

**PSA/CPSU NSW RETIRED ASSOCIATES ADVISORY GROUP
MINUTES OF MEETING
Held on Tuesday 28 February 2023 at PSA House and by Zoom**

The meeting was chaired by Dave McKeough, President of the PSA/CPSU NSW Retired Associates and commenced at 10.39am.

1. Acknowledgement of Country – Dave McKeough

2. Attendance

At PSA House Robert Asbury, Janette Beer, Barry Blanchard, Dave McKeough, Carmel McKeough, Mara Tudorin, Robert Ryan, Isabella Ramirra, David Chant, Kym McClynmont, Wayne McMillan

PSA Representatives President Nicole Jess, Dylan Smith, Manager Industrial Specialists

By Zoom Suzanne Chate, Ysbrand Oosten, John Lievore

3. Apologies

Susan Jedrejczyk, Robert Pike, Stan Beal, Nicola Christie, John Walz, Bret Leech, Dharma Nard

MOTION: That the apologies be accepted.

MOVED: Mara Tudorin SECONDED: Robert Asbury

CARRIED Unanimously

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 6 December 2022

Moved: That the minutes be accepted.

MOVED: Mara Tudorin SECONDED Barry Blanchard

CARRIED: Unanimously

5. Business Arising from the Previous Meeting

5.1 State Election 25 March 2023

The following issues were discussed:

- Privatisation and damage it has caused;
- What is happening to the Powerhouse Museum is a tragedy – move to Parramatta, loss of volunteers, concerns about the future;
- Insecure work at cultural institutions and across the public sector;
- Cost of light rail and metro rail;
- Safework and icare – impact of injury when aged over 65.

5.2 *PSA/CPSU NSW – Draft Charter for the Retired Associates Advisory Group*

Dave McKeough circulated the current version and thanked members who had provided feedback.

It was particularly noted that an acknowledgement of country needed to be added to the order of business for meetings.

Action: Dave McKeough to make amendments as discussed

5.3 *Retired Associates Elections*

Dave McKeough confirmed that nominations closed on 24 February 2023 and outlined the procedures to confirm office bearers including the role of Central Council.

5.4 *POVB Document*

Dave McKeough referred to the POVB document and ways it could be adapted to promote to public servants who are nearing retirement.

5.5 *Promotional Materials*

We discussed the need to better promote the benefits of belonging to the Retired Associates and noted discussions which had taken place with PSA Communications and Member Services last year.

It was agreed that we need to do more to reach people who are nearing retirement so that they have greater awareness of the benefits of a continuing association with the PSA.

Actions:

Dave McKeough and Carmel McKeough to follow up with PSA and provide update at next meeting

Carmel McKeough to confirm full range of value added benefits with Kym Ward

5.5 *Retired Associates Membership*

We discussed the need to grow our membership, the number of un-financial members and how we can reach out to them.

Action:

Dave McKeough and Carmel McKeough to further consider strategies to reach out to un-financial members and discuss with relevant PSA staff

5.5 *Frank Scharfe*

Dave McKeough tried to contact Frank's relatives but has been unable to do so.

6. Reports

6.1 PSA Executive Update

Nicole Jess provided a report and discussed the following:

- Upcoming state election and its critical importance to the public sector and union movement;
- Pamphleting at Parramatta, Westmead, Harris Park, Penrith. Revesby and West Ryde – well received;
- Community Forum to be held at Parramatta at 4.00pm on 8 March 2023 – Retired Associates encouraged to attend; and
- PSA is recommending that voters put the Liberals last.

Dylan Smith referred to the following:

- PSA's key priorities including no more privatisation, removal of the wages cap, restoration of the independence of the Industrial Relations Commission, addressing insecure work especially in schools and appropriate and fair public sector legislation – not the current Government Sector Employment Act (GSE);
- PSA Campaign – privatisation hurts everyone;
- PSA has written to all major political parties about their position and policies in regard to the NSW public sector;
- PSA wants to see real jobs, real wages and no more outsourcing by agencies of work that can and should be done by public servants;
- Huge problems in schools due to insecure work of both school administrative and support staff as well as teachers;
- Huge problems in housing including loss of public/social housing stock and waiting list of 51,000;
- ALP is proposing the establishment of a stand-alone Housing agency – housing responsibilities are currently dispersed across agencies and staff are demoralised;
- Need to review GSE and restore fair disciplinary and misconduct provisions and include extended leave;
- Problems with the SES particularly in terms of truly independent, frank and fearless advice and gender balance;
- Need to make changes to the Public Service Commission so that it is effective;
- Differences in education policies of the ALP and Coalition;
- PSA is running unfair dismissal cases for long standing temporary school support staff who have lost their jobs;
- Problems with converting temporary staff to permanent because school principals do not want to incur the cost of paying out redundancies – system needs to change; and
- PSA campaign activities - Retired Associates are encouraged to help.

7. Correspondence

No correspondence to report.

8. Motions on notice – Nil

9. Stroke Foundation

Dave McKeough distributed documentation from the Stroke Foundation which included information about different types of strokes and recognising the signs.

10. General Business

10.1 AEDs in the Workplace

We would like to understand the PSA's policy about AEDs in the workplace.

Action: Dave McKeough to follow up

10.2 NSW Seniors Concert and Expo

Janette Beer attended the concert and ICC expo. She advised members to consider attending future concerts. There was also lots of valuable information for seniors at the Expo.

11. Future Guest Speakers

Carmel McKeough will contact the PSA with a view to inviting school organisers to talk to us at our next meeting about the issues of insecure work and lack of safe working conditions.

Action: Carmel McKeough to follow up with Julie Bond

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Retired Associates will be held on Tuesday, 18 April 2023 at PSA House or via Zoom

The meeting closed at 12:27pm.