

**PROSTATE CANCER FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA  
THE CENTRAL AUSTRALIA CHAPTER**

Minutes of Chapter Council meeting held  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at Wellbeing Centre,  
Murray Bridge

The meeting opened at 10.00am

**Present:** Malcolm ELLIS (chairman), Murray NECK, John SHIELDS, Dean WALL, Keith WILLIAMS, Bryan HEARN  
**Observers:** Paul REDMAN (PCFA) and 7 observers from Murray Bridge support group along with 5 councillors wives  
**Apologies:** John BAULDERSTONE, Jeff ROBERTS,

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

Chairman opened the meeting and officially welcomed all those present. Apologies received from Jeff Roberts and John Baulderstone.

**2. Minutes of Council meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> January 2010**

The minutes of the last Council meeting held at Mitcham were presented for approval.

Moved they be accepted as a true and correct record. Dean Wall/ Keith Williams **Carried.**

**2A. Casual Vacancy on Council**

Chairman reported that as a result of the resignation received from Terry Harbour, a casual vacancy existed on Council for the remainder of this year. Only nomination received from Ron Lehman, Murray Bridge Support Group Moved Malcolm Ellis/John Shields that nomination be accepted **Carried**  
Chairman thanked Ron for his nomination and welcomed him to Council

**3. Matters Arising**

(a) Loan DVD's available from PCFA. The listing is still to be completed. Should be available prior to next Council meeting.

(b) New name badges from PCFA. Paul reports that badges in the process of being printed.

(c) Central Australia Chapter logo. Various options displayed and selection made. Map of Australia with CA area highlighted. NT and SA Floral emblems to be incorporated along with different wording. Paul to take to PCFA for completion.

(d) New PCFA Guidelines - now completed.

(e) Mt Gambier new support group. E mail from Jeff Roberts re upcoming awareness day read to meeting. Generally the matter is progressing well with potential meeting to be held May or June. Jeff also mentioned arrangements for Lucindale Field day and Kapunda Fair.

(f) During this discussion it was also reported that a very successful Awareness Day had recently been held in Whyalla. The formation of a new support group was looking very positive and in an attempt to maintain this momentum it was agreed that our next Chapter Council meeting to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010 be held in Whyalla and the initial meeting of the proposed new support group be held on the previous evening. Chairman to follow up with current Whyalla Ambassador and Paul will make the necessary travel arrangements. It was noted that this date clashed with the 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Murray Bridge Support Group however it was felt preferable to proceed with the proposed Whyalla meeting as discussed.

(g) Dean Wall reported having arranged to deliver an Ambassadors presentation to a group in Gawler during June.

(h) Pro Forma for support groups. Template still to come from Paul.

(i) Life membership or other recognition of members. It was noted that this had been discussed at previous meeting. Paul commented that various awards are being considered by PCFA to recognise service and other matters. After discussion members felt it was preferable to adopt this process rather than have individual Chapter awards.

(j) Country members visiting city assistance scheme. Members felt the best way for this to proceed was for the working party consisting of Malcolm Ellis, John Shields and Jeff Roberts to collate and organise

visits on an individual basis. Any Support Group member attending Adelaide for treatment or other reason should forward their details to a working party member for recording and the necessary action.

(k) Bunning's event monies. Paul advised that the money has been distributed to groups as advised. He addressed future events with Bunning's under which it will be organised on the basis of store staff organising the BBQ's with PCFA members attending to undertake Awareness matters.

#### **4. Financial report**

John Shields, the treasurer tabled a written report and spoke to the report. This showed an opening balance of \$357.28. A payment of \$622.00 had been received in error. These funds were Bunning's funds meant for the Onkaparinga Support Group and were subsequently paid to the group thus leaving a balance of \$357.28

Moved John Shields/Dean Wall that the treasurer's report be accepted.

**Carried.**

John mentioned that he had received only 5 group budgets but had been able to produce a Chapter budget based on these and 2009/10 figures. Paul commented that if those groups who had not submitted a budget did not do so in the immediate future they would not be receiving funds during the 2010/11 financial year.

#### **5. Chapter Business Plan**

No nominations have been received to fill any of the roles and responsibilities listed under the Business Plan. Keith Williams suggested that Council executive allocate roles. Chairman commented that roles can be filled by anybody as long as they are a member of an affiliated support group. All groups to be advised accordingly in an effort to stimulate some interest. Any member interested to advise Chairman or secretary. Murray Neck volunteered to take on any role he might be considered suitable for but noted that being based at Alice Springs may cause some difficulties.

#### **6. Recent S.A.C. meeting**

Keith Williams delivered a verbal report in which he commented that it was the best SAC meeting he had ever attended. There was a full agenda and all matters were dealt with in a very positive manner. The absence of PCFA CEO Andrew Giles caused some concerns however it was noted that he offered to respond to any questions raised at the meeting by the end of the week. Sadly these responses were not received for 3 weeks and this delay and the nature of their content had caused considerable angst amongst SAC members. Chairman spoke about Advocacy training received during the two days prior to the SAC meeting and he commented how beneficial he thought this had been.

Both Malcolm and Keith noted how confident they were in the way SAC was now operating. Discussion had been held re changing groups names to Regions from Chapters but this had been soundly defeated. Paul explained to the meeting what SAC was and how it functioned. John Shields requested a chart showing what SAC's position in the overall organisation was.

