

HSU NSW/ACT COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE WESLEY CONFERENCE CENTRE, 220 PITT STREET, SYDNEY ON TUESDAY 23RD FEBRUARY 2016 AT 10.13 A.M.

ATTENDANCE: S O'Riley, J Catlin, L Snow, P Iffland, G Reilly, S Haynes, R Pike, R Dunn, L Burns, S Joseph, Twyford, J Peacock, J Holgate, C Charles, D Neumann, A Wilcock, G Partridge, L Bush, A Lillicrap, G Hayes and M Sterrey.

CHAIRPERSON: M Sterrey (President).

APOLOGIES: P Mitchell, S Davis, D Turley and P Reid.

Moved L Snow/L Burns that the apologies be accepted.

Motion put and carried.

PROXIES: Nil.

OBSERVERS: B Cornwell, B Chapman, T Thorburn, S Hatter, D Perry, A McDonald, P Kessey, R Sheehy, M Milosavljevic, T Stevanja, A Hall, J Cowdrey S Champness and J Zammit.

Moved L Bush/L Snow that the observers as listed above was admitted to the meeting.

Motion put and carried.

DECLARATION: Nil.

MINUTES: Moved C Charles/L Twyford that the Union Council minutes of 4th December 2015 be received and adopted.

Councillor C Charles recommended that the 4th December meeting to include "that the Council will annually look at affiliation including a report of KPI's to be reviewed"

Motion as amended put and carried.

Moved J Catlin/S O'Riley that the Union Council teleconference minutes of 10th February 2016 as amended be received and adopted.

Motion put and carried.

BUSINESS ARISING: Nil.

SECRETARY'S REPORTS:

Growth – A new growth chart has been developed so that council will be able to monitor not only this year but also comparisons are made to the last three years. The blue line is from 2013, red line 2014, the grey line is 2015 and the yellow line is current. Councillors will note the dip in the yellow line which was predicted due to the time of year. The Union is focusing heavily on public health and the division has started to recover. Overall we are at 32,028. Credit to public health organisers with David, Adam and Phil who have been working particularly hard.

Aged Care plateaued towards the end of last year that was due to some instability as a result of a management transition, however the membership has now started to move forward. In relation to Ambulance, there is a slight decrease in the last month and the Private Hospital Division is progressing well in relation to growth.

The Women's Committee first meeting was held Monday 22 February 2016. The committee has recommended the re-introduction of Women's breakfast at Conference with a motivational speaker. The Union will be distributing an EOI for members to partake in the Committee.

We have signed up again for Compression v Depression Motorcycle Rally in the North Coast. We contributed \$3000 last year and raised \$10,000 for Lifeline. This will be moved to Charitable Committee comprising of Warren Boon, Lindy Twyford, Bruce Cornwell and Shirley O'Riley. It will be helpful to have a strategic approach to our charitable activities.

As a result of a member being shot at Nepean Hospital the Union has put pressure on government to establish a roundtable discussion with the Department of Health, health unions, UNSW, senior executives and advisors. We are targeting the need for more resources and an enhanced professionalisation of the security function

Linen Service – The Union was advised with very short notice that there was to be a reduction of 13.5 FTE at the Illawarra Linen Service and the Illawarra and Wagga Linen Services were to be market tested. The Union was able to mobilise the membership and not only Illawarra and Wagga but across all Linen Services. The Union will now rally at the Ministry of Health and in Macquarie Street in an effort to maintain the positions, have the market testing withdrawn and to develop awareness on the issues within metropolitan regional communities.

Following a very good debate within Council in relation to ALP affiliation, the Union will now affiliate with the ALP on the 1st July 2016.

The Union has engaged 2 employees in the Aged Care Division, 1 in Private Health area and 3 MSD.

Aged Care lobby – the Union is meeting in Canberra to advocate widely in relation to our aged care membership. It is anticipated that we will meet with a range of Shadow Ministers and impress upon them the need for appropriate staffing levels, wages and conditions that will support the retention and attraction of staff to the area. Lindy and Josie will also be attending the meeting.

Last Drinks Campaign – The Union continues to support a social agenda that leads to a reduction in alcohol fuelled violence and it is noticeable that even though there has been success in this area there is now a backlash to try to undo the many beneficial steps that had been put in place to secure community safety.

I can advise that after continuous campaigning for a period of 18 months the Kempsey Hospital dispute in relation to privatisation of Medical Imaging Services has been won and despite threats of legal action that were directed to our members the Medical Imaging Department will stay in public hands.

In relation to Royal North Shore Hospital we are hearing strong rumours that the services traditionally covered by HSU and currently undertaken by ISS will revert to the public sector. Given that this Government initiative has been campaigned over for many years this is a significant win for our members and the many casuals who have been placed on modern awards.

RESOLUTION

Moved R Pike/R Dunn that the Secretary's report including growth, Aged Care, Private Sector, Public Sector, Organising, MSD, Ambulance and Industrial reports' be received and noted.

