

# Annual General Meeting Minutes 6th December 2014



Wangka Maya Pilbara  
Aboriginal Language  
Centre



## Annual General Meeting Minutes Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2014

<b>Date:</b>	6 <sup>TH</sup> December 2014		
<b>Time:</b>			
<b>Place:</b>	Wangka Maya Conference Room		
<b>Chair</b>	Brett Derschow elected as AGM Chair	<b>Minute Taker</b>	Annie Edwards-Cameron

<b>Members:</b>	Nora Cooke, Bruce Thomas, Anne Sibosado, Brett Derschow, Julie Walker, Kayleen Arnold , Nana Janet, Kevin Clifton, Gina Grey, Allen Lockyer, Lesley Woods, Dennis Thomas, Diana Robinson, Dennis Thomas
<b>Apologies:</b>	Jane Taylor, Trudy Hayes, Harry Taylor, Lorraine Injie.
<b>Attendees:</b>	Maria Pitt, George Pitt, Jennifer Hubert, Lorice Douglas, Tamicah Kelly, Annabell Jack, Jason Gardiner, Jeannie Yabartla, Norlene Williams, Donald Thomas, May Chapman, Doreen Chapman
<b>Staff</b>	Lorice Douglas, Tamicah Kelly, Julie Walker, Gina Gray, Donald Thomas, Jason Gardiner, Jason Lee, Lesley Woods, Peter Hill, Annie Edwards-Cameron, Nora Cooke.

Item	Description
1	<b>Welcome and introductions</b> Chaired by Brett Derschow, who conducted an acknowledgement of Kariyarra people and country. Diana Robinson came in short time later and officially welcomed everyone to the AGM.
2	Registration and Quorum to proceed with AGM. Members and non-members were required to register for the AGM. To hold a constituted meeting under the WMPALC rules a membership of 13 members is required. 16 members present and registered 26 attendees. There are a few issues with the membership database: a number of people are no longer eligible (do not live the Pilbara region) and others have had no contact with the organisation for over 2 years, a number of notices have been returned but these are matters the board will need to address.

3	<b>Open:</b> Chair declared the meeting open at 10:34am – Commenced 11am
4	<b>Apologies:</b> apart from above some members unable to attend due to Lore Business. Some member's resident at Karlarra house unable to attend due to illness.
5	<p>Review of actions from previous annual general meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EFTPOS not viable.</li> <li>• Audit 2012/13 the previous auditor Derek Summers resigned last year. Unfortunately the audited financial report was unavailable for presentation to members at the AGM, it was subsequently presented to board at their first meeting and accepted, and was download on ORIC website for members to view</li> <li>• Appointment of Auditor following Derek's resignation, board had two quotes and appointed (Ray McManus); Ray's quote was within budget.</li> <li>• Nyamal Train Song Project Julie will showcase of project competition (exhibition?) in General Business</li> <li>• Tindale Collection: a small grant from TOPH was obtained in an effort to bring the Tindale collection to the Pilbara; however as covered in the management report the grant will only pay for a researcher to search the data base and possibly do a small book on unrestricted material.</li> </ul>
6	<p>Acceptance of minutes of previous annual general meeting</p> <p>Proposed resolution: That the minutes of the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2013 annual general meeting be accepted.</p> <p><b>Moved: Kayleen Arnold</b> <b>Seconded: Brett Derschow</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Passed</p>
7	<p><b>Chairperson's report.</b> Everyone was given a copy of Annual Report – thanks to the hard work Tamicah did in binding.</p> <p>Bruce agreed for Julie to read out Chairperson report</p> <p>As Chairperson I thank everyone and the community for their ongoing support of Wangka Maya. Our languages represent a great storehouse and pride of Aboriginal knowledge and tradition.</p> <p>Sadly few people seem to know or care that most of the country's 250 languages have already gone and few are likely to survive over the long term. As I have said many times our young people have found other things to keep them happy and the loss of our language and knowledge has not really worried them.</p> <p>Wangka Maya is struggling to maintain all our thirty one (31) languages against great odds.</p> <p>One thing we can say however is that all our past recordings have now been safety digitised thanks to the Indigenous</p>

