



AUSTRALIAN NURSES MEMORIAL CENTRE

Minutes of the 73rd Annual General Meeting of the Australian Nurses Memorial Centre In person and virtually via ZOOM on Tuesday 31st November 2023 at 5.30pm

Chairperson: Dr Elizabeth Lavender, President

Directors in Attendance: Dr Elizabeth Lavender, Ms Barbara Green, Dr Beverley Wood, Mr David Balcombe, GPCAPT (ret'd) Geoffrey Robinson NSC, Mrs Susan Hogan, Emeritus Professor Maxine Duke AM, Dr Susan Lee, Dr Ingrid Brooks

Members in Attendance: Emeritus Professor Judith Parker AM, Arlene Bennett, Dr Judy Balcombe, Jason Catiwa, Angela Doherty, Cynthea Wellings, Jocelyn Sellars, Helen Pickering, John Bullwinkel, Jane Malone, Rob Malone, Emily Malone, Sara Renshaw, Tricia O'Connor, Fiona Faulks, Rebecca Jedwab, Elizabeth Foley, Dr Kerry Hampton, Elizabeth Allwood

Opening of Meeting

The meeting opened at 5.30pm

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

The President welcomed Members and Directors to the 73rd Annual General Meeting of the Australian Nurses Memorial Centre, and acknowledged family members of Betty Jeffrey, Jane and Rob Malone, Sara Renshaw, Emily Malone, Vivian Bullwinkel nephew John Bullwinkel and family of Centaur nurse Evelyn King, Barbara Green.

In the spirit of reconciliation the Chair acknowledged the Traditional Owners as well as their Elders, past, present, and emerging and extend our respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

2. Reading of the Notice of Meeting – notice given 9th October 2023

3. Confirmation of Quorum

A quorum was declared for the 73rd AGM with 23 members in attendance

4. Adoption of Agenda

The Chair requested the adoption of the agenda, asking if there was any further business to be added. As there was nothing further, the agenda as distributed was adopted.

Carried

5. Apologies

Judith Aitken, Leanne Carlson Black, Yung Hui Chen, Robyn Christie, Carmel Cleary, Shirley Falkinder, Dr Madonna Grehan OAM, Helen Haines MP, Helen Hamilton, Marion Kilvert, Lisa McKenna, Helen Menadue, Margaret Nuttall, Elizabeth Oldland, Dr Diane Phillips, Margaret Pollock, Kay Plymat, Ann Richards, Sue Ronaldson, Rebecca Snowdon, Ann Sprague, Stephanie Sprogis, Diana Whitehead

Moved: Ms Barbara Green

Carried

6. Confirmation of the minutes

The minutes of the ANMC 72nd AGM held on Monday 7th November 2022 was taken as read and confirmed.

Proposed: Dr Elizabeth Lavender **Seconded:** Emeritus Professor Judith Parker **Carried**

7. Presidents Report

Dr Elizabeth Lavender

The President presented some key highlights –

- Two new Directors appointed to the Board – Dr Susan Lee and Dr Ingrid Brooks.
- A submission was made to the Victorian Veterans Council Capital Works Grant to cover the cost of upgrading the AV capability of the Centre, unfortunately the grant was unsuccessful. The Board has resolved to go ahead with the upgrade.
- New initiatives on social media platforms with thanks to Mr Joseph Kennedy ANMC Administrative Assistant.
- ANMC Scholarship Awards event for 2023 was held on Thursday 2nd March, both in person and via zoom. This was the final year of the Anne Murray scholarship. The Board extends sincere thanks to Dolores Makris for funding the scholarship since 2018.
- ANZAC Commemorative Service held on Sunday 23rd April 2023 supported by the Royal Victorian Regiment Catafalque party, Reverend Kathryn Watt, and the Keytone Choir. The service was followed by an informative presentation from Ms Tanya Frost, Acute Nurse Consultant Eastern Health, “ Making a Difference One Stroke at a Time’ . Tanya received the ANMC and ALS Scholarship in 2021 and 2022.
- Completion of the ‘Remembering Vivian Bullwinkel at Devenish Silos’ with the unveiling of the plaque by Victorian Veterans Council representative Ms Lucy Saaroni on 22nd April 2023. A ‘life size’ cutout of Vivian Bullwinkel and Betty Jeffrey is on display in the Devenish shop museum window.
- ‘Sisters in Captivity Betty Jeffrey OAM and the courageous story of Australian Army nurses in Sumatra from 1942-1945’ by author Colin Burgess, book launch was held at the ANMC on Saturday 22nd July 2023. Many thanks to Jane and Rob Malone, Emily Malone and Sara Renshaw, family of Betty Jeffrey, and Arlene Bennett and Liz Allwood for their hard work.
- The unveiling of the Vivian Bullwinkel statue at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra on Wednesday 2nd August 2023 was well attended by ANMC members. The Board congratulates the Australian College of Nursing Foundation for this initiative as was an excellent event.