Motion put and carried.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

- Property Level 3 – The new tenant - the Pakistani Consulate - are paying rent now of \$216,000 p.a after incentives for 5 of the 9 suites. The rate of \$650 per metre almost gets us what we were receiving before with the previous tenant, who occupied the whole floor. We still have 364sq m left to rent out and we will get a higher rate for that so we expect a further \$200,000 in rental income.
- The Journey Insurance policy is up for renewal. The cost of the renewal is about \$20,000 more than last year following a couple of fairly big claims. One of them follows the death of a member and another car accident leading to a member becoming paraplegic. These claims involved the maximum claim of each one. The initial quote received was considerably higher than this, however after asking the broker to go to the market to price other policies, the price was revised by the insurer.
- Tenders for Media Advisory Services and Property Management are about to go out. The other one that I am getting some advice on is the CRM, the MemForce database. The contract expires at the end of the year.
- Regarding the earlier remarks by Mr Doherty and the Trade Union Royal Commission, as a result of the reforms put in place, the HSU is ready to deal with the recommendations coming out of the Royal Commission. The HSU appears to have been used as a model which the Royal Commission has picked up on. Good governance is not achieved by diminishing the role of the Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, as Mr Doherty has suggested. In addition, the role of the Assistant Secretary can be combined with the proposed role of "Compliance officer".

Moved S O'Riley/J Catlin that Assistant Secretary/Treasurer's report be received and adopted.

Motion put and carried.

FINANCE REPORT:

As per attached.

RESOLUTION

Moved G Partridge/A Wilcock the finance reports including the profit and loss statements and the balance sheet as at January 2016 be received and adopted.

Motion put and carried.

AGENDA ITEM 1 – WORK HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

The Union is in the process of further policy development. In keeping with this the Union has developed a WHS Policy that is consistent with the Legislation surrounding workplace health and safety. The proposed policy document has been developed in consultation with staff and is consistent with similar policies within the wider Union movement.

RESOLUTION

Moved J Catlin/L Snow Council endorses the WHS Policy and further requires a regular briefing on any matters of concern that arise following the implementation of this policy.

Motion put and carried.

Councillor Claire Charles suggested that a committee needs to be formed, with regular meetings to be held and reports provided to the Council.

AGENDA ITEM 2 – 2016 SCHOLARSHIP GRANT INITIATIVE – FUNDING WOMEN IN HEALTH

As Council is aware the Union has embarked on a more strategic and concentrated focus on women's issues and consistent with this initiative it is recommended that the Union supports the 2016 National Industry Scholarship grant. The grant will provide the opportunity for senior management and executive level women to apply for \$12,000 to undertake the advanced leadership program and women managers' can apply for individual grants of \$5000 to undertake the accelerated leadership program.

RESOLUTION

Moved J Catlin/L Snow that Union Council endorses the advanced leadership program and accelerated leadership performance program and supports women within the HSU membership applying for grants within these respective programs.

Motion put and carried.

AGENDA ITEM 3 – UNITED EDGE

United Edge was the IT provider to the HSU East and other organisations prior to the HSU East being put into administration. During that period of administration United Edge made an application for liquidation and Farnsworth Shepherd were appointed to undertake that process in October 2012.

The Union has recently received correspondence indicating that the liquidation of the company will proceed and that there will be no distribution with respect to unsecured creditors.

RESOLUTION

Moved L Burns/L Twyford that the Union notes the correspondence from Farnsworth Shepherd.

Motion put and carried.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – NOMINATION ORGANISATION TO THE SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Consistent with the Union's developing interests an opportunity exists for the HSU to be a nominating organisation to the Sustainable Procurement Technical Committee. This Committee is a part of Standards Australia and contributes to the requirements for procurement within the Government realm. Currently the Committee is made up of business and bureaucratic representatives and there is clearly a need for a contribution by the Labour Movement with respect to sustainable procurement. In saying this we should focus on the current exploitation of labour in the supply chain process and contribute to raising labour standards within supply chains on a global basis.

RESOLUTION

Moved R Pike/J Peacock Union Council supports an enhanced labour focus within supply chains and given that the HSU has a membership that hold procurement positions within health and aged care for the supply of medical goods and services, the Union Council endorses that the Secretary write to Standards Australia and indicate our interest in becoming a nominating organisation for a sustainable procurement technical committee.

Motion put and carried.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – FOUNDATION HOUSE

Foundation House is an alcohol, drug and gambling rehabilitation facility.

At the moment Foundation house gives preferred access to people who work in construction and are CFMEU members. The CFMEU is the major contributor to the service and secures this access for this reason. Recently the Union has been approached by the CFMEU to become involved in this service. There are a number of possibilities for our involvement which may include funding, board involvement and the possible securing preferential entry for HSU members.

RESOLUTION

Moved L Twyford/J Peacock that the Union Council authorises Secretary Gerard Hayes to investigate and negotiate involvement from the HSU in Foundation House with a concrete proposal to be approved by the Branch Committee in due course.

Motion put and carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Secretary advised that Women's breakfast will commence at this year's conference. The life membership presentation will be held during the conference. He further advised that SEIU will be in attendance at the Conference. Furthermore Adam Hall will attend training at SEIU head office in March. The theme for the HSU Conference will be "Internal Structures and Campaigns".

There being no other general business the meeting closed at 2.50p.m.

Chairperson