

Minutes of Sydney Branch ASSLH Executive 2 February, 2012

Meeting opened at 6.15pm Work & Organisational Studies, after convening in Room 331 we moved to adjoining room

Apologies: Damien Stapleton went to Unions NSW waited until 6.30pm.
(Sorry Damien)

Present: John Sheilds, Sue Tracey, Danny Blackman, Jim Rooney, Jim Kitay(invited guest of John Sheilds)

Vote of Thanks

Nick Dyrenfurth be sent a letter/email thanking him for his role in Sydney Branch where he energetically publicized events of interest to Sydney Branch members and most importantly for the Branch, being editor of *Hummer* for the last two years and secretary since September 2011. As well as editing *Hummer* Nick also wrote articles for it and produced 3 fine issues. We wish Nick well in his new position at Monash University.

Moved J Sheilds, S Tracey carried unanimously.

Secretary's Position

Nick's departure has left the Secretary's position vacant. Sue Tracey has been acting Secretary since early January. After discussion executive member Danny Blackman has agreed to assist with the Secretary's role.

Editor of Hummer

The production of *Hummer* is fundamental to the Branch's identity. Jim Kitay indicated he would be happy to edit the material, but not select items for publication. He has had a lot of experience editing and now he is retired. Jim Rooney suggested that John Sheilds, Sue Tracey and himself either write an article each and/or find articles from others.

John Sheilds indicated that some items suggested for *Labour History*, such as obituaries and some book reviews, would be better suited to *Hummer* and he would be able to channel such items towards *Hummer*. He also suggested that *Hummer* may have a page devoted to labour history sources, particularly recent accessions: Archival Deposits at Noel Butlin Archives, ADB material.

Hummer be produced twice in 2012 with executive members providing articles. Obituaries, Book Reviews and labour history sources. Jim Kitay will edit the material submitted. Margaret Walters will do the proof reading, as she has done for the recent edition. (Agreed)

Before the meeting Jim Rooney circulated a list of potential activities for 2012:

- Membership Drive (each member get one)
- Conference
 - transnational labour activism
 - Centenary of Titanic sinking
- Talk by visiting academic
- Panel discussion

Membership Issues

Following the discussion it was agreed that Jim Rooney would draft a questionnaire to be circulated via email for members to complete and tell the executive what activities they would like the branch to be involved in. This would also be sent to non financial members as well. (Jim Rooney and Sue Tracey)

Meetings, Talks, Events

Sarah Gregson(Former Sydney Branch president) has been involved in preparations for the commemoration of the event. Danny Blackman will contact her to find out when and where the event is to be held so as it can be publicised within the Branch. (Danny Blackman)

John Sheilds suggested an evening with Lance Wright, former president, of the Industrial Commission. (John Sheilds)

Possible speakers for : Bob Hawke (on his days as industrial advocate for the ACTU) and Ray Markey.

Jim suggested a talk on transnational activism, Danny suggested focussing on textile workers in view of the centenary of the Lawrence Massachusetts strike.

Venue for Meeting

NSW Teachers Fed a possibility. Danny to contact them to see if space could be made available. (Danny Blackman)

Meeting closed at 7.45pm