	<p>Language Support Media Grant of \$55,000 this year. Our records of Pilbara Languages whilst being small are the largest collection of Pilbara Aboriginal languages in the world – thanks to our Elders past and present.</p> <p>Much of this information is held by Wangka Maya through a copyright agreement and we are always concerned this is one part of our work which we must always have close and good relationships with family and community.</p> <p>Whilst it is mostly grim news and many reports highlights the rapid rate of language loss, some Pilbara languages are doing well, of the Pilbara languages both Nyangumarta and Yindjibarndi are taught in the state schools, with independent schools picking up on Nyangumarta and Martu Wangka.</p> <p>However support for both State and Independent schools language programs is still something Wangka Maya needs to work on to bring about long term change. For this we need more of our people trained up as Language Workers, and Language teachers.</p> <p>Both Nyangumarta and Yindjibarndi are also taking the lead in interpreting with Nyangumarta and Yindjibarndi speakers being the only registered/ known interpreters. The Kimberley Interpreter Service workshop was a great introduction as to the very important role our language play not only in terms of keeping our heritage alive but to help our people access many essential services, including the right to have an interpreter when they go to court</p> <p>I am also pleased that Wangka Maya and KJ have agreed to work together to keep Martu Wangka language strong. The Martu Wangka Ara Irititja Community Access Library database is a great resource for Martu Wangka people both KJ and Wangka Maya need to do more to promote its use and to encourage Martu Wangka people to come and use it.</p> <p>I am proud to have been the Chairperson for Wangka Maya for this many years. I am happy to see lots of dictionaries and books made by the language centre in different languages and we are proud to help all our communities with language projects. Our old people should be talking to the young ones in language all the time.</p> <p>We should be proud to speak our language and keep it strong for the future, on this I welcome everyone to the AGM and look forward to your ongoing support and advocacy for regional Wangka Maya, and the future of our languages.</p> <p>Bruce ended by saying all the stories are going, we need to write them down in language and English, and in Marlba way you just learn them but in White fella way you put them on paper. That's really important. Lotta young people gotta get two education, Marlba language and Whitefella language; those languages have to work together, two ways. Young people gotta stand up, no gundayi, no shame, be a teacher or something, and really important study the language and writing two ways.</p>
8	<p><i>8.1 Management and Language Team Report</i></p> <p>Julie read out aspect of her management report.</p> <p>End of Last year had a full board for the first time in a long time.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In August Julie and Nora attended Puliima Conference in Melbourne, National Indigenous Languages and Technology Conference.</li> <li>• Language recording happening with lots of different software. Met KIS mob. October- MAP training with RNLD.</li> <li>• October- Community Heritage grant for Preservation Needs Assessment. Sophie's recommendation- digitise everything; create disaster plan, two positions needed – archival officer and curator.</li> <li>• Julie and Harry went to NIHC in Cairns presentation from American lady talking about how language loss and identity affecting health, importance of language for emotional well-being.</li> <li>• January –IBN Linguist started for work on Banyjima, Nyiyaparli and Yinhawangka language groups.</li> <li>• Grant for digitisation of language materials – used for Nyirti and AIATSIS tapes. All backed up on servers.</li> <li>• May – DRIL training with language workers and community people. Now focusing on language workers</li> <li>• Set up OHS as part of accreditation. Inductions for staff and visitors. QIC visited and assessed the organisation for accreditation. Few things for board to sign off on then set to become registered at end of year or beginning of next year. WM will be first Pilbara based organisation to get accreditation! This should help with applying for funding. Management report is in the Annual Report.</li> <li>• In Annual Report is tribute for Jugari Smith, whose artwork is published a lot by Wangka Maya</li> <li>• Anne Sibosado asked about recent Federal Government funding cuts and how it will impact WM. JW- currently on 12 month extension of previous funding, same amount as previous years. Vision of WM is to become a leader in this field, means getting accreditation, best practice for archive, change copyright to licence, Community projects – Nyamal train story project. Partnerships – exploring further partnerships with language group bodies to rely less on government funding. Cultural Centre – trying to start project up again, Ben Walsh planner helping to get seed money applications in. Accreditation got high standard for financials and staff. Business arm – CAT income likely to reduce so need to find other ways to improve income.</li> </ul> <p>Jason Lee – Senior Linguist read out the language team report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acknowledgment of country and other Pilbara language groups</li> <li>• Last 18 months have had many people in language team (linguists and language workers).</li> <li>• Also work with many language specialists.</li> <li>• Staff movements – Lorice Douglas started as Language worker in July, JL started in September, Annie in January, Amanda left in April, Lesley Woods started in May, Donald Thomas started in May, and Eileen Charles started in June as Putjarra language worker.</li> <li>• Recording Language: Language team makes recordings, often for making resources, and for radio. Also do some recording that is archived and not put in public domain. Last 12 months recorded in at least 9 Pilbara languages.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2013 NAIDOC day event.</li> <li>• 7 new body parts charts in four languages, including Nyamal to fulfil requests from last year.</li> <li>• RNLD training: Two session in year – October in 2013 (Margaret and Donna), May 2014 Margaret came again. All WM language Workers currently undertaking cert three in DRIL for accreditation.</li> <li>• Launched three books at last year's AGM.</li> <li>• Last year released two computer dictionaries (CD-ROM), does demonstration.</li> <li>• Released Nyiyaparli learner's dictionary.</li> <li>• January 2014 –released Bayungu phrasebook.</li> <li>• Digitisation grant from ILS: To protect language material on old tapes which are at risk of perishing.</li> <li>• Produced colouring in book and banners using pictures from Jugari Smith.</li> <li>• Radio show- Lesley now managing and Language Workers talking more and more language segments. Broadcast 101.3 in Hedland on Friday morning 10am, Roebourne and Karratha Ngarda Radio. PAKAM on Sundays and NIRS if no footie! Language Workers have been undergoing some of their training by recording and producing the radio show. Word of the week going to be played three times a day, every day.</li> <li>• Community engagement: IBN AGM, Welcome to Hedland, Meetings and conferences.</li> <li>• New language resources presented.</li> <li>• Language Resource request survey- members asked to complete or just plan with language team.</li> </ul>		
9	<p>Questions from members about the Annual Report how the organisation is been run:  Kayleen asked Senior Linguist to include in next annual report results from previous year's language resource survey.  Diana asked for copy of power point presentation from Senior Linguists presentation.</p>		
10	10.1: Acceptance of annual report		
	<b>Proposed resolution</b>	<b>Moved by</b>	<b>Passed</b>
	Proposed resolution: That the annual report tabled at the annual general meeting is accepted.	Kevin Clifton	Passed
11	<p><b>Julie presented the Audited financial statements 2013-2014</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auditor has released his report.</li> <li>• Financial Report prepared by Gina Gray and Pam Lack: covers the directors and manager. ILS is the main grant which pays for Linguist positions, partly admin and partly management. 1.5 Linguist position gets funded under WM member's fund. Recruitment went a little bit over budget as a result of additional relocation costs.</li> <li>• National Job Program old CDEP pays for language workers who are now on part time contracts.</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hidden Histories project with Maryanne Jebb. Maryanne and Malcolm have finished report to publish as book. Money still in the bank.</li> <li>• Pilbara sponsorship, book sales, CAT etc. – has surplus.</li> <li>• Building Maintenance put aside.</li> <li>• BHP grant –Bob Scott recruitment and accreditation, money surplus.</li> <li>• IBN hasn't paid invoices owed to WM but just waiting for invoices to be paid.</li> <li>• ILS media – was one off grant will be finished soon.</li> <li>• One off grant for health worker training – goes to Language Workers and Training Linguist for wages.</li> <li>• Money all consolidated and balanced.</li> <li>• Preservation grant – spent on Sophie's report.</li> <li>• Yinhawangka trust money used to produce June Injie's book.</li> <li>• Assets – total. In good strong stable situation.</li> <li>• Liabilities – unpaid staff leave.</li> <li>• Cash payments and activities.</li> </ul> <p>Acceptance of financial statements</p> <p>Resolution: That the financial statements and audit tabled at the annual general meeting be accepted.</p> <p><b>Moved: Kevin Clifton</b> <b>Seconded: Janet Stewart</b></p> <p>Passed</p>
12	<p>Appointment of an auditor</p> <p>Resolution: Ray McManus of Araluen accountancy be appointed as Wangka Maya's auditor for the next reporting period.</p> <p><b>Moved: Diana Robinson - Brown</b> <b>Seconded: Anne Sibosado</b></p> <p>Passed</p>

