



AUSTRALIAN NURSES MEMORIAL CENTRE

Minutes of the 74th Annual General Meeting of the Australian Nurses Memorial Centre In person and virtually via ZOOM on Monday 18th November 2024 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 74th 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 22 - 24 October 2024

3. Confirmation of Quorum

A quorum was declared for the 74th AGM with 20 members in attendance

4. Adoption of Agenda

The Chair requested the adoption of the agenda, noting that Item 8 can be removed as Dr Beverley Wood has reconsidered and will remain on the Board. As there was nothing further, the agenda as distributed was adopted.

Carried

5. Apologies

Meg Ryan, Marion Kilvert, Olga Kanitsaki AM, Professor Julia Morphet, Judith Conleton, Toni Slots-O'Brien, Roaslind Helliwell, Any Cohen, Professor Judy Curry, Sheila Byard OAM, Patricia O'Hara OAM, Georgina Baraclough, Sharon Bown, Ann Richards, Kay Plymat

Moved: Ms Barbara Green

Carried

6. Confirmation of the minutes

The minutes of the ANMC 73rd AGM held on Tuesday 31st November 2023 was taken as read and confirmed.

Proposed: Dr Elizabeth Lavender **Seconded:** Ingrid Brooks

Carried

7. Presidents Report

Dr Elizabeth Lavender

The President presented some key highlights –

- One new Director appointed in August 2024 Emeritus Professor Mari Botti AM.
- Resignation of two Directors, Group Captain Retd Geoffrey Robinson and Dr Jessica Biles.
- Strategic Planning day was held in March 2024 facilitated by our Patron Emeritus Professor Judy Parker. Priorities emerged; a) establishment of an Alumni b) update the audio visual, c) review of governance, d) continue to raise the public profile of the ANMC.
- Alumni working group established under the leadership of Dr Susan Lee.
- Governance working group established led by Dr Ingrid Brooks has developed recommendations for the operation of the Board and the function of sub committees, which may lead to some changes in 2025 commensurate with our core functions.
- Scholarship Awards evening for 2024 was held on Thursday 7th March, both in person and via zoom.
- Scholarship applications has been moved to Jotform which saves considerable administrative time.
- The Board extends sincere thanks to Claire and Adrian Booth for funding the '21 Hearts' scholarship value \$7,500 to be offered for 2025, in the area of nursing cancer and oncology.
- ANZAC Commemorative Service was held on Sunday 21st April 2024. The service was followed by afternoon tea and a presentation by Dr Stephanie Sprogis, our 2021 Vivian Bullwinkel Award recipient.
- On 14th June 2024 the ANMC partnered with The Shrine of Remembrance to present "A Symphony of Survival; Remembering the Vocal Orchestra" This project was supported by a City of Melbourne Connected Neighbourhood Small Grant.
- Dr Helen Hamilton presented an excellent paper entitled "Patricia Violet Slater: A Remarkable Leader" held at the ANMC on 1st June 2024, attendance in person and via zoom.
- VALE: Bernadette Keane FCNA died 27th May 2024 and Lilian Leonard OAM died 22nd September 2024.
- A special mention to Colin Burgess author of "Sisters in Captivity, Sister Betty Jeffrey OAM and the courageous story of Australian Army nurses in Sumatra 1942-1945". Colin has generously donated 50% of royalties from the sale of the book to the ANMC. To date we have received \$18,000.
- Thank you to all our donors for the donations received throughout the year, your continued support is sincerely appreciated.

Administration – The administration of the ANMC continues to evolve as we expand our reach. The Board accepted the resignation of Mr Joseph Kennedy in June 2024. We thank Joseph for his services and wish him the best.

The upgrade state-of-the-art audio visual system has enhanced the venue hire package. The Board pays tribute to Liz Allwood who works tirelessly to make connections outside of the organisation and we thank her for her dedication.

The Chair took the opportunity to thank all the Board and Committee members for their continued support. The passion and commitment shown is an indication of their confidence in the future of the Australian Nurses Memorial Centre.

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

Seconded: Judy Parker

Carried

The Chair introduced Treasurer, Mr David Balcombe

8. Financial Report

The result for the year was a \$129,000 overall gain, however the composition of that gain is investment sales and the increase value of investments plus the generous royalties donation from Sister in Captivity.

The Treasurer opened the floor to questions – there being no questions, Mr Balcombe asked that the financial statements for the year end 30th June 2024 be accepted.

Seconded: Susan Lee

Carried

9. Election of Office Bearers & Board of Directors

The following Board of Directors were formally elected as office bearers and Directors for the 2024-2025 financial year at the Australian Nurses Memorial Centre.

a) President – one nomination – Dr Elizabeth Lavender

Seconded: Ingrid Brooks

Carried

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

Seconded: Mari Botti

Carried

c) Treasurer: one nomination - Mr David Balcombe

Seconded: Beverley Wood

Carried

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

1) Mrs Susan Hogan

Seconded: Emeritus Prof Judith Parker AM

Carried

2) Dr Susan Lee

Seconded: Barbara Green

Carried

e) To ratify the appointment of one director:

i. Emeritus Professor Mari Botti AM

Seconded Susan Lee

Carried

10. To ratify Honorary Life Membership - Item 5 on the agenda is to ratify Mrs Karla Freer as a Honorary Life member. Karla served on the ANMC Board from 2011 to 2017, as Vice President then President, during which time set about to improve the administration of the Centre.

I move that the Homarary Life membership for Mrs Karla Freer be approved.

Seconded: Mr Rob Malone

Carried

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

Seconded: David Balcombe

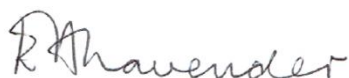
Carried

12. Any other business – there being no other business, the Chair declared that the 74th Annual General Meeting of the Australian Nurses Memorial Centre closed.

Mrs Karla Freer proposed a vote of thanks to the ANMC Board.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 6.14pm

Signed as a true and correct record of the 74th AGM
On Monday 17 November 2025



Dr Elizabeth Lavender
ANMC President