



Wangka Maya Pilbara Aboriginal Language Centre
2003 Annual General Meeting

	<p>DATE: 20th September 2003 Meeting opened 9:35am LOCATION Lotteries House South Hedland</p>
1.	<p>Present: Richard Oderson, Bruce Thomas, Susie Brown, Rosie Munro, Winnie Coppin, Peter Coppin, Jack Braeside, Anne Sibosado, Trudy Hayes, Lorraine Injie, Jilalga Murray, Teddy Allen, Syd Dale, Kate Gear, Dora Possum, Edna Hopiga,</p>
	<p>Staff: Albert Burgman, Fran Haintz, Gina Gray, Nyaparu Wellington, Vicki Webb, Charmaine Sinclair.</p>
	<p>Apologies: Rose Murray, Sandy Brown, Kevin Fred, Muuki Taylor, Smith Robinson, Delores Williams, Lesley Woods and Maureen Kelly</p>
2.	<p>Welcome Welcome by Vice Chair Lorraine Injie Welcome by Chairperson Bruce Thomas Bruce talked about the importance of the work of the Wangka Maya Committee and community elders in getting back Language and Culture.</p>
3.	<p>Minutes of the last AGM Read by Fran Haintz Acceptance of the last minutes as being correct Moved: Trudy Hayes Seconded: Bruce Thomas</p>
4.	<p>Chairperson Report - See attached for written report</p>
5.	<p>Audit Report - Fran presented the report and read out the financial statements. The auditor said Wangka Maya Pilbara Aboriginal Language Centre needs to put in place more controls when using direct debit function to ensure accountability.</p> <p>Moved acceptance of the Auditor's Report: Bruce Thomas Seconded: Edna Hopiga Carried unanimously.</p> <p>Fran mentioned that we have saved a lot of money to use for the land and buildings. The land should be confirmed by the end of the year.</p>
6.	<p>Appointment of Auditor Stephen Nile and Associates with John Foley & Associates nominated as the Auditor for next year. Moved: Trudy Hayes Seconded: Jilalga Murray Carried unanimously.</p>
7.	<p>Annual Report – See Attached The Annual Report was tabled.</p>
8.	<p>Elections The current Committee stood down. Albert Burgman called for nominations for office Bearers.</p> <p>Chairperson Bruce Thomas Nominated by Peter Coppin Seconded: Dora Possum</p> <p>All in favour of Bruce Thomas as Chairperson: Passed unanimously.</p>

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 Rosie Munro
Seconded: Edna Hopiga

All in favour of Anne Sibosado as Secretary: Passed unanimously

Treasurer

Trudy Hayes Nominated by Anne Sibosado
Seconded: Lorraine Injie

All in favour of Trudy Hayes as Treasurer: Passed unanimously

Public Officer

Jilalga Murray Nominated by Rosie Munro
Seconded: Peter Coppin

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, Smith Robinson, Minyawa Miller, Rose Murray, Jack Braeside, Lesley Woods, Rosie Munro, Edna Hopiga, Dora Possum, Winnie Gray, Susie Brown, Richard Oderson.

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

9. General Business

9.1 General Discussion

Peter Coppin spoke generally about the state of Aboriginal Community. Concerned that the strength of community is being worn down. Suggested a law meeting at Warralong to sort things out.

Concerned that if blackfellas can't speak language the law will break down. Major problems are too many young fellas drinking and education. How can we solve the problems that get in the way of making law and culture strong?

Peter gave a vote of confidence to Wangka Maya and the work they are doing. He said, "It is the only place that we got now." Peter felt there was too much emphasis on native title and not enough on language and culture. You people are going backwards throwing away the law for whitefella values like \$\$\$.

If more people knew their law they would get stronger.

Lorraine Injie suggested in response to Peter that we look to get funding to have a meeting as he suggested. Perhaps we could get the Cape York mob to come and talk about their grog strategy addressing drinking in their communities.

Lorraine asked for general agreement to hold the meeting. All agreed.

Edna Hopiga said that learning culture could help address the drinking problems. Edna felt that things have not changed for the black fellas since the early days. Said that Wangka Maya is helping by doing language work but that there was nothing else for blackfellas.

Bruce Thomas agreed that by making culture strong the problems could be alleviated. Bruce said if we don't have language we have nothing.

Bruce stated there was a need to take down old people's stories.

Peter said that Nyamal language had broken down years ago and had been replaced by Nyangumarta which had taken over. Young people are not learning now. We need the young people to work on language. They need to learn literacy skills in traditional languages but they are not interested.

9.2 Show & Tell

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

9.3 Closing

Bruce Thomas thanked the committee and staff for their hard work over the years and looks forward to more good work.

Meeting Closed @ 11.45 am