13	<p>Election of Directors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Results of the general election: Board of 2014 have stood down.</li> <li>• Nominations for new directors, 9-12 directors needed.</li> <li>• All nominations accepted. Congratulations to all new Board members. Board will meet in third week of February 2015. Current Chair will act until first meeting of new board. Board members to make sure their contact details are up to date.</li> </ul> <p><b>Appointed as a director:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kayleen Arnold</li> <li>2. Brett Derschow</li> <li>3. May Chapman</li> <li>4. Trudy Hayes</li> <li>5. Lorraine Injie</li> <li>6. Allen Lockyer</li> <li>7. Diana Robinson – Brown</li> <li>8. Ann Sibosado</li> <li>9. Janet Stewart</li> <li>10. Harry Taylor</li> <li>11. Bruce Thomas</li> <li>12. Dennis Thomas</li> </ol>
14	<p><b>Special Resolution to accept new Rule Book</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rule Book Board want to move from ORIC initiated to own Rule Book (probably at a special general meeting). Quorum numbers reduce to five even if all 12 directors present.</li> <li>• Membership – Mail returned, members not updating details on register. Need to be able to remove if no contact after two years or if not active (i.e. frail or high needs care)</li> <li>• Subcommittee to deal with accreditation process.</li> <li>• Discussed a Special General Meeting to be called in 2015 to inspect new Rule Book which is to be drafted by the incoming Board with assistance from ORIC. Kayleen moved the motion, seconded by Alan, all in favour – resolution passed.</li> <li>• Diana asked for New Rule book to include Aboriginal protocols and customs.</li> </ul>



