

Western Australian Adult Literacy Council Incorporated Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2013

Minutes

Thursday 18th July 4.30pm

Lecture Theatre, Leederville Campus, Central Institute of
Technology

Chair Susan Bates

Recorder Cheryl Wiltshire

1. Present

Theo Bekkers, Lesley Gilmour, Cheryl Wiltshire, Margaret McHugh, Susan Bates , Carmel Jennings, Diane Sansom, Veronica Ribbons, Audrey McAlindon, Tanya Turner, Ann Murphy, Janet McHardy, Natalie Goldman, Theo Bekkers, Miranda Rickards, Veronica Ribbons, Mo Maud

2. Apologies

Claire Anderson, Emilia Biemmi- Berteaux, Dr Anthea Taylor, Philippa Hannay

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Query as to whether previous year's reports should be attached as the minutes stated. The secretary replied that they were available on the WAALC website and were not usually presented to the following year's meeting (but were summarized in the minutes). Members did not request these be copied and presented to the meeting.

The minutes of the 2012 AGM were accepted as a true record of that meeting.

Moved: Carmel Jennings Seconded: Merinda Rickards

4. Chairperson's Report

Susan Bates spoke to her written report which she tabled at the meeting. She described some of the key work the committee undertook during the year including writing to DIISERTE re the scholarships for LLN practitioners and applying to Lotterywest for a \$19,200 grant to support not for profit and volunteers attending the conference. Ten complimentary places were also offered to Central Institute of technology in recognition of their support for the conference. Susan recognised all of the voluntary work that committee members provide and thanked Cheryl Wiltshire for taking on the role of conference convenor. Special thanks to retiring members: Carmel Jennings is not re-nominating for the committee and we have already recognised her work by making her a lifetime member of WAALC. We also lose Ron Mitchell's work as honorary financial officer as he and Stephanie are going caravanning. Susan encouraged us to be thinking through the year about Western Australian nominations for the Recognition of Excellence in LLN Practice as part of the Australian Training Awards (Margaret commented that Carmel Jennings had won a similar award several years ago.) Susan has decided not to re-nominate for the Chair's position for the next year.

5. ACAL Report

Western Australia was represented on the Australian Adult Literacy Council (ACAL) committee by Margaret McHugh and Audrey McAlindon. Margaret spoke to their report on the activities of ACAL this year. ACAL also lobbied re the scholarships. ACAL also sought practitioner research grants similar to those funded under the Adult Literacy and Numeracy Action Research Consortium (ALNARC). DIISRTE referred ACAL to the National Project that South Australia is coordinating under very tight guidelines and short timeframes. Australian Workplace and Productivity Agency (AWPA) have recommended funding the LLN practitioner scholarship beyond 2014 in the Future Focus 2013 National Workforce Development Strategy.

The ACAL conference will be in New South Wales for 2013, In Queensland for 2014 and in South Australia for 2015. Audrey is on the program committee for the ACAL conference.

ACAL continues to contribute to the reference group of the Reading Writing Hotline.

6. Financial report

The Treasurer, Carmel Jennings, tabled the financial report which shows our expenditure exceeding income for the year by approximately \$2000, leaving a balance of \$25,299.55.

A separate conference report was tabled, showing a surplus of \$1306.07 for the 2012 conference. WAALC's financial position is sound.

Carmel thanked Cheryl for her work in writing the Lotterywest grant application.

The meeting accepted the annual reports.

Moved: Carmel Jennings Seconded: Margaret McHugh

7. Next WAALC Conference

Cheryl Wiltshire, updated the meeting on future conference plan. The committee has decided to trial a move of timing to April due to feedback that this would better suit practitioners who are find the July holidays the only time they can holiday with the families during the year. As the confluence of school holidays and public holidays in April make it difficult to hold a conference, the decision was taken to delay until 2015. No conference will be held in 2014 allowing more time for other projects. We propose to seek Lotterywest funds for this purpose.

8. 2013 Conference in Sydney

WAALC is offering up \$4000 to support individual members who wish to attend the 2013 ACAL conference in Sydney in early October. ACAL has offered early bird rate to any that we support if they pay their registration in advance of the conference. Scholarship applications are restricted to financial members and must reach WAALC by Thursday 8th August 2013.

Visit the WAALC website for more details.

9. Election of Executive Committee

The following nominations were received by beginning of the meeting

1. Theo Bekkers Chairperson
2. Ann Murphy Vice Chairperson
3. Cheryl Wiltshire Treasurer
4. No nomination for secretary
5. Margaret McHugh joint ACAL rep
6. Audrey McAlindon joint ACAL rep
7. Susan Bates
8. Veronica Ribbons
9. Natalie Goldman
10. Claire Anderson
11. Merinda Rickards
12. Di Sansom
13. Lesley Gilmour
14. Jodie Kraulis

All positions were declared vacant. Janet McHardy assumed the chair to announce the nominations and manage the process to decide who will make up the new executive committee. Jodie Kraulis' nomination was not deemed compliant, as Jodie did not sign to accept the nomination and is not a current member. As Jodie was not able to attend the meeting, these issues were not resolved prior to the committee being announced. The membership agreed that Jodie could join the committee as an associate member (not voting or counted towards a quorum) once she becomes a financial member. She is then eligible to be considered for a position when one becomes vacant during the year.

Janet requested one of the members to accept the role of secretary to avoid the need for a vote as we had eight compliant nominations for seven general committee positions. Veronica Ribbons agreed to undertake the role until she goes on leave later in the year. This allowed all positions to be filled without need for a ballot. Thus the committee for 2013/2014 is:

1. Theo Bekkers Chairperson
2. Ann Murphy Vice Chairperson
3. Cheryl Wiltshire Treasurer
4. Veronica Ribbons Secretary
5. Margaret McHugh Joint ACAL rep
6. Audrey McAlindon Joint ACAL rep
7. Susan Bates
8. Natalie Goldman
9. Claire Anderson
10. Merinda Rickards
11. Di Sansom
12. Lesley Gilmour
13. Jodie Kraulis (associate member once membership is paid)

10. Next Meeting

The next executive meeting is on:

Tuesday 13th August at 5.00pm until 6.30pm, Meeting Room 3, Library, Central Institute of Technology Aberdeen Street Northbridge or via Blackboard Collaborate (webinar)

Meeting closed at 5:40pm.