



**Wangka Maya Pilbara Aboriginal Language Centre**  
**2004 Annual General Meeting & Special General Meeting**

	<p><b>DATE:</b> 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2004 Meeting opened 9:35am  <b>LOCATION</b> Lotteries House South Hedland</p>
1.	<p><b>Present:</b> Richard Oderson, Bruce Thomas, Susie Brown, Rosie Munro, Anne Sibosado, Trudy Hayes, Jilalga Murray, Dora Possum, Edna Hopiga, Rose Murray, Margaret Burragurra, Margaret Billycan, Glenys Hayes, Lizzie Dagleish, Mandy Snook, Lena Alone, Elsie Williams, Norton Williams, Timmy Peterson, Margaret Arnott, Brian Sampson, Peggy Peterson, Desmond Taylor, Alma Gray, David Woodman, Molly Minta</p>
	<p><b>Staff:</b> Albert Burgman, Fran Haintz, Gina Gray, Raylene Gordon, Eleonora Deak</p>
	<p><b>Apologies:</b> Winnie Coppin, Peter Coppin, Sandy Brown, Kevin Fred, Muuki Taylor, Smith Robinson, Delores Williams, Lorraine Injie, Teddy Allen, Kate Gear, Nyaparu Wellington</p>
2.	<p><b>Welcome</b>  Welcome by Chairperson Bruce Thomas  Bruce welcomed everyone and thanked them for travelling from all over for the meeting.</p>
3.	<p><b>Minutes of the last AGM</b>  Read by Fran Haintz  Acceptance of the last minutes as being correct  Moved: Trudy Hayes  Seconded: Edna Hopiga</p>
4.	<p><b>Chairperson Report</b> - See attached for written report</p>
5.	<p><b>Audit Report</b> - Fran presented the report and read out the financial statements. Auditor thinks we are doing a good job, but need to be aware as we grow that we can continue to manage the work we do well.</p> <p>Moved acceptance of the Auditor's Report:  Moved: Bruce Thomas  Seconded: Anne Sibosado  Carried unanimously.</p>
6.	<p><b>Appointment of Auditor</b>  Paul Healy &amp; Associates nominated as the Auditor for next year.  Moved: Trudy Hayes  Seconded: Jilalga Murray  Carried unanimously.</p>
7.	<p><b>Annual Report – See Attached</b>  The Annual Report was tabled; Fran gave a brief overview of the projects completed during the year.  Chairperson Bruce Thomas spoke about ownership of materials and copyright. He stressed the need for written agreements to be used when any materials are being used, photos taken etc, people coming into meetings etc. Brian Sampson also talked about this issue and some incidents they have experienced in Jigalong.</p>
8.	<p><b>Constitutional Changes</b>  To continue to ensure Wangka Maya Pilbara Aboriginal Language Centre works within the rules of the constitution a number of changes to the constitution are recommended to be tabled at the coming AGM. These are as follows:</p> <p><b>Common Seal:</b>  18.(1) The Association shall have a common seal which shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary.</p>

Alteration - Add at the end **or the Manager**.

Moved: Rose Murray

Seconded: Desmond Taylor

Date: 23/10/04

18.(3) The common seal shall not be used or placed on any document unless authorised by the Committee or a general meeting of the Association. If the common seal is placed on any document, three members of the Committee shall sign the document.

Alteration – delete **three**.

Moved: Trudy Hayes

Seconded: Anne Sibosado

Date: 23/10/04

**Banking:**

19.(2) All cheques and withdrawal forms shall be signed jointly by two members of the Committee or by at least one Committee member and one other person to whom the Committee has delegated this responsibility. The Association's bank must be informed in writing by the Committee when and if there is any change to the names of those people who are authorised to sign cheques and withdrawal forms.

Alteration – Delete **withdrawal** and add **Electronic Direct Debit**.

Moved: Desmond Taylor

Seconded: Bruce Thomas

Date: 23/10/04

**Gift Fund:**

Add a clause, which allows us to receive donations. This clause has been recommended by the Auditor.

For the purposes of pursuing its objects as set out in clause 3.1 above, the association will establish and maintain a gift fund:-

- (a) to which gifts or money or property for that purpose are to be made;
- (b) to which any money received because of those gifts is to be credited; and
- (c) that does not receive any other money or property.

The association must use:-

- (a) gifts made to the fund; and
- (b) any income received as a result of those gifts

only for the attainment of its objects as set out in clause 3.1 above.

At the first occurrence of:-

- (a) the winding up of the gift fund; or
- (b) the revocation of the association's deductible gift recipient endorsement under Division 30 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*,

any surplus assets of the gift fund must be transferred to another institution or corporation in Australia which is a public benevolent institution for the purposes of any taxation law of the Commonwealth.