#### **7. Leadership discussion paper**

John Shields reported receiving some feedback from Don Piro and one member of the Onkaparinga group. John commented that he had utilised the content of other leadership manuals but felt that they didn't show what he thought was needed. It was agreed that a working party should be formed to continue the work that John had already undertaken with the Leadership manual. Chairman agreed to follow up with support group for nominations. Murray Neck volunteered to be part of this working party.

#### **8. Council members tenure of service to be completed at AGM 2010**

The Chairman explained the rotation process and noted that 3 councillors had already nominated to stand down at the 2010 AGM. These members being *Dean Wall, Murray Neck and Ron Lehman who had now filled the Casual vacancy.*

Nominations were called for from Councillors prepared to stand down at the end of 2011 when 3 more Councillors should retire by rotation. *Bryan Hearn* volunteered - 2 more nominations to be received. The remaining 3 councillors would then be required to stand down at the AGM 2012

#### **9. Any other business**

(a) Casual Vacancy - dealt with earlier in meeting

(b) confirmation of payments made by PCFA - Paul reports that current PCFA software is not capable of delivering this type of report. He was hopeful that new software to be operational by July 2010 should accomplish this function.

(c) National conference update - Paul informed conveners that they should wait until they received a personal invitation to the conference before registering. It should be noted that only 1 subsidised invite per

support group would be issued. Wives and other members could attend but at their own expense as arranged via PCFA. Nearly all International speakers have been finalised.

(d) continued use of word "Support" in group titles - Keith Williams explained that this change had been proposed at a SAC meeting by somebody in NSW who suggested that its use was off putting to potential group members. Members from other areas totally disputed this concept and felt that the word "support" was what it was all about. After discussion it was agreed that this matter should be discussed at group level with feedback requested in order that a Chapter view can be established at next Council meeting.

(e) Office sharing - Keith Williams reported that his group in Darwin were on the verge of entering into a contract agreement with ladies from the breast cancer group Dragons Abreast relative to sharing some office space. This had the potential to be beneficial to both groups.

(f) Secretary tabled copies of Chapter contact list and list of group meeting dates as recently circulated. Any changes to be forwarded to him as soon as possible.

(g) local health issues - Murray Neck and Keith Williams reported on their disappointment with regard to how the replacement of a continence nurse in Alice Springs had been handled by the NT Government. Secretary reported on letters forwarded by him to the NT Health Minister on behalf of the Alice Springs group and subsequent reply received stating that the advertising for an appointee would occur in the very near future. During discussion a number of members also raised their concerns about how specific health issues had been dealt with by State Governments. It was suggested that a working party be formed consisting of Council executive members plus any other member who wished to be a part of the working party. The working party was to identify and collate details of these issues and take them up with the relevant Government department.

(h) Members to note name change – now Barossa group not Gawler and Barossa group.

(i) Chairman raised issue of removing "Members only" item from standard Agenda. After discussion it was resolved that this item would be removed from future Agenda's but any member having an issue for discussion under this topic should notify the Chairman prior to the Chapter Council meeting in order that matter could be discussed at a specially convened Council meeting immediately following the Chapter meeting to specifically discuss this matter.

12.35pm Meeting adjourned for lunch

Resumed at 1.15pm

## **10 Observers comments**

The Chairman then invited the observers to ask questions or make comments as they thought appropriate.

- Where do PC Support groups stand with regard to other groups such as Cancer Voices, Cancer Councils etc? Paul responded by referring to PCFA charter and their aims. He pointed out that PCFA have a good working relationship with some of these other groups around Australia. He mentioned particularly the efforts being made in SA to work with Cancer Council SA. He also mentioned work being done with the College of General Practitioners in an effort to establish a public statement on PSA and DRE testing which will become a National Standard. Other members spoke of problems encountered with Cancer Council SA in the past but had good hopes of improvement in the future

- Members held discussion re the CA Chapter Conference proposed for October 2010. Paul indicated that Barossa Valley was the preferred venue at this stage but others sites being considered included Glenelg or Victor Harbor however based on information provided by members this venue was deleted and replaced with McLaren's on the Lake at McLaren Vale. Paul stated that he was hoping to include guest presenters as well as some training and entertainment along with the Chapter AGM. He noted that David Parkin had just joined PCFA as one of a panel of speakers.

(Paul left at 1.45pm to meet travel arrangements at Adelaide airport)

- John Shields suggested Whyatt Holidays as a potential source of speakers.

- Chairman requested that members advise him or secretary of any other possible speakers for conference.

- Chairman reminded members of the need to fill 3 Council vacancies at AGM.

- Secretary reminded members of Chapter teleconference at 10.30am on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2010.

Chairman thanked observers for their input and members of the Murray Bridge group for their hospitality and catering

*Next Council meeting.* The next meeting will be in Whyalla at a venue to be advised. It is hoped that Councillors will meet with members of the public on evening of 19<sup>th</sup> May with a view to establishing a new support group in Whyalla. The Council will remain and conduct the Chapter Council meeting on morning of 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010.

Meeting closed at 1.55pm.

**Next meeting**                      **10.00am Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010 in Whyalla at a venue to be advised.**

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(*chairman*)

.....  
(*date*)