

ADRA Board Minutes 25 March 2008

Minutes of the ADRA Board meeting held on 25/3/08 at Celestial Restaurant, Bligh Street, Sydney. Commenced at 6.30pm.

Paula Castile opened the meeting and welcomed the members.

Present

Allan Parker, Paula Castile, Katherine Johnson, Val Sinclair, Michelle Brenner, Emma Mathews, Janice McLeay, Anne Fieldhouse, Mark England.

Jane Houselander was invited to the meeting by Katherine as Jane is keen to be involved in Dispute Resolution.

Apologies

Sally Trevena, Peter Irving, Micheline Dewdney, Tom Kelly, Robert Lopich.

MINUTES

- *Minutes of February 08 Board meeting to be accepted at the next Board Meeting*

REPORTS

President's Report (PC)

The Practitioners Network Meeting was a roaring success and everyone wants another. The in-depth discussion was a delight. Commitment for another Practitioners Network Meeting on 26 June 2008.

ADRA is working to move forward its recognition as a Mediator Accreditation Body.

Preparations are being made for Vera Ranki's presentation

Treasurer's Report (JM)

Payments approved:

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| • PO Box rental | \$190 |
| • KJ for a set of conference DVDs | \$75 |
| • Added refreshment Prac Net Mtg | \$32.89 |
| • Law Society Hire costs – Prac Net Mtg | \$320 |

Membership Report

Linda Fisher has re-joined ADRA. Ron Dunsire, previously a professor of fine arts, has resolved 46 out of 49 family disputes and is joining. Gabrielle Jess is also joining. Ron and Gabrielle's applications were approved.

EVENTS

- Change of date for Michelle's event to 10 July 2008.
- General support for the Power of Sorry event was expressed
- Allan Parker will be at the Practitioners Network Meeting, 26 June 2008. Alan would like two flipcharts to assist the presentation. 20 were at the last practitioners meeting, including some friends.
- Tom Altobelli's event is to be held on 29 April 2008 and Michelle has offered to bring a bottle of wine for presentation.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- The NADRAC Mediation Accreditation Committee meeting was held in Canberra, with ADRA represented by Paula and Katherine. A subcommittee including Paula, Katherine, and Val was established to form standards for ADRA to be accredited.
- Allan Parker spoke about the work he is doing. In the course of his talk, Allan mentioned:
 - In the next five years ADRA will need to consider alternative dispute resolution and a diagnostic element.
 - PNG has introduced court ordered dispute resolution, which Allan is developing. University of Queensland is to be the certification provider, offering a 5/6 day course which can articulate to masters' level.
 - Allan envisages ADRA providing the template for a peak body.
- There was an outline of the progress that has been made by the complaint handling working party. A three step process is envisaged, with step one being listening to the complaint, step two may then be to assist the complainant to think on a broader basis within the organisation and a third step to take the complaint to an appeal panel.
- Emma reported that ACDC will write to ADRA and invited ADRA members to a training seminar at no cost.
- It was agreed to canvas Board members as to possibly changing our meetings to either the 1st Wednesday or 2nd Tuesday of the month, commencing in May.

Next Meeting: 22 April 2008, 6pm at the Celestial

Meeting closed 9.00 pm