project for coordination of liaison with teaching staff.

The pilot organizational support project will enable us to research the benefits and the need for us to secure future funding for the coordination of a volunteer based project which has the strong and proven support of Perth Modern School.

ITEM 8 FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE Annual Reunion Sunday 8th September 2013

Bookings so far and implications for the Budget. Current attendance (2/9/13) is 83, but numbers may rise during the week.

Menu: Clive Palmer, Canteen manager will cater as per the menu

Supplies, Waiters. Ice, Etc:

Hire 84 wine glasses, 24 water glasses, 4 water carafes, 96 teacups and saucers from Hendies.

There are 10 trestle tables available in the lecture theatre and tables in the refectory area.

We will supply table napkins and sundry decorations.

Samantha Bushell and Christopher Steike will serve as bar staff. Eve Broadley will have oversight of the bar arrangements.

We have 2 dozen red wines, 1 dozen white wines and 6 bottles of mid beer. Eve will organize for more wine, soft drink and beer as well as ice.

Steve Julrilj, who is an Approved Manager for the licensing of the event, has agreed at short notice to act in that capacity.

2 pin up boards available for lists of attendees and deceased. Sallie Davies is producing a deceased members list.

Barrie Baker will oversee security.

Set up: Sat 7 Sept. Council Members are asked to be at School on Saturday afternoon at **2.00.p.m.**

Sunday. Everyone is asked to be in attendance from **9.30 a.m.**

Display of attendee's names; nametags. Ian Jarvis will prepare nametags, which will be organized alphabetically on a table at the entrance of the Parsons building on the morning of the event.

Vehicle control: Eve Broadley. With the small number of attendees, the Roberts Road car park will suffice.

Sale of History books and memorabilia: Barrie Baker. A table will be made available.

Donation to Music. Barrie Baker moved:

"That \$500 be presented to the Music Department for student performance at the reunion"

Seconded Deb Beresford. Carried.

ITEM 9. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT.

Don Cook presented his report

Details of arrangements for the annual reunion (see above) were discussed.

Decade reunions are being organized by ex students, for which school Don will conduct school tours.

ITEM 10 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The Principal, Lois Joll presented her written report.

It was with much sadness that the school recorded the death of Carine Murphy who had taught music at the school since 1999.

There have been significant cuts to the education budget.

Recent publication of the School having over **\$2** million available to buffer the budget shortfall is erroneous as all funds are committed.

The school's bands and orchestras performed outstandingly at the ABODA Festival.

A number of teams have performed well in the Western Australian Debating League competition.

The Athletics carnival has taken place, as have Student Council elections.

Some year 8 students have enjoyed success in the Childrens' Book Council 2013 Make Your Own Storybook Competition.

Many students are listed as achieving success in a variety of events.

Lois, as Principal, is a member of the City Beach residential College Board. 40 students from Perth Modern School board there.

Two staff members attended a conference for teachers of gifted students during the July break.

Two other teachers attended the 4th Cultures of Thinking Conference hosted by Bialik College in collaboration with the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Art teacher of eight years, Adrian Norton has won a substantive position as Head of Arts at Ellenbrook Secondary College.

The building tender for the Health and Fitness Centre will go out in the next few weeks.

Quotes have been called for the enhancement of the lawn area between Roberts Road and the Andrews building.

The tender for the new cricket nets facility has been finalized and awarded.

ITEM 11 REPORT FROM SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVE ON THE SCHOOL BOARD

Deb Beresford presented her report.

- The School Board at its August meeting received the results of the Community Surveys, which will be discussed at the next meeting.
- The content of the School website has been reviewed.
- The School intends to submit an application for School of the Year.
- The Board endorsed the Complaints Management Policy.
- Focus Area 5 Partnerships. An update on the status of partnerships in which the School is engaged.
- The Board was comfortable with the draft key guiding principles for the School's curriculum directions for 2015 and Year 7's.
- Membership of the Board will change, as 3 of the parent representatives' terms will end this year. Nominations will be called in Term 4.

ACTION: After discussion it was decided Deb Beresford inform the Board that it was the intention of the Perth Modernian Society to write a letter to the Premier and the Minister for Education expressing concern at education budget cuts.

ITEM 13 GENERAL BUSINESS

Budget Cuts to Education.

With the intended budget cuts to schools, it was resolved that our Society write a letter to the Premier and Minister of Education expressing our concern. We raise money for students and we see reductions in funding inevitably eroding good public education.

ACTION: Barrie Baker will draft a letter in consultation with Don Cook. A final copy will be sent to the School Board

Council Membership.

Ed Lazarus has written to the President of the Perth Modernian Society, Peter Farr, informing him of his intention to resign from the Perth Modernian Society Council effective from after the Annual Reunion on Sunday 7th September 2013.

Sallie Davies moved:

"That we accept the resignation of Ed Lazarus from the Perth Modernian Society Council as at 2nd September 2013 and for the Secretary to write a note informing him of this and thanking him for past services."

Seconded Barrie Baker. Carried.

The President of the Perth Modernian Society, Peter Farr, has tried several times to contact Arnold Wong over the last two months by telephone and email to suggest that given his unavailability to attend Council meetings, it is appropriate for him to resign so that a new person can be appointed who is willing and available to participate.

Sallie Davies moved:

"That Arnold Wong's term of office be terminated as at 2nd September 2013, and for the Secretary to write a note informing him of this and thanking him for his past services."

Seconded Barrie Baker. Carried.

ACTION: Deb Beresford is to write letters to Arnold Wong and Ed Lazarus thanking them for their contribution to our Society

Peter said that with the two resignations above and Alan Porter's decision not to renominate at the 2013 A.G.M., the Council at present numbers 10 persons.

The Constitution indicates 10 + 1 (Sphinx Foundation Inc.) + 1 for each Standing Committee, (Communications, Finance and Fundraising, Historical and Museum Committee, Functions Committee) = 15).

It could be argued that Finance and Fundraising does not warrant an extra person. Hence there are 4 vacancies at present.

ACTION: We need to canvas for new members of the Council. It is highly preferable that they be from 'younger members'

Peter will mention the vacancies in his speech at the Annual reunion.

It should be an item for the next newsletter and on the front page of the portal.

Council members could make a personal approach to prospective Councilors.

Topic for Strategic Plan.

ACTION: Barrie Baker will draft a letter to give to Elyse Bourgault (Sagar) and Geoff Bower who are attending the reunion.

Draft Progress Report of the Nominations Subcommittee

Irene Froyland as convener of the subcommittee that was formed to set guidelines; call for nominations etc. presented their report.

The Council agreed to the recommendations for Symbols of the award. The naming and level of award were discussed. The term "Sphinx Fellow" could perhaps include the word Modernian somewhere.

There should also be the freedom to award more than one per year.

ITEM 14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

Monday 28 October 2013

Remaining meeting dates for 2013: Monday 25 November 2013

All to commence at 17.15

MEETING CLOSURE: 19.35