

MINUTES OF THE **GLEN WAVERLEY DISTRICT INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL**, Held
at St. Justin's Catholic Church
Monday, 6th July, 2009

Present: Joe Persico, Robert McInnes, Ray Lamerand, Pat Hollinson, Jim Aylmer, Allan Calusen, Val Noble, Pat Hodges, Glynnis Hearn, Tony Hodges, Gavin Faichney, Fr. Wheeler.

Apologies: Peter McCluskey, John Hurst, Carole Painter

The meeting opened with the Lord's Prayer.

Joe Persico chaired the meeting, welcoming our visitors from Mt. Waverley Inter-Church Council.

Joe gave all present a copy of basic Catholic beliefs and briefly spoke about them. Thank you Joe.

The meeting read and discussed St Paul's Letter to the Romans, 12. 6-21. The concensus was reached that if all people lived what Paul wrote, what a wonderful world it would be.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

Business arising from the minutes.

Easter Event

Allan and Jim have spoken to Fr. John from Holy Family re holding the event there in 2010. There was a problem in 2008 due to 2 funerals happening in the same week. Jim and Allan will continue discussions with Fr. John and hope to come to an arrangement, perhaps leaving Wednesday free for any Parish arrangements.

Letters have been sent to 7 Government schools and there have been 6 replies to date, five of them positive. With these and the three parish schools and maybe some from Huntingtower again, it is certainly worth holding the event.

Mt Waverley ICC will be glad of any help that Glen Waverley ICC can give.

The cost of buses has risen dramatically over the past few years. Allan to contact Pat Moore re the debrief of this year's event.

There will be a need to build story telling booths. The idea of asking Avila and Huntingtower drama departments for assistance was mooted.

Christian Unity Celebrations

These were well received. The aim is to encourage more Churches to take part next year.

Unfortunately Wheelers Hill Uniting Church will not take part in the celebration next year, due to the small number in the congregation.

List of Churches and Services in Monash

This was well received by motels and hotels in the area. Joe found a few that had been missed on previous lists and delivered to them.

Advertising Services for Christmas and Easter

Some Churches were disappointed that it was only a single page ad for Easter. The meeting decided that, although advertising is expensive, it should continue as it is an important witness to the community.

List of Churches and Services.

This has not been sent to Aged Care Facilities but will be posted by the next meeting.

Christmas Banner

There was discussion re the size of these banners. Although the meeting agreed it would be an advantage to have them larger, it was decided to leave them as they are for this year, while working out how much larger they could be and still be transported and erected safely.

Joe represented the GWICC at the VCC AGM on March 14th.

About 200 attended, the agenda being prayers, followed by reports and then a choice of three sessions to choose from in the afternoon. Joe attended the session on the Christmas Bowl Appeal.

New activities for 2009-2010.

- Propagation of the Christian Faith in the City of Monash. Joe asked for ideas. Glynnis suggested a service, such as a blessing of the animals that could be held in Jells Park. Another idea was an inter-faith service at Monash University to work in with the the Parliament of World Religions, to be held in Melbourne.
- A 'pro-forma letter has been supplied by Mt Waverley ICC to Senator Chris Evans re the treatment of asylum seekers. See attachment.
- Allan spoke of his involvement with the City of Monash ' Friends of Vermasse'. Much needs to be done in this part of East Timor, where children attend school with very few facilities. The transportation of equipment has become very expensive. Any help will be most welcome.

Treasurer's report.

No Report

Correspondence

In.

1. Minutes from Mt Waverley ICC.
2. Letter of resignation from Judy O'Dwyer. After so many years of dedication to the GWICC as a member and treasurer, Judy's presence will be greatly missed. She will continue to help with Way of The Cross and support us at St Christopher's. Thank you Judy and God Bless.
3. Email from Monash Council re Harmony Walk on Sunday 12th. July. Forwarded to members.
4. Email from Helen Heath re Interfaith Conference to be held 8th August at Chisholm Institute of Tafe, Dandenong. Forwarded to members
5. Email re Family Violence Forum on 26th June. Forwarded to members.
6. Eastern Palliative Care - Newsletter

Victorian Council of Churches.

Gambling

Anti Gambling Activities – Robert reported on the competition by clubs and hotels to obtain more machines. It seems that there are different ways of bidding. Matthew Flinders Hotel desperately wants to increase the number of machines it has in play.

Interfaith

The World Parliament of Churches will meet in Melbourne from 3-9th of December. More information can be found at www.interfaithnetwork.org.au

List of GWICC members and contacts to be sent to Jim Aylmer.

The meeting closed at 10.15pm.

Next meeting will be held at 33 Sunnybrook Drive, Wheelers Hill, at 7.30pm, on Monday 7th September..