Moved: Trudy Hayes

Seconded: Bruce Thomas

Date: 23/10/04

**9. Elections**

The current Committee stood down.  
Fran Haintz called for nominations for office Bearers.

***Chairperson***

Bruce Thomas Nominated by Rosie Munro

Seconded: Trudy Hayes

All in favour of Bruce Thomas as Chairperson: Passed unanimously.

***Vice Chairperson***

Lorraine Injie Nominated by Rosie Munro

Seconded: Dora Possum

All in favour of Lorraine Injie as Vice Chairperson: Passed unanimously

***Secretary***

Anne Sibosado Nominated by Trudy Hayes

Seconded: Rosie Munro

All in favour of Anne Sibosado as Secretary: Passed unanimously

***Treasurer***

Trudy Hayes Nominated by Anne Sibosado

Seconded: Rosie Munro

All in favour of Trudy Hayes as Treasurer: Passed unanimously

***Public Officer***

Jilalga Murray Nominated by Edna Hopiga

Seconded: Rosie Munro

All in favour of Jilalga Murray as Public Officer: Passed unanimously

***General Committee Members Nominations***

The following people were nominated to stand on the Wangka Maya General Committee: Kevin Fred, Muuki Taylor, Minyawa Miller, Rosie Munro, Edna Hopiga, Dora Possum, Susie Brown, Richard Oderson, Margaret Billycan, Glenys Hayes, Timmy Peterson, Desmond Taylor.

All other nominees will be asked to attend quarterly general meetings.

## 10 General Business

### 10.1 Show & Tell

Staff each presented some of the works they had achieved during the year.

Eleonora showed the Nyangumarta CD Rom

Jilalga showed the web site, Ngarla Songs CD and newsletters

Fran showed the building and the model.

Albert talked about the partnerships with other organisations, which allow other projects to happen...for example Putjarra Research Project and Western Desert Stories. Also showed language inventory sheet.

Desmond showed the work he completed on Largumarlu.

Bruce showed his Western Desert Stories book.

### 10.2 Planning

Members of the meeting were asked two questions for the future planning of Wangka Maya.

1. What kind of language, culture and history? What things should Wangka Maya do in the next two years?

2. Will the vision statement be right for us in five years time?

The meeting broke into groups to discuss the questions, feedback was as follows:

#### Raylene's group (Kariyarra)

- more on Kariyarra and other languages with less speakers

- worried about copyright issues

- think the vision statement may need to change due to the success of Wangka Maya Pilbara Aboriginal Language Centre to date, might need to say the leading Aboriginal organisation.

#### Trudy's group (Bidyadanga and Thalanyji)

- see language, culture and history as one, cannot separate these

- vision statement is good

- need to be more focused on threatened languages

- very happy with the CD Rom

- more support for languages that are being overrun by stronger ones, want local languages to be taught in schools

#### Desmond's group (Desert Mob)

- language, culture and history cannot be separated

- need to encourage more language training for young people

- vision statement, as we are getting bigger, need to be careful about how it is focused

#### Anne (12 mile mob)

- keep working with endangered languages

- vision statement is good

- remember to keep the base of all work as language as that is how we started all those years ago.

Brian Sampson – Talked about the vision statement representing our future, it is for people to plan. Said we need to make sure that the knowledge is not being left to die away. Important to be able to go to the next stage and work out how to sell our ideas and get support and ideas for old people.

Nyangumarta started at Strelley school, it seems things are not being followed up from that time, now things need to be done properly. Wangka Maya is a good place for this.

Brian recommended that Wangka Maya be the place to coordinate the law and culture monies for the people of the Pilbara region.

Trudy Hayes – Trudy wanted to let the meeting know that when Native Title came to Onslow it was some of the recordings that Wangka Maya Pilbara Aboriginal Language Centre had done that helped their group show association to the land. This is one of the good things that come from the work of Wangka Maya.

Raylene Gordon – Raylene stated that Wangka Maya really only gets a small amount of money to do language work throughout the region, so can't do work on all languages all the time. Need to put more money into language work. Language provides the strongest link for culture and history. It is important that all languages and stories are recorded. Groups who have access to mining company money should look at investing some of this money in Wangka Maya so the language work can continue for their groups.

Bruce thanked all for coming.

Fran gave a small speech about Albert finishing on Wednesday, and how we will all miss him, but we need to celebrate his contribution to Wangka Maya. The meeting cheered and clapped for Albert.

Albert thanked everyone for working with him, he enjoyed working here very much.

**Meeting Closed @ 12.30 pm**