



MINUTES

Minutes of the General meeting of WASFR Inc. held at the Cambridge Bowling Club, Howtree Place, Floreat, on Friday **8 NOVEMBER 2024**.

The President opened the meeting at 10.10am and welcomed the 23 members present. There is no guest speaker today, instead we have the Band "Fragments" helping us celebrate Christmas 2024.

APOLOGIES:

V. Payne and H. Ellis.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: Moved I. Moller and seconded by R. Wyatt, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2024 be accepted as a true record. Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Investment Group: P. Farr confirmed that there will not be another meeting this year. The next meeting will most probably be held in February 2025.

WA Seniors Peak Body/Advocare: The President repeated previous comments regarding Advocare's selection as the *WA Seniors Peak Body* for the next 3 years. A meeting with the Acting CEO had been held on 27 September where a document titled "*Peak Scope*" had been tabled. Two statements e.g. "*Advocare cannot author submissions to government outside systemic issues relating to the Age-Friendly WA: State Seniors Strategy 2023-2033 and those supported by our Seniors Reference Group.*" and "*While we can pass on concerns raised.....Advocare has no power to act on matters relating to private or government organisations.*" are matters of some concern. Discussion followed on what benefits might be gained with such restrictions in place. Reference was made to the WA Seniors Alliance and whether it might need to continue if Advocare choose to refuse to pursue financial benefits (e.g. abolish Stamp Duty for Seniors), for retirees living in WA. There is a new CEO due to take up duty next week. The President has been invited to attend an official launch of Advocare as *WA's Seniors Peak Body* on Thursday 14th November and it is hoped that an opportunity will arise where further discussion can take place regarding the WA Seniors Alliance. There is no further information regarding the creation of a *Seniors Reference Group* or a *Seniors Sector Leaders Group*.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Emails to/from M. Keogh and P. Gorman (re Federal submission)
 - neither one is prepared to be available for discussions re this submission
- Emails from COTA WA re Invitation to *Seniors of the Year Awards* (12 November)
- Email from Advocare - Invitation to Launch of the *WA Seniors Peak Body* (14 November)
- Emails from Perth A.I.R. re proposed Tax changes plus October & November newsletters
- Emails re guest speakers
- Emails from OPAN - incl. "*The National Advocate*" October edition
- Emails from COTA Australia - Survey on the new Aged Care Act
- Email from Australian Seniors - *Dare* magazine (November/December issue)
- Email from Kate Chaney - October newsletter - Email from Town of Cambridge
- Emails from Curtin Radio 100.1 re annual subscription
- Emails from National Seniors - inc. *NSA Connect* 18th and 25th October, 1st November plus survey on new superannuation system
- Emails from Dept. Health - "*Engaged*" October edition
- Email from *Home Instead* - proposed changes to Aged Care

COMMUNICATIONS: *cont.*

- Email from Gold Coast Retirees re proposed Div. 296 tax
 - quite concerned about the proposed inclusion of unrealised capital gains (and lack of indexation)
- Brisbane North Retirees - November newsletter
- Emails from ACROSS (2)
- SMSF Weekly News Digests (5)

FINANCE: The President invited members to look at the monthly financial statement printed on the reverse of today’s Agenda. Funds available as at 8 November were \$6,607.69 with no outstanding accounts. The small loss of \$420 for the year was due to the need to take out Public Liability Insurance. No questions from members.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

2025/26 Federal Pre-Budget submission: The President referred briefly to this submission and invited members to forward suggestions re items that might be considered for inclusion. With the current uncertainty regarding the date of the Federal election it is felt that we should finalise the submission before the end of the year.

Other: In relation to the proposed Div. 296 tax, and unrealised capital gains, R. Wyatt said that a precedent already existed in this country. Apparently unrealised capital gains can be a consideration where a person, with a superannuation account, dies and the estate is left to a non-dependant nominated death beneficiary who lives overseas. This is not a common occurrence, however, it could be used in a defence of the government’s desire to maintain it in future legislation.

At the conclusion of this segment the President invited members to partake of the varieties of food that is now being placed on tables at the rear of the room. Christmas Wishes were extended to everybody with the hope of a year with less conflict between some nations.

The Band “*Fragments*” then commenced to entertain with music from past Golden Years. When the Band packed up around 11.30am the President made a small presentation to them in appreciation of their time and the quality of their music.

Speakers for the following months are as follows

14 February 2025	Assoc. Professor Doina Olaru	<i>Suspicious Minds - AI and Driverless vehicles</i>
14 March	Lynley Barnett	<i>How Grandparents can support family members and Grandchildren facing separation/divorce</i>

Confirmed

Date

NEXT GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2025

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