



MINUTES

Minutes of the General meeting of WASFR Inc. held at the Cambridge Bowling Club, Howtree Place, Floreat, on Friday **9 MAY 2025**.

The President opened the meeting at 10.05am and welcomed the 19 members and 28 visitors present. For the benefit of the visitors he then summarised the creation of WA Self Funded Retirees in 2010 and the activities that we have been involved in since that time.

APOLOGIES:

V. Payne, E. & S. Goodchild, J. Dawson and H. Ellis

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: Moved J. Yeatman and seconded by M. Collett, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 April 2025 be accepted as a true record. Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Investment Group: P. Farr said that he had been able to get a financial journalist, M/s Sarah Wells, to speak to us on financial issues. Sarah is a journalist who has a regular financial news spot on the ABC at 6.40am on weekdays and often appears on Channel 9. She describes herself as a “solutionist” - finding solutions to her clients’ money goals, as a broker, finance coach and all-round support network for her clients. No date has yet been set for Sarah’s talk. Members will be advised when a date has been agreed on. It is becoming difficult to continue to get suitable professional advisers to come along to these meetings as a guest speaker.

WA Seniors Peak Body/Advocare: The President gave a short summary of the appointment of Advocare as WA’s Senior Peak Body as from 1 July 2024. There are 2 groups that Advocare intends to create - the *Seniors Reference Group* and the *Seniors Sector Leaders Group*. The appointment of a new Manager, who will lead/control these 2 groups, was finalised on 11 March 2025. A meeting has been scheduled for 4 June where interested organisations are to meet and discuss the formation of these 2 groups - WASFR will have a representative attending. The comment was made that we are hoping that the *Seniors Sector Leaders Group* will take over the responsibility currently being owned by the WA Seniors Alliance.

Division 296 Tax: General discussion on the current situation of this proposed tax. Now that the results of the Federal election are known there is a growing concern that the issue of including unrealised capital gains may not be discarded. Although Labor may still not have complete control of the Senate it is becoming evident that opposition to this issue could be minimal. The President referred to the response from the Federal Treasury (received in March) which outlined, in some detail, why the government intends to continue with the inclusion of unrealised capital gains. I. Moller said that the Greens were seeking a reduction in the cut-off amount from \$3 million down to \$2 million - this would affect a greater number of retirees. It was noted that other organisations were also opposed to this issue.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Emails to/from Advocare (meeting 4th June)
- Emails re guest speakers
- Emails re loudspeaker issues plus the damaged recording device
 - the President said that the microphone had been checked by an electronic technician and it now appeared that the static issue has been stopped
- Emails re new Aged Care Act
- Emails from OPAN - incl. “*The National Advocate*” April edition

COMMUNICATIONS: cont.

- Emails from COTA Australia - Seniors Dental Services plus Autumn newsletter
- Email re Dental Care - write to politicians
- Emails from A.I.R. - Perth (Division newsletter plus April edition of *AIR Active*)
- Email from Kate Chaney - April newsletter
- Emails from National Seniors - inc. *NSA Connect* 11th, 17th and 24th April, 2nd May
- Emails re Division 296 tax
- Emails from Dept. Health - "*Engaged*" April edition (webinar plus new SHP pricing)
- Email from Australian Seniors - "*Dare*" May/June newsletter
- Email from Town of Cambridge - May edition
- Emails re Public Liability Insurance - increase in cost to \$755 pa
- Brisbane North Retirees - May newsletter
- Emails from ACOSS (6)
- SMSF Weekly News Digests (5)

FINANCE: The Treasurer invited members to look at the monthly financial statement on the back of today's Agenda. Funds available as at 2 May were \$5,820.84 with the Insurance invoice of \$755 yet to be paid. Rent for the Bowling Club has been paid up till the end of 2025. No questions from members.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Other: The President referred to the recent Federal election and invited comments from members. No comments were forthcoming.

P. Farr mentioned that the Committee meeting the previous week had been held at the Regis Aged Care facility in Woodlands. This was as a result of an invitation from Regis after the President had met with several representatives at a meeting on 12 March that involved the organisation now known as Dovida. The Regis facility is only 5 – 6 years old and is well set out - only single rooms but sometimes a couple can get adjoining rooms. RADs range from \$750,000 to \$950,000 depending on the room.

After the morning tea break P. Farr introduced Kathryn Ewen (from Dovida), who began an informative power-point presentation on changes to the current *Home Care Packages* (HCPs). As from 1 July 2025 these HCPs will be replaced by the *Support at Home Packages* which increases the level of packages from 4 to 10. There are a number of other changes but the overriding message is that those retirees that can afford it will need to pay more for their services. A summary of her talk will be on the WASFR web-site shortly.

At the conclusion of the talk the President made a small presentation to Kathryn thanking her for her time.

Speakers for the following months are as follows

- | | | |
|----------|--------------------|---|
| 13 June | Jon Broomhall | <i>Dept. of Fire & Emergency Services and all the good things they do</i> |
| 11 July | Talitha Huston | <i>Birds of the Perth Hills</i> |
| 8 August | Vanessa Fitzgerald | <i>Residential Aged Care - Exploring the changes re funding etc.</i> |

Confirmed

Date

NEXT GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 13 JUNE 2025

***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.***