

MINUTES

MEETING OF KNOX INTER-FAITH NETWORK

Held Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2004 at Knox Civic Centre**1. PRESENT**

Representatives of Faith Communities Present:

Mayor, Knox Council  
 Ferntree Gully Catholic Church  
 St. Vincent de Paul/Ferntree Gully Catholic Church  
 ISOMER – Islamic Society of Melbourne, Eastern Region  
 Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints  
 Melbourne Immigration Centre, Eastern Region  
 Boronia Catholic Church  
 St. Simons Church Rowville  
 Ferntree Gully Uniting  
 Knox Reconciliation Group

**2. APOLOGIES**

Knox Presbyterian Church, Wantirna  
 Boronia Catholic Church  
 Temple Society  
 Ferntree Gully Uniting  
 Boronia Uniting Church  
 Sikh Faith  
 Ecumenical & Interfaith Commission, Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Opening by Phil - reading on Aboriginal Spirituality and reconciliation of this land,  
 From the book entitled "Re-Enchantment" by David Tracey

Peter - welcomed the Mayor of Knox, Emanuele Cicchiello.  
 Mayor - gave a short overview on his background.

Due to the Mayor needing to leave the meeting early - topics of discussion was done out of sequence.

**4. Minutes from Last Meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> February 2004) Read and accepted.**

- 6.1 Migrant Information Centre activities in Knox Council Area:  
 Migrant centre did some research on the Muslim Community, these findings are being actioned on now. Launch started last week with the Muslim women fashion parade.
- A steering group has been established to meet the needs:
- health
  - recreational type activities like private swimming for women
  - halal food in schools/pre schools
  - halal food for meals on wheels

There are a few functions coming up, see flyer, in Mulgrave and Rowville areas

Beverly informed all that the invite for Harmony Day to Father Des from St. John the Baptist Church, FTG, was too short notice. A request to please try to give some extra time for any future events.

Peter asked, "should we get the younger groups to come and present to us."

- 4.1 Peter passed around the draft Logo, there was general acceptance by most, some comments on the hands being both male hands. Suggestions also that maybe "Knox Interfaith" be added, and or the Knox Council Logo. Peter/someone to write to Council, attention Chief Executive Officer, Graeme Emonson, and request approval to use the Knox Council logo.

General feeling on the matter was that leave further discussion on the Logo until everyone has had some time to think about it.

Re Website: Peter advised he did not contact Susanne as she was leaving the Knox area. Rowland's daughter is not able to do the website.

- 4.2 No Treasurer's report.
5. Presentation on Yoga, Spirituality and Reconciliation

Phil's presentation covered the Aboriginal understanding of God as being "Absolute".

The Western view of Aboriginal Spirituality is different to that of the Aboriginal view.

We need to understand and expand our religious spirituality beyond the bounds of our boundaries.

Phil also covered areas of understanding Yoga, medication and achieving one's equilibrium through meditation and moving energy through correct breathing and focusing on the energy points in one's body.

6 **Other items of interest from members of Network**

- 6.2 Islam, Sufism and Inner Peace - event at the Melbourne Town Hall  
20<sup>th</sup> June 6-9pm, all welcomed. Entry fee \$20 Adults, \$15 concession, \$10 children over 10.
- 6.3 Residential Conference of Jews, Christians and Muslims in Australia  
*My Faith in Australia: What we give, what we get, what we need*  
Event on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August  
The Edmund Rice Conference Centre, 7 Amberley Way, Lower Plenty  
Contact: Australian Intercultural Society – 9329 2177

Draft for discussion

6. Confirm next visits and meetings

7.1 **6<sup>th</sup> July**, Tuesday presentation confirmation at St. John The Baptist Catholic Church, Ferntree Gully, 19, Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 7:30pm, all welcomed.

**16<sup>th</sup> July** – Graeme from the Church of Latter Day Saints invites everyone and their communities to do the centre at: 55 White Horse Road, Blackburn between 3 – 5 pm for a tour and explanation of various programs they host.

RSVP: Gwen Beaton Tel: 9898- 8687

There will be a “Family History Day” - **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August** from 10 am - 5 pm at the Church of Latter Day Saints, 76 Cathies Lane, Wantirna. Entry = No Charge.

September visit - open for now.

7.2 Confirm presentations or discussions for:

**2 August** – Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints - Confirmed YES

**4 October** – Jewish and Muslim Communities? -

**Action item:** for 4<sup>th</sup> October, Sally and Riad to work together on this. Need to check with Sally to see if she has some contacts with the Jewish Community. Maybe check with Mount Scopes – Burwood?

6 December – Buddhist Community? => Phil to update on this event.

7.3 Other Plans for 2004 /2005?

= request for funding from Council

= Ali suggested we request funding to cover cost for starting up the website and logistics.

= Ali's requested was moved and supported Pat and Riad.

**Action Item:** Peter, Rowland and Riad to meet and discuss, then put application forward to Council.

Next Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2004 , and the following one is 4<sup>th</sup> October.

Bro. Morris is an apology for 6<sup>th</sup> July.

Meeting end at 9:35pm.

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Draft for discussion