	<b>Acceptance of resolution to change Rule Book</b>		
	<b>Proposed resolution</b>	<b>Moved by</b>	<b>Passed</b>
	Proposed resolution: That a Special General Meeting to be called in 2015 to inspect new Rule Book which is to be drafted by the incoming Board with assistance from ORIC.	Kayleen Arnold	Passed
	Proposed resolution: That the WMPALC board establish a Subcommittee to deal with the accreditation process- a policy & procedure committee is established at the first meeting of the new board	Kayleen Arnold	Passed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Manager to draft for first meeting and</b></li> <li>• <b>Board to obtain legal advice from ORIC as required</b></li> </ul>		
15	<b>General Business</b>  General Discussion Brett- Difficult to work with uncertainty about government funding, and new directors will need a 'plan b' if the worst case situation of no government funding eventuates. Land trusts have money might be able to access. Need to keep vision of WM alive, engage younger people possibly using new technologies.  Anne- Kids getting into different places, doing a good job but should be some way to get language into youth programs, such as run by YIC and JD Hardy.  Marie Lockyer - Meeting held at JD Hardy where young IBN member asked JD to engage with community for culturally appropriate youth projects but was shunned a bit in the meeting.  Brett- Directors have to be very responsible to adhering to cultural protocols but do understand that have to get it right to engage white fella organisations and therefore youth.  Bruce – Old people set up schools that work two way – to keep youth involved – it's important both languages, language is life, language is culture.  Brett- WM has to adhere to vision and directors have to make sure keep vision alive while dealing with all the new stuff that comes into community.		

Kevin – bring out book about protocol respectful way of working, because constantly reminding mainstream that first owners have complex ways of working. All organisations should put this protocol book together – this is the way to approach First Peoples. Especially when our young people are going through so much strife. It will be very difficult for WM but if we draw from own community organisations we can make this booklet.

Julie- as more language groups get cash we have to find ways to have partnerships as every language group will want to run own language program.

Brett- need to build those bridges without getting walked over, as resource centre and

Diana- WM has to be very careful with protocol if people are asking about different things so can direct people to right groups, in appropriate way according to the protocols of those people.

Brett- WM has lots of skills, but not to override Traditional Owner rights/protocols, WM to empower other organisations and support them

Kevin- this is why it's important to have centre here so we can address these cultural boundaries.

Brett- WM also shows unity by not getting too drawn into one area or one or more particular groups within the community. Must maintain neutrality and independence within unity.

Julie- some people prefer to leave their language material with WM because they know we have standards to protect their material rather than leaving it with the language group corporations.

George Pitt presented the Pilbara reburial projects:

- Photos of the repatriated remains that were reburied in Port Hedland earlier this year. This is not finished yet as have to put interpretative plaque on it and part of wider role to work with other communities and other groups as remains come back from overseas under the repatriation program. Need more information from communities about who to contact in relation to repatriated remains.

Nora – Thanks to Manager for all her hard work over the last year. The team has expanded and is functioning very well so thanks to her.

16	<b>AGM registration</b> Membership Applications received from Maria Pitt, George Pitt, Jennifer Hubert, Lorice Douglas, Tamicah Kelly, Annabell Jack, Jason Gardiner, Jeannie Yabartla, Norlene Williams, Donald Thomas, May Chapman, Doreen Chapman
17	<b>Meeting close</b> Brett- calls the meeting closed and thanks members for coming meeting closed at 12:25pm

<b>Minute taker:</b>		<b>Completed by</b>	
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<b>Signed:</b>		
<b>Name:</b>	Annie Edwards-Cameron	Julie Walker
<b>Date:</b>		

<b>Chairperson :</b>		<b>Signed</b>		<b>Date:</b>	
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