

GLEN WAVERLEY UNITING CHURCH

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION HELD MONDAY 29th SEPTEMBER, 2008

The meeting was chaired by Graham Lockhart, Chairperson of the Congregation.

1. **WELCOME** The Chairperson welcomed 38 members to the meeting.
APOLOGIES were received from: Cliff Baker, Frances LaFontaine, John LaFontaine, Evelyn Ellemor, John Battisson, John Muir, Ann Elderink, Margaret Williams, Beverly McGlead, Jan Clear, Bruce Clear, Graeme Frecker, Margaret Frecker.
2. **DEVOTIONS** were given by Kaye Mackinnon, who reflected on the celebration of Lynette Dungan's ministry, the Isaiah Festival, and 'who we are, and why we have come here tonight'. We sang Hymn 220, 'This, this is the God we adore'. Kaye led us in prayer.
3. **QUORUM REQUIREMENTS** - The Chairperson noted that a quorum at GWUC would be 75 members. Since only 38 were in attendance, it was suggested that therefore other members have made the decision not to attend. It was put to the meeting 'that this is a legal meeting', and we should proceed with the meeting. By Consensus vote this was agreed to.

Consensus -
orange cards [warm to idea presented]
blue cards [cool to idea presented]
yellow [have questions]
4. **MINUTES** of the meetings of 26th May, 2008, and 22nd June, 2008 were accepted as a true record. Moved: Bronwyn Lowe, seconded Neil Graham.
5. **PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING - as per distributed Agenda - to primarily discuss the distribution of monies received from the Church Fete.**

Chairperson gave background to distribution of Fete proceeds.

Church Council 2008 will proceed as previously - all Fete money to be distributed to Outreach.

Meeting prepared to hear resolution that Fete money for 2009 might be distributed in a different manner.

The 2008 Fete Funds Distribution Committee had worked on the premise of the Fete raising \$20,000. Any surplus would be distributed on recommendation of the Committee to Church Council.

There were no questions.

As Chair of the Committee, Graham Lockhart vacated the Chair.

Murray Lowe, Past Chairperson, took the Chair.

Graham Lockhart presented the report of the Outreach Committee.

At the request of Church Council a committee was formed to look at distribution of Fete monies.

The Committee was Graham Lockhart - Convenor, Bronwyn Lowe, Kaye Mackinnon, Rev. Bill Morgan.

Guidelines were prepared and Submissions were called for. [Copy of Guidelines available for perusal].

Not one submission covered all guidelines. 11 Submissions were received. Graham gave details of all submissions.

After discussion, research, and prayerful thought, the following submissions were recommended.

1. **Christian Alternative Remand Accommodation** **\$2,500**
This is a halfway house for young girls/mothers teaching them specialized programmes for living. It is run by an interdenominational group.
2. **Mentoring for Vocation** **\$3,500**
A programme run on a voluntary basis within the Brentwood High School. It seeks to teach students a quality of everyday [not business] living before they leave college to enter into the community.
3. **Religious Education Teachers' Aids** **\$500**
To be used for the purchase of teaching aids, prepared by Assess Ministries. The teachers come from GWUC [7], and Wheelers Hill UC [1]. At present teachers purchase these aids from their own pocket.
4. **Outer Eastern Asylum Seekers Support Group** **\$5,500**
This grant would assist in providing housing and accommodation to "seeker" families who reside in three houses in the Ringwood area. The programme has the support of the Uniting Church.
5. **Kids Hope Australia** **\$1,000**
This project operates in the Highvale Primary School. It has the involvement of World Vision. Provides a partnership between schools, families and the Church, working on a one mentor per child/family basis. The grant would be used to provide affiliation fees and purchase resource material.
5. **Restoration Orphanage, Mombassa** **\$7,000**
This grant is two-fold. To assist in the building programme of the orphanage, secondly to provide travel assistance to a group of GWUC young people [3-6] who are planning to go the Orphanage in the later part of 2009. The work party is endorsed by for Youth and Young Adults of GWUC.

Graham Lockhart moved "that the above be the allocation of the proceeds of monies raised from the 2008 Fete. Seconded Kaye Mackinnon.

Questions were asked and answered.

- Is \$20,000 the current deficit in our funds?
- 2008 fete proceeds not to go to general funds - all to go to outreach.
- Advertised in community that fete proceeds all go to outreach projects.
- Uniting Church projects? [Where possible the committee wanted to involve people from our congregation].

It was noted that the UCAF here at GWUC has been supporting CARA for a number of years.

The recommendation was put to a vote. Unanimously supported.

Graham then put the following recommendation to the meeting "should there be more than the anticipated monies {20,000} raised the Committee shall meet and recommend to the Church Council to whom this should be allocated. The congregation grants to the Council authority to approve such a recommendation." Seconded Kaye Mackinnon

Questions asked and answered.

- what if less received?

The recommendation was amended to read "should there be more or less" .. Moved Bill Morgan, Seconded Marjorie Bedford.

Question:

- would extra money go to outreach?

Response: Committee would suggest that money go to one of the accepted funds.

The meeting voted by Consensus. 1 against. The vote was passed.

Murray Lowe vacated the Chair.

Graham Lockhart resumed the Chair.

6. PROGRESS REPORT - "ON THE WAY TOGETHER" PROCESS

Brian Clarkson gave a report on the visioning process. He reported that although much work has been done, no final report was ready. This was due to a number of reasons including the heavy workload of the Ministry Team, the departure of Rev. Lynette Dungan, and Rev. Ineke Gyles leave.

The aim is to have a full report mid to late November.

The meeting was asked to keep the visioning process in their prayers.

Questions were asked and answered.

- There was disappointment expressed at the delay.

The Chairperson, Graham Lockhart expressed thanks to Brian.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Rev. Brace Bateman - who is Supply Minister for 1 month spoke to the meeting. He is more than willing to do much visitation. The meeting responded with acclamation.

7.2 Malcolm Chamberlain queried where 2009 Fete money would be distributed. Was it going to Outreach? Any changes should be notified fully to the congregation.

7.3 Rev. Bill Morgan asked about the recent Pastoral letter from the Moderator. The letter referred to the recent advertising undertaken by Francis McNab.

Rev. Greg Fry responded to this question, and advised that the letter would be made available to those interested. It will be available on Sunday. It is also available on the Synod website. Greg read the letter to the meeting. Synod has made some response to the advertising program, and subsequent media reports.

He advised the meeting that Synod had contacted Francis McNab, and requested that the advertising campaign be stopped, and that an apology be issued to certain communities.

UCA continue to have conversations with Francis McNab.

8. There being no further business, the Meeting closed with the saying of The Grace together.