



DNI Defensa de los Niños Internacional

DCI Defence for Children International (Australia)

DEI Défense des Enfants International

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2005

HELD AT: THE YOUTH AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF VICTORIA
2/172 Flinders St Melbourne
and
THE NATIONAL CHILDREN AND YOUTH LAW CENTRE
32 Botany St Randwick/Sydney

ON: November 24 2005

PRESENT : *in Sydney* - Judy Cashmore (President/Chair);

in Melbourne - Diana Batzias; Lis de Vries; Janet Jukes; Danny Sandor;
Paula Grogan.

by Phone – June Wangmann; Helen Bayes; Peter Briffa; Simon Quilty
(arrived late)

1. Opening and welcome by President

The President, Judy Cashmore, opened the meeting at 4:05pm.

2. Apologies

The following apologies were noted: Bronwyn Gould, Mike Lalor, Carol Lymbery, Moira Rayner, Barbara Rogalla, Sid Spindler, Allison Tait, Graham Vimpani.

3. President's report

A copy of the president's report is attached.

Judy noted that the main and ongoing work of DCI was the joint preparation and presentation with National Children's and Youth Law Centre of the second alternative report to the UN Committee on CROC. Judy thanked Richard Chisholm, Moira Rayner, Simon Quilty, Barbara Rogalla, and Danny Sandor for their contribution to the Alternative report process and several anonymous DCI donors and UNICEF and Oxfam for their financial contribution in assisting members to present the alternative report in Geneva.

Judy noted also the change of DCI's office from Melbourne to Sydney and thanked the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria for housing DCI for the past few years and thanked the National Children and Youth Law Centre for agreeing to take on DCI.



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Judy thanked many people who have assisted DCI over the past year, in particular Helen Mattick's work in maintaining the financial records and membership of the organisation. She also thanked Danny Sandor and Chris Cody together with members of the national committee especially Simon and Janet for their work.

Judy welcomed Helen Bayes and invited her to describe to the meeting her role for DCI in Geneva in the next 6 months. Helen has been invited to take up the position of interim Secretary General for DCI while DCI recruits a permanent and ongoing incumbent. She indicated that she expects that the focus of DCI's work will be on promoting and reporting on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and "Kids behind bars" over that time.

Judy noted that we face a number of huge challenges ahead as a community of people concerned about children's rights including terrorism, Industrial Relations law changes and the Federal Government's Welfare to Work policy.

June Wangmann on behalf of the members thanked Judy for her work and noted that she had made a significant impact on children's rights particularly through the Alternative Report. This sentiment was echoed by all present.

The President's report was accepted.

4. Financial report for the year

The audited financial reports were tabled. They showed a small surplus at the end of the financial year. The financial reports were signed off by Judy and Janet.

There was discussion concerning the reduction cost of insurance and Janet undertook to investigate the nature of the insurance and to bring to a national committee a recommendation about it.

The financial report was accepted:

Moved: Janet Jukes

Seconded : Diana Batzias

5. Nomination of Auditor and reappointment of public officer for the coming year

It was agreed that Peter Irving and Co. should be the auditor for the coming year.

Moved: Janet Jukes

Seconded: Diana Batzias

It was agreed that Helen Bayes should remain the Public Officer for DCI.

Moved: Diana Batzias

Seconded: Judy Cashmore



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6. Change of Rules

Motion to change the rules of the Association: That section 15 (3) “Members shall not be a member of the National Committee for more than five consecutive terms” be deleted from the Defence for Children International Australian Section Rules of Association and that section 15 (4) be renumbered section 15 (3)”

Moved: Janet Jukes

Seconded: Michael Antrum

Janet noted that this change to the constitution is necessary to allow National Committee members to continue their work on the National Committee regardless of how long they have been serving in this role.

It will also allow office holders to gather the significant experience necessary before nominating for executive positions.

As elections are held for all National Committee positions annually, we feel that members have adequate power to recruit new candidates if they feel this is desirable.

DCI-A Members should be able to be represented by the best suitable candidate without this artificial and imposed time restriction.

No one spoke against the motion and the motion was carried unanimously.

7. Nominations for Committee membership and executive positions

The following nominations were accepted unanimously:

President:	Judy Cashmore
Vice President:	(vacant)
Secretary:	Janet Jukes
Treasurer:	Diana Batzias

Committee:

Peter Briffa TAS
Simon Quilty NT
Danny Sandor VIC
June Wangmann NSW

Birgit Flatow /Sue Packer *ACT to confirm*
Cheryl Vernon WA *still to confirm*
Allison Tait QLD *still to confirm*
David Ferraro SA *still to confirm*

8. Other business

No other business was conducted.

9. Meeting closed. The President closed the meeting at 4:55pm.