

**MINUTES OF WAALC AGM 2009**  
**THURSDAY, 9 JULY 2009 – 4.30 PM**  
**ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN HALL**  
**ABERDEEN STREET, PERTH**

**1. PRESENT:**

Faith Burns, Helen Errington, Lesley Gilmour, Helen Grimston, Carmel Jennings, Sue McKay, Stephanie Mitchell, Robyn Rennie, Sheila Rod (recorder), Anne Willox, Cheryl Wiltshire

**2. APOLOGIES:**

Claire Anderson, Melissa Jones, Margaret McHugh, Liz Scott

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Accepted as a true record with the correction of "Beeton" to "Beetson".

*Moved: Carmel Jennings    Seconded: Lesley Gilmour*

**4. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:**

The Chairperson, Sue McKay, tabled the chairperson's report. She noted there are several vacant positions on the Executive this year as many members are stepping down as office bearers. The Chairperson asked that if the positions were not filled at the AGM, members should encourage anyone who is interested to attend meetings as "new blood" is needed on the Committee.

A Lotterywest grant for funding had been successful, after much hard work carried out by Cheryl Wiltshire, the Chairperson and other members of the Committee. The Chairperson believed that there is no reason why WAALC could not apply for ongoing funding from Lotterywest.

The updated WAALC website has given a professional look to the organization. Thanks to Don MacDowall for his work on this.

The Committee has been involved in lobbying and representing the membership, although much of its time has been taken with organizing

the Conference. The Chairperson remarked on the imminent closure of the Reading Writing Hotline, which is a devastating outcome for literacy. The Committee has written to Julia Gillard proposing that there be continuing support of this important way of students receiving important advice and help.

Another area where the Committee has had input was on the ACE Strategy.

The Chairperson thanked the Committee for all their hard work. Helen Grimston, as Treasurer, had offered many years of service in this important role and is now retiring from the role. Sheila Rod is also retiring as secretary and though serving for a shorter time provided valuable service. Sue gave special thanks to everyone for the work completed and work still to be carried out on the ACAL Conference. Cheryl Wiltshire is Convenor of the ACAL Conference and is doing a splendid job.

The Chairperson reported that she would not be nominating for the position of Chairperson.

**5. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The Treasurer, Helen Grimston, tabled the financial report. A large proportion of money had been committed to the ACAL Conference. There was a profit of \$5,500 from last year's WAALC Conference, which was important in contributing to the seed funding for the conference. Membership fees are not sufficient for the organization to survive and sponsorship and attendance at conferences is an important part of the budget.

*Moved: Cheryl Wiltshire Seconded: Lesley Gilmour*

**6. ACAL REPORT:**

WAALC's representative on the Australian Council for Adult Literacy (ACAL) is Cheryl Wiltshire. ACAL is the peak organization for adult literacy and numeracy in Australia. Cheryl tabled a report detailing ACAL's activities this year.

ACAL President, Margaret McHugh, (also a member of the WAALC executive) is currently in the UK attending the Research and Practice of Adult Literacy (RAPAL) Conference as a keynote speaker.

WAALC had offered to hold the ACAL Conference in WA in 2009. A status report for the ACAL Conference was circulated to the meeting. Members of the Committee had been receiving these updates on a regular basis. On line registration for the conference would be available the following day.

As a result of changes to Commonwealth funding for adult literacy, ACAL is no longer able to publish the free journal Literacy Link. ACAL has also been working to secure continued funding of the Reading Writing Hotline which is also threatened by the move of these funds to States.

There was also concern that DEEWR would make it mandatory to have a Vocational Graduate Certificate and/or Vocational Graduate Diploma in their contracts. Cheryl advised members to go the IBSA website and read the paper about these new qualifications.

**7. CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP FEES:**

WAALC has become GST registered to allow us to apply for Lotterywest grants of greater than \$15000 in one year.

A proposal was put the meeting that membership fees be updated to include GST.

*Moved: Stephanie Mitchell Seconded: Sue McKay*

Accepted unanimously by members.

Membership fees are now:

\$44 wage earners

\$22 unwaged

\$88 organisations

**8. LOTTERYWEST SCHOLARSHIP:**

WAALC was successful in a submission for a grant of \$37,400 to support attendance at the ACAL conference of people from non profit organisations. An application form was tabled. First round applications

close by 24 July. WAALC members were encouraged to distribute the forms.

**9. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

All positions were declared vacant:

Chair: VACANT

Vice-Chair: Anne Willox

ACAL Rep: Cheryl Wiltshire

Treasurer: Stephanie Mitchell

Secretary: VACANT

Other committee members:

Sue McKay

Helen Errington

Carmel Jennings

Lesley Gilmour

Margaret McHugh

Claire Anderson