



MINUTES

MEETING OF KNOX INTER-FAITH NETWORK

Held Monday 12 April 2010 at Knox Civic Centre

PRESENT:

Representatives of Faith Communities present:

(Chairperson)	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
(Vice-Chairperson)	Boronia Church of Christ
(Secretary)	St Simons Catholic Church, Rowville
(Publicity Officer)	Janssen Spirituality Centre, Boronia
	Temple Society Australia
	St Thomas More's Catholic Church, Belgrave
	St Thomas More's Catholic Church, Belgrave
	Uniting Church, FTG
	Uniting Church, FTG
	Egyptian Coptic Church
	Islamic Society of Melbourne, Eastern Region
	(ISOMER)
Belinda Jordan	Knox Council

APOLOGIES:

Cr Joe Cossari	Knox City Council, Collier Ward
Cr John Mortimore	Knox City Council, Chandler Ward
(Treasurer)	Temple Society Australia
	Knox Presbyterian Church, Wantirna
	ISOMER
	ISOMER
	ISOMER

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER:

John opened the meeting at 7:40pm. Tina provided the opening prayer.

1. MINUTES/ACTIONS FROM LAST NETWORK MEETING

- 1.1 Minutes of meeting of 1 February 2010:
Gwenda noted that the correct address for the Janssen Spirituality Centre Open Day, 1-5pm on Sunday 18 April, is 22 Woodvale Rd. Parking is at St Joseph's Catholic Church.
Minutes moved for acceptance with this as a modification: Gwenda; Seconded: Tina.
- 1.2 Follow-up re Incorporation
Peter showed the Certificate of Incorporation – Number A0053991N, dated 11 January 2010. The application to the ATO for ABN registration has been completed and submitted by Mark.
- 1.3 Treasurer's Report: Rolf reported on behalf of Mark the current balance is \$XXX.
Members with outstanding membership fees should make prompt payment.

- 1.4 Funding for the VMC application. Peter reported there had been no response from VMC on the proposal for the schools program.
ACTION: Gwenda to contact VMC to check on progress.

2. EVENT REPORTS

- The Knox Multicultural Festival was considered a success. The Network congratulated Council on the event and its organisation.
- Belinda reported on a meeting of Eastern Region Councils running inter-faith networks. The networks each have different structures, different focuses and different challenges. Belinda recommended that the Monash network might be worth contacting and will provide contact details.

3. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

John spoke about the need to increase membership. John set a goal of attracting five new people to the next meeting. Members did note that representation had been a broader cross-section of faiths in past years.

The current list of religious communities in the Knox Council area is available on the Knox City Council website – at:
<http://www.datascape.com.au/infocomse/knoxcc/search.cfm> then follow the link to the *Religious Groups* section, on the lower left corner of the page.

(Note after the meeting – there are only three “non-Christian” religious groups listed: the Baha’i Community of Knox – postal address only, ISOMER – an active member already, and the Melbourne Vinayagar Hindu Sangam in The Basin.)

Belinda emphasised the importance of marketing the group and what it does before making contact with people.

ACTIONS:

John will approach priests and ministers in his area.
 All others encouraged to make contact with faith communities in their area.

4. FUTURE ITEMS OF INTEREST

- 2010 Events – Whitehorse Interfaith Network (WIN).
 - Multifaith perspectives on sustainability (July)
 - Women’s Circle of Peace (September)
 - Tour of Places of Worship (November)
- A group of Melbourne Interfaith Networks will be running a service in memorial of The Holocaust. Details: Thursday 15 April at 7:30pm, St Michael’s Uniting Church, 120 Collins Street, Melbourne.
- National Sorry Day, Wednesday, 26 May, 2010, 10:30am.

5. PLANS FOR 2010

Ideas for presentations:

- On rituals re death and dying.

Ideas for visitations:

➤ **ACTIONS:**

- Maher to try to arrange a visit to the Coptic place of worship in Donvale on a future Saturday, preferably during May.
- Riad to try to arrange a visit to the ISOMER mosque in Lysterfield in July.
- John to try to arrange a visit to the place of worship for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in September.

Members are encouraged to bring along a few other members of their own faith community.

6. MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST

Maher reiterated current challenges for the Coptic Church in his country of birth – Egypt. He read a response from the Australian government to a letter sent on the matter.

7. NEXT MEETING

Monday, 7 June 2010.

Meeting closed at 9:30pm after a closing prayer by John.