



MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 9 AUGUST 2013

PINEY LAKES ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE, WINTHROP

13.08.01 Opening

President Des Cousins welcomed all and opened the meeting at 10 am.

13.08.02 Attendance and Apologies

Attendance and apologies were recorded on the attendance sheets.

13.08.03 Minutes of Previous General Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 10 May 2013 were confirmed.

13.08.04 Business Arising from the Minutes

Nil

13.08.05 Reports

5.1 President (Des Cousins)

- Participated as a presenter in three WARVRA seminars
- A roundtable conference at the Dept. of Commerce on Sections 24-26.
- No recent meetings to discuss the legislation and code.
- Met with sub-committee to plan our communications strategy. This has led to the development of our new website. Next major step will be to establish a centralised database.
- Villages.com are building up a library of videos. Des interviewed about WARVRA for the site.
- Visited St Ives Mandurah, Ocean Gardens, Success, Kingsway Court and Balmoral to discuss a variety of issues. Encouraged residents to refer to their rights under the Code when seeking financial information relating to their budget.
- Visited UWA to discuss the research project being run jointly with COTA (funded by Lotterywest) into the security of senior residents in a variety of accommodation options.
- Peel Region Committee attendance.
- Des and David to represent WARVRA at Retirement Living Council Conference on Wednesday 28 August 2013.
- Two meetings at Weeronga Village, Willagee to establish their Residents Association constitution.

Question

Up-dating our Constitution. Should we wait until the Code has been finalised? Under the Code it is not necessary for Residents Associations to be incorporated except if they wish to avail themselves of the expected provision in the new Code to

transfer the responsibilities of the Residents Committee to the Association.

Patrick – Residents Committees can be better recognised by operators when incorporated. Situation has changed in recent times and incorporating seems less important. Indications are that Managers are recognising WARVRA more now. Being incorporated, however, is helpful when seeking funding eg Lotterywest and may be needed if applying for a liquor licence.

5.2 Treasurer, Ron Hasluck presented his report as follows:

	Amount	Balance
Opening Balance:	\$11,401.07	
Income from Membership Fees	\$428.00	
Total:		\$11,829.07
Expenditure Telstra	\$67,20	
Balance:		\$11,761.87
Transfer to Term Deposit	\$5,000	
Balance		\$6,761.87
Investment Funds:		
Term Deposit		\$5,906.04
Term Deposit		\$11,567.79
Term Deposit		\$15,451.49
Total Funds Held:		\$39,687.19

The Treasurer's report was received.

5.3 Legislation (David Street)

Still waiting on further developments on the proposed regulations on contractual issues. WARVRA feels it is now necessary to take action to move the process along. WARVRA members urged to speak with or write to their local member about the hold-up. Local members can be found on: www.parliament.wa.gov.au

It was moved, seconded and agreed

That WARVRA write to the Minister for Commerce and the Commissioner for Consumer Protection expressing its concern in regard the delay in the completion of the new Regulations and Code and the consequent delay in the Retirement Villages Amendment Act 2012 coming into operation.

It was further moved, seconded and agreed unanimously

That WARVRA request its members to contact their local members of the WA State Parliament seeking information as to when the Retirement Villages Amendment Act 2012 and the new Regulations and Code will become operative.

David Templeman MLA and Lyn MacLaren MLC will be requested to ask questions in their respective Houses about the delay in the completion of the new Regulations and Code.

A member suggested that we raise a petition. Writing to MPs was thought to be the best way to start.

5.4 Seminars and Forums (Rob Waite)

All three seminars have concluded. Numbers attending was impressive. Attendees indicated an appreciation for WARVRA presenters. Some village managers also attended. Their attendance was seen as positive. Program for 2014 is under discussion.

5.5 Peel Region Sub-Committee (Colin Edwards)

Meeting 9 July 2013, 41 members attended. David Street gave an overview of the legislation review. Des outlined some updates to the Code. Next meeting 9 October 2013 at RAAFA Erskine Estate.

13.08.06 General Business

- A Member thanked WARVRA for an excellent Newsletter. Opportunity to put forward a forum topic on web a good idea. Suggested topic for Forum: "Strategies for coping with bullying, abusive etc behaviours".
- A Member reported intimidation when seeking financial documentation. Also contract issues. Wrote to DOCs, concerned at lack of response. Member to speak further with WARVRA President.
- It is reported that strata managers to be licenced. Query if Managers of Villages may be able to be licenced along similar lines? There are currently no guidelines for managers, though WARVRA continues to advocate for training.
- Membership numbers not as high as have been. Forms available at the meeting.

13.08.07 Visiting Speaker

Bernie Francis introduced Ms Dawn Yates, Executive Officer, Seniors Recreation Council of WA (Inc)

Dawn outlined the services offered by Seniors Recreation Council which has nine branches and is volunteer driven, a not for profit service with one full-time position and three part-time positions.

The 'Add life to your years booklet' is a directory of activities and services that groups can use to advertise their activity. The booklet is printed every two years but information is up-dated monthly. Organisations are not sought to register but contact voluntarily. Booklets are posted out to several outlets eg doctors' surgeries.

Some of the activities SRC runs are:

- Have a Go Day
- Be Active Aged Care Games
- Pole walking training and sales
- Indoor Bowls Tournaments
- Seniors Ball
- Seniors Activities Days
- Tech Savvy Seniors (6 week course in computing also digital cameras)
- XBOX Connect

SRC personnel will visit villages to show residents how they can benefit from taking part in recreational activities. This is a hands on experience

Dawn pointed out the several handouts she bought along for members to take home.

Des thanked Dawn for outlining a range of information that can be useful in many ways. A great example of how a service can run with dedicated volunteers.

13.08.08 **Next Meeting:** Friday, 8 November 2013 at 10 am at Piney Lakes

13.08.09 **Closure**

Meeting closed at 12 noon.