



## MINUTES

Minutes of the General Meeting of WASFR Inc. held at the Cambridge Bowling Club, Howtree Place, Floreat, on Friday **9 AUGUST 2024**.

The President opened the meeting at 10.25am immediately following the earlier AGM. There were 23 members and 5 visitors.

### **APOLOGIES:**

V. Payne, R. & J. Dawson, A. Schipp and H. Ellis.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:** Moved I. Moller and seconded by R. Wyatt, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2024 be accepted as a true record. Carried.

### **BUSINESS ARISING:**

**Investment Group:** P. Farr advised that the next meeting will be on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> August. The speaker will be Damian Collins who is the Chairman of Westbridge Funds Management, Managing Director of Momentum Wealth and Past President of the Real Estate Institute of Western Australia. Damian will speak about the valuable way unlisted property funds can support your retirement lifestyle, including how they can help you build a passive income stream, factors to consider when choosing which types of funds to invest in, and the potential tax advantages available to SMSF investors. Damian has recently written a book titled "*Property Investing Roadmap*".

**Aged Care:** The President commented on the continued lack of basic information regarding the introduction of the new Aged Care Act - in particular, proposed funding arrangements for residents. There has been no change from the situation as outlined at last month's meeting i.e. little chance of any increase in the Medicare Levy with the potential that those people who can afford it will pay more. Despite additional funding for Home Care packages there remains a considerable delay in applicants actually receiving the benefits. Mention was made of the appointment of a new Asst. Minister for Ageing - Kate Thwaites. Kate joins up with Mark Butler and Anika Wells in having responsibility for Aged Care. The pending Federal election is seeming to have an effect on decisions being made.

**WA Seniors Peak Body:** Advocare has been appointed WA's Senior Peak Body for the next 3 years. The President has met with the Acting CEO and has requested an appointment with the current CEO when she returns from leave soon. The President attended the *Ageing Well Expo* held last week and was able to have discussions with several Aged Care organisations - including Advocare. It seems that Advocare is well established with offices in Bunbury, Albany, Geraldton and Newman. They provide free information to retirees on many aspects of retirement living, together with Home Care packages and other assistance to those continuing to remain in their family home. It remains to be seen if Advocare are prepared to take on the responsibilities associated with improving the financial concessions from government that the WA Seniors Alliance has been mainly focused on. Mention was also made on the effect this decision has made on the continued existence of COTA WA - the CEO of COTA Australia has stated that everything will be done to ensure that COTA WA will be supported as much as possible.

### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- Emails re Aged Care survey (many)
- Emails from OPAN - incl. "*The National Advocate*" July edition
- Emails from A.I.R. - Perth newsletter plus *AIR ACTIVE* (July)
- Emails re *WA Seniors Peak Body*
- Emails re lunch with P. Lilburne (14<sup>th</sup> August)
  - the President has been invited to Parliament House (lunch with P. Lilburne)

*State & Federal Advocates for Fully and Partly Self Funded Retirees*

...../2

**COMMUNICATIONS:** *cont.*

- Emails re Ageing Expo 2/3<sup>rd</sup> August 2024
- Emails re Focus Group meeting - Star Ratings (30<sup>th</sup> July)
  - J. McPhail attended
- Email from Kate Chaney - July newsletter
- Email from Town of Cambridge
- Email from COTA Australia - re Scams (30<sup>th</sup> August)
- Emails from National Seniors - inc. *NSA Connect* 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> July (plus Scams)
- Email from Dept. Health - *Engaged* July edition
- Email from CPSA - August newsletter
- Brisbane North Retirees - August newsletter
- Emails from ACOSS (2)
- SMSF Weekly News Digests (5)

**FINANCE:** The Treasurer, M. Harris, invited members to look at the monthly financial statement printed on the reverse of today’s Agenda. Funds available as at 2<sup>nd</sup> August were \$6,980.14 with no outstanding accounts. M. Harris moved, seconded by P. Farr, that the statement be accepted. No further questions from members.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

**Other:** The President invited comments from members on items that might be considered for inclusion in the 2025/26 Federal Pre-Budget submission - preparation of this submission will commence in a few months time.

After the morning tea break the President introduced Professor Charlie Fox who spoke on the History of the Claremont Mental Hospital - and how practices have changed over time. Professor Fox taught Australian history at Melbourne University as well as at the University of WA. Although now retired he continues to do the occasional lecture and is assisting with conducted history tours through Fremantle and Perth. After his presentation the President made a small presentation to Professor Fox.

Speakers for the following months are as follows

13 September	Robyn Nolan	<i>Women’s Hall of Fame and The Historical Walk Trail at Karrakatta Cemetery</i>
11 October	Nigel Farrier	<i>History of Electrical Vehicles - Pros and Cons</i>
9 November	Christmas Party	<i>The Band “Fragments”</i>

Confirmed .....

Date .....

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2024**

***WASFR Inc. does not give advice on any personal or financial matters.  
Nothing written or spoken in the course of WASFR meetings, talks or publication is to be construed as advice given to members.***