

PSA CPSU NSW RETIRED ASSOCIATES
MINUTES OF MEETING
Held on Tuesday 26 April 2024 at PSA House and by Zoom

The meeting was chaired by Dave McKeough, President of the PSA CPSU NSW Retired Associates and commenced at 10.35 am.

1. Acknowledgement of Country – John Walz

2. Attendance

At PSA House Dave McKeough, Carmel McKeough Jeanette Beer, Robert Asbury, Ysbrand Oosten, John Walz, David Clyant, Paul Turner, Isabella Ramirra, Robert Ryan, Barry Blanchard,

PSA Representative Troy Wright, Assistant General Secretary

By Zoom David Briggs, Patricia Nethery, Anita Christofides

Guest Michael King, President CFMEU Retired Group (Construction and General Division, NSW Branch)

3. Apologies

Nicola Christie, Bret Leech, Tudorin, Wayne O'Mara, Stan Beal, Samson Raman

MOTION: That the apologies be accepted.

MOVED: John Walz SECONDED: Robert Asbury

CARRIED Unanimously

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 24 February r\ 2024

MOTION: That the minutes be accepted.

MOVED: Ysbrand Oosten SECONDED: Robert Asbury

CARRIED: Unanimously

Carmel McKeough expressed her thanks to Wayne O'Mara for taking the minutes at the February meeting.

5. Business Arising

5.1 Motion re SSS Superannuation

Awaiting further advice from the Executive. Dave and Carmel to follow up with Dylan Smith.

Carmel McKeough encouraged Retired Associates to regularly check their superannuation and bank balances due to the level of hacking of accounts that is occurring.

5.2 Promotional materials

Continues to be a work in progress

Action: Dave and Carmel to follow up with the communications team.

5.3 *Unfinancial members*

Continues to be a work in progress.

Action: Dave McKeough and Carmel McKeough to provide update at next meeting

5.6 *Mental Health Strategy*

To be further discussed with the Executive.

Carmel McKeough will finalise letter to The Hon Jodie Harrison in relation to transition to retirement and volunteering.

Action: Dave McKeough and Carmel McKeough to follow up with the Executive.

6. **Reports**

6.1 *Quality Aged Care Action Group (QACAG) Meeting*

Dave McKeough attended a QACAG meeting on 18 April 2024. This organisation aims to improve aged care in all settings, including residential care. QACAG made a submission to the Federal Government in relation to proposed aged care reforms.

Dave circulated a leaflet prepared by QACAG "Looking for the residential aged care". A copy is attached with the minutes – refer Attachment 1.

This led to a discussion about the problems, pitfalls and costs with current aged care policy settings.

6.2 *Combined Pensioners and Superannuants Association (CPSA)*

Carmel McKeough is now a member of the CPSA Executive as a representative of the PSA CPSU Retired Associates. Carmel attended a meeting on 3 April 2024. Ash Fowler, Policy Manager gave a detailed briefing to the Executive. This included proposed aged care reforms, the funeral industry and transport concessions.

Barry Blanchard can be an alternate delegate if Carmel is unable to attend a meeting.

6.3 *PSA CPSU NSW Executive Update*

Troy Wright gave an update and addressed the following issues:

- future pay rises for public servants;
- recent changes to the *Industrial Relations Act, 1996*;
- ongoing problems with the Powerhouse museum, including flooding at the Parramatta site;
- PSA has established a Committee of Cultural Institutions and a curator from the Powerhouse is on secondment to the PSA;
- need to remember that the Powerhouse is a science and technology museum
- WHS including bullying and psychological injuries;
- difficulty of getting people back to work;
- length of workplace investigations;
- housing reforms progressed by Minister Jackson including the establishment of Housing NSW; and
- problems inherited by the Minns Government in terms of housing including lack of public housing and asset sales by the previous Government – reference was made to the Sirius building, the displacement of public housing tenants, its sale, renovation, and apartments now selling for millions.

Retired Associates thanked Troy for his presentation.

7. Correspondence

Carmel McKeough advised that both an email and letter were sent to Dr Hugh Mackay AO inviting him to be our guest speaker at a future meeting. Dr Mackay responded by email during the meeting.

Dave and Carmel will further discuss the best timing and arrangements with Dylan Smith and then formally respond to Dr Mackay.

8. Motions on Notice

Barry Blanchard discussed the work of the Retired Unionists Group which is part of the ACTU. The following motion was put forward:

That the PSA CPSU NSW provides a meeting room for the Sydney Retired Unionists Group for its August annual general meeting.

MOVED: Barry Blanchard SECONDED: Ysbrand Oosten

CARRIED Unanimously

9. General Business

9.1 Power structures and mental health

Robert Ryan discussed his concerns about societal directions and reflected on the work of Dr Hugh Mackay.

9.2 Bicycle Safety

Robert Ryan advised that electric bikes and scooters are not fitted with bells which he argued should be rectified to minimise the risk of injury.

This led to the following motion from the floor:

That the PSA CPSU NSW writes to transport agencies requesting that regulations in relation to electronic bikes and scooters are enforced.

MOVED: Robert Ryan SECONDED: Robert Asbury

CARRIED Unanimously

9.3 Inquiry Management

Jeanette Beer referred to recent experiences and will forward a timeline to Dave and Carmel.

Action: Dave McKeough and Carmel McKeough to follow up

9.4 Delegates to PSA Annual Conference

The PSA Annual Conference will be held on 16-17 May 2024. Retired Associates unanimously endorsed Dave McKeough and Carmel McKeough attending the Conference as observers.

10. Guest Speaker – Michael King, President, CFMEU Retired Group

Michael discussed current issues with his organisation and concerns including climate change. He also made the point that truthfulness across our institutions was of fundamental importance and referred to the loss of staff coordinating responses to Ministerial correspondence.

Members thanked Michael for his presentation.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Retired Associates will be held on Tuesday, 25 June 2024 at PSA House or via Zoom, commencing at 10.30am. This will be our annual general meeting which will be followed by a light lunch.

The meeting closed at 12.54pm



LOOKING FOR RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE?

10 Questions to Ask leaflets aim to make your journey easier.

Available in 15 other languages, including Arabic, Croatian, Mandarin, Cantonese, Greek, Italian, Korean, Macedonian, Maltese, Polish, Russian, Serbian, Spanish, Turkish, Vietnamese, as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.



SCAN QR CODE TO START



www.10questions.org.au

