



ADRA Board Meeting Minutes

22 May 2018

Law Society 170 Phillip Street, SYDNEY 2000

1. **Apologies:** Helen Miedzinski, Dennis Nolan, Laurence Boulle, Margaret McCue, Mark Brady, Campbell Ball, Jane Houselander, Jae Yee Hoon.
2. **Members Present:** Katharine Johnson, Peggy Lin, Andrew Wong (by phone), Mary Walker, Wendy Buchanan

Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 April 2018 Proposed: Accepted

3. **President's Report**

The Book launch of Media Quest well attended with more than fifty-five people present for Katherine Johnson's talk and the refreshments that followed. Katherine's speech will be available shortly on the website.

Organisations affiliated to ADRA are to be encouraged to put their logo and links to their website on the ADRA website.

It was decided that ADRA should offer Jae Yee Hoon a membership and free attendance at any ADRA events in return for assisting the Secretary on a voluntary basis. Review this after August.

4. **Treasurer's Report**

a. **Cheque account \$12,636.38b**

b. **Term Deposit \$40, 295.97**

Due to the postponement of the Elder Law and Mediation workshop all participants who registered have now been refunded.

PayPal Business Information for our Account needs to be updated. Katherine Johnson to remain as public officer in the Business Details for the PayPal Account.

Katherine has relinquished her ADRA debit card for Society Cheque Account which has now expired.

Current debit card holders for A/c No. ending in 6359 are Andrew Wong and Wendy Buchanan.

5. Governance Committee Report

Committee Chair presented Draft Governance Manual to the Board. The document includes General Information about ADRA, Guides for Monthly Board Meetings, Membership Register, AGM, Financial Reporting and proposed Template Certificates for ADRA activities. She noted that information on Accreditation was needed in the form of a step by step description of this Process. It was recommended that the process of keeping a register of Accreditations could best be done by setting up a program on the website which would automatically log these Accreditations. In view of this the President suggested that a hold be put on the review of

The Correspondence Form in order to add a link to the ADRA website or some other way in which the recipient could respond.

6. Membership Officer's Report

Three Membership Renewals during the month.

7. Accreditation Officer's Report

One re-Accreditation was processed.

Accreditation Forms have been upgraded and automated on the ADRA website so that applicants can submit their application directly to ADRA for processing.

8. Secretary's Report

25.4.18 Andrew Wong reported Website repaired

27.4.18 Katherine Johnson forwarded Law Society Invoice for Catering for Media Quest Book Launch and photos taken that evening. It is suggested that a selection of these photos be uploaded to the website.

The nomination forms for the election of the new Board on 24th July are to be sent out this month in accordance with the Constitution.

Email from Rachel Steenson offering articles for the Website. Action: is she a Member and what specifically does she offer.

9. Website Issues

Simon Olsen has agreed to give ad hoc technical support for nominal payment. He will submit invoices if cost is greater than \$100.00

Mary Walker recommended that Simon be acknowledged for his outstanding service to ADRA and suggested that he be given acknowledgement on our Website.

10. Member Practice and Network Sessions- MPN

Monday 3rd September 5.30pm start at Law Society Peggy Lim convening.

Monday MPNs at the Law Society, 170 Phillip Street, Sydney 5.30 -8pm (enter before Front door is locked at 6pm)

Saturday MPNs: RSL has been extensively renovated. Restaurant is different (now Asian Cuisine). It will be necessary to enquire if they can still assist us on Saturday (Restaurant now opens at 11.30am)

11. Calendar Dates for Other Events

July 24 AGM - Followed by Dinner, and Speaker Samantha Bridger: Why it is prudent to know what you should insure for. Katherine Johnson has not received a response from Silks for this date so it may be necessary to look for a different venue.

Tuesday 28th August Personality Disorders and their influence on the Mediation Process

Wendy Buchanan, Psychologist and Mediator: P D Effects on level of conflict

1.30pm-4.30pm 3 CPD Points \$75.00 Members, \$100 Non-members

Venue: Bar Association Dispute Resolution Centre, Level 1, 174 Phillip Street, Sydney

Flyer to be designed

Tuesday 25th September Homelessness TBA

Helen Miedzinski to speak about her work with Homeless Men.

Details to come.

Thursday 4th October People and Power: Human Rights

Barrister Peter Tierney discusses 4 Human Rights cases he was involved with

1.30pm-4.30pm 3 CPD Points \$75.00 Members, \$100 Non-members.

Venue: Bar Association Dispute Resolution Centre, Level 1, 174 Phillip Street, Sydney

Flyer to be designed

23rd October – TBA

27th November – Christmas Dinner = speaker to be arranged.

12. General Business

- **Reduced Fees at ADRA Functions for Executive Members.** It was resolved by the Board that Executive Members who organise these functions should only pay \$20 for attendance at these events.
- **Media Quest Book Launch update:** Katherine Johnson expressed her thanks to the people who attended her book launch on 24 April 2018 and said she felt very honoured. Pictures from the event will shortly be uploaded to the website.
- **Victorian Chapter for ADRA:**
- **CADR:** The Industry Forum for Dispute Resolution is now called the Council for Alternative Dispute Resolution. The CADR meeting for 14 May did not happen and the new date proposed so far is 10 August at around 10.00 am for the next meeting. This is deliberately set on the same day as the awards night for ADC so as to capitalize on attendance. It will however not be a one-day conference as before but just a meeting of the steering committee now referred to as the Council.
- The proposed website for CADR had been started but more work needs to be done on it.
- **Declining ADR Courses:** CADR is to express its concern about the declining of ADR courses in Universities - from 15 to 5 at UNSW and the possibility of DR and Psych not running again at UTS.
- CADR's role as a lobbying group for Australian DR is still the focus; and ADRA's role in initiating the existence of CADR should not be lost- hence the significance to mention it in the Minutes.
- **ALRC: Position on Family Law Submission due by September.** ADRA should offer a submission and should set up a sub-committee to that effect. ADRA to approach Helen Miedjinski to head this because of her role in Family Law and she is involved in the Greater Sydney Family Laws Pathway Network.
- **ADRA Hosting a Delegation from the Judicial Commission of Mongolia.** It is expected that a delegation of about 5 Judges will be arriving in August and will be home-hosted by several ADRA members. This may involve a partnership with Rotary.

Next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting at 5.30pm on 24 July 2018 at the NSW Law Society, 170 Phillip Street, Sydney 2000 to be followed by Dinner at a venue to be announced.

Meeting concluded at 7:46