

# Minutes of Pilgrim Presbytery of Northern Australia (PPNA) Presbytery Meeting 25.3.2017 at Casuarina UCA

Present: Louise Macdonald, Lindsay Parkhill, Steve Orme, Yane Damanik, Emily Hayes, Sarah Pollitt, Basil Schild, Salomo Bangun, Bette Lake, Mary Nankivell, Tevita Nasba, Daphne Read, John Buchanan, Tony Goodluck, Peter Jones, Chris Paine, Helen Paine, Andrea Bolten, Joy Linton, John Flaherty, Elizabeth Warschauer, Felicity Amery, Jo Mar, Thresi Mauboy, Frits Momuat, Nuri Ratnawati, Reva Hatigor, Helen Richmond, Jemma Whittaker, Richard Telfer, Benjamin Quilliam, Matthew Stuart, Lee Levett-Olson, Steve Bevis, Olive Frakking, Wayne Munster, David Crawford, Wendy Beresford Maning.

Apologies: Peter Wait, Sailosi Sekitoga, Lauren Merritt.

Devotions led by Lee Levett-Olson "Crocodile Epiphany" – The wildness of God

Minutes taken by Louise Macdonald

Welcome to new members:

Benjamin Quilliam	new Centralian Patrol Minister
Reva Natigor	new Pastor Indonesian Congregations
Tony Goodluck	Nungalinya UCA Dean, inaugural member of the falling down club
Joy Linton	Nhulunbuy lay rep
Tevita Naroba	Tennant Creek lay rep
Stephanie Gesling	Broome Supply Ministry
Richard Telfer	Palmerston Supply Ministry and Timinmin School Chaplaincy
Matthew Stewart	Army Chaplain
Yane Damanik	Living Waters Humpty Doo Pastor

In response to this lengthy list of welcomes PR&PC stated that these are answers to fervent prayer and that it is well that you all come to be with us.

Minutes of previous meeting: Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted by consensus.

Note: to clear up confusion it was decided to re name all the proposals in alphabetical order as listed in the current agenda

**Proposal A** *PPNA Chairperson written report received and accepted by consensus.*

**Proposal B** *Continue to process to review the PPNA vision and goals*

This Proposal has been effectively replaced by proposal H

**Proposal C** *Commence an internal resourcing review in the light of the new goals and strategic direction of PPNA*

This Proposal was not formally attended to possibly due to the original confusion around proposal numbering, the general feeling of the meeting was that this was a good idea.

Activity: Looking at PPNA role in congregational life.

## Social Responsibility and Justice Report – Basil Schild

Highlighting local and wider issues and the need to keep abreast of both sides of each issue.

A particular focus on indigenous and refugee issues

An ongoing need to grow our relationships with NRCC and strengthen our capacity to achieve this.

How can each congregation in Darwin support the work of the NRCC Darwin Ministry worker, for example Nightcliff UCA is inviting him to talk to our Council – can our congregation help him in the work of visiting Aboriginal Hostels and Dialysis units.

Currently Basil is employed one day per week in the role, he has ensured that each congregation receives copies of the Vic/Tas Newsletter *JustAct* and the Northern Synod document on ethical investment and purchasing.

**Proposal D:** *Social responsibility and Justice report received and accepted by consensus*

## Youth Workers's Report – Jemma Whittacker

This is a part time role working on an issue that is significant for the church. Jemma is feeling the need to have a group that can explore issues with her and support this role. It could be possible for such a group to meet online using Zoom (an alternative to skype) and perhaps have monthly meeting.

Yurora (NCYC) was an exciting time especially as we had young people attending from many congregations.

Table group time to explore positive and challenging things happening in our congregations

About Face: even though we have many opportunities to meet with indigenous people, About Face still provides an important opportunity for the Northern Synod young people. It is important to encourage young people to attend as part of our covenanting relationship with UAICC. It could also be valuable for northern young people to experience southern aboriginal contexts.

Comment from Lee Levett-Olson: It is a challenge to consider our response to young people in detention in our regions.

**Proposal E:** *Youth worker report received and accepted by consensus*

## Activity: Strategic Planning and Goal Setting

Where should the emphasis of PPNA be?

What do we need PPNA to be doing?

What does PPNA need to be doing in the wider context?

After table group discussion and documentation members were invited to prioritise issues raised at each table.

## Budget Progress Report:

**Proposal F:** *To receive the Budget progress report*

This report was not accepted because no financial reports were available to the meeting and the treasurer was not available due to illness.

**Proposal G:** Originally was “approve the draft budget for 2018”  
This was changed to:  
*PPNA will present their 2017 budget plus 3% with an annotation on the bottom saying: PPNA is in the process of conducting a review of its resources and may need to adjust their 2017 budget at its June meeting.*

Proposed by Felicity Amery      Seconded by Steve Bevis  
Proposal accepted by agreement

**Proposal H:** *Request the PPNA Executive format and finalise PPNA goals for approval in June.*  
Accepted by agreement

#### Review of current resourcing for PPNA

Table group discussion: Looking at staffing issues – What questions could be raised in a review process.

#### Other Business:

**Proposal I:** *to consider financially supporting the request from Roslyn McMillan (Coordinator of school chaplaincy in the Darwin rural area) for funding to support Darwin rural area and Wulagi school chaplaincy.*

Discussion was held around this issue but no resolution was achieved. There was an endorsement to continue this conversation and act at a future date on this.

**Proposal Ia:** *To dedicate a Sunday for congregations to have a School Chaplaincy retiring offering.*  
This was proposed but not acted upon

**Proposal J:** *To consider the request from the President to provide \$1500 for a tourist bus for the National Ministers Conference.*  
This proposal was changed to:  
*To refer the request to PPNA To consider the request from the President to provide \$1500 for a tourist bus for the National Ministers Conference to the FAPS committee.*  
This proposal was accepted by consensus.

**Proposal K:** *To consider providing support for the Marpoon Church property development*  
This proposal was referred to PPNA Executive with an addit to consider Mowanjum in the same light.

**Proposal L:** *Should PPNA review its membership balance now that there are a large number of Pastors in the Presbytery and balance between ordained and lay members has been disrupted.*  
This proposal was referred to PPNA Executive by consensus.

#### Pastoral prayers for PPNA were offered

4pm Meeting end: God, there is no place where we gather or scatter to that you are not there.