



MINUTES – DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

MEETING OF KNOX INTER-FAITH NETWORK

Held Monday 6 December 2010 at Knox Civic Centre

PRESENT:

Representatives of Faith Communities present:

(Chairperson)	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
(Treasurer)	Temple Society Australia
(Secretary)	St Simons Catholic Church, Rowville
(Publicity Officer)	Janssen Spirituality Centre, Boronia
	Temple Society Australia
	Uniting Church, FTG
	Uniting Church, FTG
	Knox Council, Access and Inclusion Officer

APOLOGIES:

Knox Presbyterian Church, Wantirna
 Egyptian Coptic Church
 Islamic Society of Melbourne, Eastern Region
 (ISOMER)
 ISOMER
 ISOMER
 ISOMER

Cr Joe Cossari
 Cr John Mortimore

Knox City Council, Collier Ward
 Knox City Council, Chandler Ward

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER:

Peter opened the meeting at 7:40pm. Tina offered an opening prayer.

1. MINUTES/ACTIONS FROM LAST NETWORK MEETING

- 1.1 Minutes of meeting of 4 October 2010:
 No change. Minutes moved for acceptance: Mark; Seconded: Gwenda. Approved.
- 1.2 VMC Grant Application (Forum on Middle East)
 This application would be due on 17 December for events to run after 1 July 2011. The maximum funding available would be \$10,000. Several people attended the meeting with Professor Camilleri. Mark talked to his email summary of this meeting, distributed previously to Network Members. Professor Camilleri had suggested at this meeting the need to define a clear aim and to narrow the topic to the role of religion in the Middle East, with a focus on dialogue rather than debate. A further suggestion was to involve the Eastern Metropolitan Region (EMR) Interfaith Network to gain access to greater resources. Related to this was the suggestion that attendance might be limited to members of EMR. Other suggestions included requesting funding for a full-time Project Officer. Some members raised concerns about the risk of running the event.

DECISION 1:*Draft Aims:*

- 1) Inform attendees about the historical basis for the Palestinian/Israeli situation through presentations from one representative of each of the three major religions present there.
- 2) Provide a safe forum for dialogue about how faith might lead towards a solution in Palestine/Israel.
- 3) Run an event involving several Networks in the Eastern Metropolitan Region.

Draft Format:

- 1) 20 minute presentations from each of the three major religions – speakers to be identified.
- 2) 15 minute break.
- 3) Facilitated discussion for 45 minutes, focusing on positive ideas about a potentially peaceful future.

Participation/Partners:

Limited to pre-registered attendees from Inter-faith Networks in the EMR. Target of 50 attendees.

Benefits:

- 1) Direct benefits to attendees and their communities in terms of increased understanding.
- 2) Increased interaction between the Inter-faith Networks in the EMR.

Date:

Proposed for end April 2012.

Draft Budget:

Speaker costs: Maximum of \$500 each for 3 speakers = \$1,500.

Facilitator: \$1,000.

10 days @ \$500 per day for a Project Officer = \$5,000.

Venue – use facilities of one of the Council Networks.

Catering - \$20 per attendee * 50 attendees = \$1,000.

Public Liability Insurance – \$500.

Security Guard - \$500.

Printing and distribution of brochures - \$500.

DECISION 2: Based on the information above, Members agreed to prepare an application for the VMC Funding.

ACTION: Mark to prepare in consultation with Executive. Belinda to take advice from Council staff.

1.3 Knox Festival

This runs 5-6 March 2011.

Mark reported that Malcolm Russell (Event Organiser) is seeking more than just marquee/table/information. He is also expecting groups to use the area on both days. Mark noted that the Temple Society would be willing to use the area for some of the Sunday. He also spoke about the value of running some activity to attract children, which normally attracts families and parents. One example would be to have children decorate a calendar of religious festivals.

ACTIONS:

- 1) All Network Members to check whether their respective community is interested in participating.
- 2) Network Members can also seek to approach other members.
- 3) Network Members to think about a suitable child-friendly activity for the Network day (Saturday, 5 March).
- 4) Network Members to decide whether they want to use the space for some of Sunday and advise by email to secretary.kin@knoxinterfaith.org.au

- 1.4 JCMA Schools Program
Gwenda reported that her contact has suggested that KIN apply in the next round.
- 1.5 AGM – February 2011
ACTIONS:
- 1) Peter to send out notice of meeting by the due date (21 days in advance).
 - 2) Mark to prepare financial statements.
 - 3) All Network Members to consider who they wish to nominate as Office-Bearers.
- 1.6 Treasurer's Report: Mark reported the current balance is \$XXX. Mark confirmed that reconciliation of the Community Development Funds has been resolved.

2. EVENT REPORT

- Mark brought forward the item raised at the joint KMAC/KIN meeting in November related to possible multi-faith involvement at the Christmas Carols in 2011. This topic will be discussed further at the February 2011 meeting.
- Gwenda reported favourably on her attendance at the Buddhist Winter Solstice Festival. Gwenda suggested asking a representative of the Bayswater Hindu Community could present on their activities next year.

3. FUTURE ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Eastern Metropolitan Region Interfaith Networks Inaugural Forum, Tuesday 15 March 2011, 6-9pm at Manningham Function Centre, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster. Attendance is limited to 8 members per network. KIN will discuss who will attend and what we want to present at the February 2011 meeting.
- Mark reported on the flyer 'Blood for Harmony', a program for organised giving of blood. This has been suggested as a way of having representatives of various Inter-faith Networks attend as a group to give blood. This topic will be discussed further at the February 2011 meeting.

4. NEXT MEETING

Monday, 7 February, 2011 – This will be the AGM.
We will also lay out plans for the year.

Meeting closed at 9:10pm.