The Chair noted two events omitted from the annual report which representatives from the ANMC attended – RSL ANZAC appeal held at The Astor in Prahran on 11th April to promote the Vivian Bullwinkel ANZAC appeal badge was attended by our Patron Emeritus Professor Judy Parker and Liz Allwood.

This year was the 80th Anniversary of 2/3 AHS Centaur sinking in 1943 in which 11 AANS nurses were killed. The Myrtleford RSL commissioned a bust of Sister Alice O’Donnell, a Myrtleford local who was one of those killed. The ANMC was represented by Dr Madonna Grehan who laid a wreath on our behalf, together with Arlene Bennett.

Resignations

The Board received the resignation of Ms Cynthea Wellings in January 2023. Cynthea served on the Board since May 2018. .

Vale –It is with sadness to report that the Board records the death of Mrs Pamela Rogers on 24th May 2023. Her memorial service was held at the ANMC on the 8th July.

Administration – In August 2022 we secured the domain name ‘anmc.org.au’ which was a result of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council changing their name to include Accreditation Council ‘ANMAC’ and they kindly agreed to us taking over the anmc.org.au.

Ella Monaghan resigned in February 2023, and we wish her well for her future endeavours.

In May 2023 we welcomed Joseph Kennedy as Administration Assistant. Joseph has a broad range of skills, already achieving so much in the past few months.

It is pleasing to report that the venue hire at the ANMC continues to prosper, regularly booked by the Australian String Quartet and the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra, Toastmasters clubs and local businesses for body corporate meetings.

The Board acknowledges the contribution of Liz Allwood and Joseph Kennedy to the progress and success of the ANMC.

The Chair moved that the President’s Report be adopted.

Seconded: Rob Malone

Carried

The Chair introduced Treasurer, Mr David Balcombe

8. Financial Report

The ANMC results are influenced by the ups and downs of the investment markets.

The Board remains committed to ensuring that our financial situation is robust and will continue to invest some of the surplus gains to our facility for example the audio-visual upgrade.

The Treasurer thanked members of the Finance Committee, in particular the continued support of Mr Cameron Telford.

The Treasurer opened the floor to questions - a member asked if the forecast for next year would be expected to run at a loss or gain? The forecast for next year is expected to be similar, with a small loss forecast for next year.

As there were no further questions Mr Balcombe asked that the financial statements for 2022-2023 be accepted.

Seconded: GPCAPT (retired) Geoffrey Robinson NSC

Carried

9. Election of Office Bearers & Board of Directors

The following Board of Directors were formally elected as office bearers and Directors for the 2023-2024 financial year at the ANMC.

a) President – one nomination – Dr Elizabeth Lavender

Seconded: Ms Arlene Bennett

Carried

b) Vice President – one nomination – Emeritus Prof Maxine Duke AM

Seconded: Dr Beverley Wood

Carried

c) Treasurer: one nomination - Mr David Balcombe

Seconded: Emeritus Prof Maxine Duke AM

Carried

d) Re-elect two directors who retire via rotation:

1) Ms Barbara Green

Seconded: Emeritus Prof Judith Parker AM

Carried

2) GPCAPT (ret'd) Geoffrey Robinson NSC

Seconded: Dr Beverley Wood

Carried

To ratify the appointment of two directors:

i. Dr Susan Lee

ii. Dr Ingrid Brooks

Moved Dr Beverley Wood

Seconded Ms Arlene Bennett

Carried

10. Appointment of Auditors - Zenith Audit & Assurance Pty Ltd who being eligible offer themselves for appointment.

Seconded: Mr Rob Malone

Carried

11. Any other business

Ms Arlene Bennett requested it to be noted that she was interviewed by Australian College of Nursing (ACN) not the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) at the A C N Foundation unveiling of the Vivian Bullwinkel statue in Canberra.

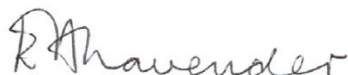
The Chair thanked Ms Barbara Green for serving as Vice President for two years and for always showing up and acknowledged the service of Ms Cynthea Wellings for service on the Board and always holding us to account.

Emeritus Professor Judith Parker proposed a vote of thanks to the ANMC Board for another successful year and congratulates the sub committees for their hard work.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 6.17pm

Signed as a true and correct record of the ANMC 73rd AGM

On 18th November 2024



Dr Elizabeth Lavender
ANMC President