

Minutes of outreach subcommittee meeting held December 14th 2009

Present: Julia, Dave, Peter J, Cris, Michael, Peter B, Tony S

Apologies: Bill, Tony G

Meeting commenced at 2000hrs asst with the service prayer.

Chair opened the meeting with comments on the new format for the teleconference as per memo forwarded to members by email, which all affirmed receipt of.

Julia handed over the chairing of this meeting to David T

Minutes from previous meeting not available due to Peter not being able to be present for the previous meeting and to date unable to access recording of same

Old business:

- “Missing in action” letter – as this document had not been received by members to date no discussion. Held over to next meeting. Michael sent out copy again.
- Upload to NAWS from home page – Tony S – action completed.
- Regional meeting list to NAWS – Peter J – this can be action can be discontinued as per instructions from chair, due to changes at Regional level.

Update contact details on all letters –Julia –

Tony s has updated the details on these documents (and on the web site)

Julia has sighted website and noted changes

David has checked and all is correct (to email Peter for filing on masters file)

Letters sent to policy subcommittee and regional chair by Julia

- Poster –PI in 10 languages – Tony S sourced original through Sydney Metro and it is approved for use by groups. Julia has also forwarded copy to Victoria for their records. Tony reports it is being used by his group
- Contact RCM re “pen pal” list – Julia has member from WA interested but is talking to her RCM as to what level of commitment WA is willing to make to Outreach
Julia advises that there is a new outreach committee in Victoria and the is chair is willing to become a pen pal

Cris advises that FNC is looking at forming their own outreach committee – no decision yet – FNC to advise Julia on the outcome

Peter J advised that Greater Western Sydney area has elected a new outreach chairperson – PJ to get information as to name etc to Julia

- Literature in starter pack. FSO is short of packs at present/ FSO to advise Julia of contents

Peter J discusses the lack of knowledge at FSO about the outreach site and asks is the information about starter pack available on line?

Michael suggests that as part of the action list, a committee member should be tasked with getting information out to others eg FSO

PJ asked if we have a generic agenda for each teleconference? DT responded that we do

PJ suggests the need to educate FSO as to what services outreach has available

Julia to send copy of relevant documents to FSO

Website to have new heading “Starting a New Group” – Julia to raise this at next RCM

Include web site addresses in “Starter Pack”

Dave T suggest that it appear on other websites

PJ suggests we create a generic document for all parties to inform of what is available

- Input for guidelines for Meetings on Request – so far no input –

DT advises that so far he has not been able to find any other guidelines pertinent to Outreach, apart from “Meetings on Wheels” on the World Service site. Other outreach committee guidelines – David has not been able to locate anything specific to this. So far there has been no input into this. Do we hand it on to Policy to generate guidelines? Cris suggests that it is the sub committees’ responsibility to form our own guidelines, and then take it to Policy for fine tuning. General agreement – so this needs to be done by committee members over the next few weeks and ideas sent to Julia for inclusion in next agenda. Suggested things are; clean time, commitment, understanding expectations etc.,

- Deletion of phone contact numbers and locations of groups on the current Regional Meetings list.

Julia has tried to contact Tim re this but so far no answer. Will continue to follow it up

New Business

- Chair of Victoria Outreach Committee has expressed interest in joining the Regional Outreach Sub Committee. Are we restricted because of the numbers on teleconference? As a result of the imminent resignation from the current committee of Tony G, this will not be a problem.

All members of the sub committee in favour of Rob A joining. Julia will contact him to advise and get contact details etc forwarded to secretary. Copies of minutes and contact list to be forwarded by secretary

- Coffs Harbour has contacted Julia re listing on regional listing of website. They are no longer listed as Mid North Coast NSW. This is a problem as they are coming under "Rest of NSW" and not showing as an area including the Bellinger meeting. The same problem has occurred with manning Great Lakes. Julia to ask web servant to contact both these groups and sort out the problem.
- Isolated groups not following service structure. It has come to the attention of the Chair that there are some groups which are not following service structure guidelines and running their own race. This could be due to a lack of understanding or knowledge around these guidelines or because of strong personalities wanting to control things in their own way. Julia reported that Armidale NSW is one group in particular. She has had contact with members from this group with a grievance and seeking assistance. What can Outreach do?

Some of the specifics of this behaviour are the decision not to hold the monthly group conscience because there was nothing to discuss, whereas there were items that needed to be decided at a group level. Eg., the appointment of a new Outreach representative, and the change of meeting venue for 2 of the groups weekly meetings. Peter B as the former Outreach representative for the group, explained that there was ill will towards Outreach, and perhaps 1 or 2 members felt it was an intrusion into the autonomy of the group. But there was also a lack of knowledge by the group on service issues that Outreach had attempted to overcome by running a workshop there in August 09. The committee decided we let the group make their own decisions, and the committee be available if help is sought by members, and let Gods will prevail.

- Peter B requested permission to submit an article in the local Gold Coast NA newsletter about his experience of living in an isolated NA community and the problems associated with that and raise the need for pen pals and long distance sponsorship. Is this something that is ok by the committee. Decision unanimous that it is a personal story and not a committee based article.
- January teleconference meeting – do we hold this over due to the festive season or continue as is? Decision was reached hold the next meeting prior to RSC, and agreement was reached to set the date as 01.02.10.
- Meeting closed 2059 aasst.