



NEW SOUTH WALES
BAR ASSOCIATION

THE NEW SOUTH WALES BAR ASSOCIATION
BAR COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Thursday 11 February 2016
in the Boardroom of the New South Wales Bar Association
at 4.30 pm

PRESENT: Hutley SC; Moses SC; Game SC; Loukas SC; Khandhar; Bell SC; Payne SC; Lonergan SC; McHugh SC; Walker; Welsh; Mitchelmore; Shead; Higgins; Callan; Hunt; Gleeson; Antipas; Roy; Hutchinson

APOLOGIES: Cunneen SC

IN ATTENDANCE: Executive Director; Deputy Executive Director

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of 10 December 2015 were confirmed.

MEMBERSHIP

The following were admitted as Class A – Local Practising Barrister – unless otherwise shown:

Megan Batchelor – B	NSW Bar Association
Catherine Dodds	ODPP Parramatta
Dean Robinson	ODPP Parramatta

GENERAL BUSINESS

The President left the meeting at approximately 5pm and the Senior Vice-President took over the chair.

- (a) Bench and Bar Dinner – The Secretary advised that the President had asked him to consider changes to the format for the 2016 Bench and Bar Dinner. He requested that any Bar Councillors with suggestions in this regard contact him direct.
- (b) Bar Common Room – The Executive Director advised that repairs were needed to a section of the Common Room Floor as a result of underlying moisture. As a result, the Common Room will be closed for the immediate future and the Bar Examinations and some CPD events will need to be held offsite.
- (c) Australian Bar Association office holders – The Senior Vice-President noted that Patrick O’Sullivan QC had been appointed as President of the Australian Bar Association, with Wil Alstergen QC and Bruce McTaggart SC appointed to the positions of Vice-President and Treasurer respectively.
- (d) Public Defenders Conference – The Senior Vice-President advised that he was delivering a session at the upcoming Public Defenders Conference dealing with the incidence of depression and relationship breakdown at the NSW Bar which would include material extracted from the 2014 Bar Survey and Urbis Report. The Executive had already approved the use of this information by the Senior Vice-President in accordance with the Bar Survey Data Protocol.
- (e) Philip Selth in a Representative Capacity for the Members of the Australian Bar Association v Australasian Barristers Chambers; The New South Wales Bar Association v Derek Michael Minus.

The Council notes that judgment was reserved in these two matters after a five-day hearing before Justice Greenwood of the Federal Court.

FOR INFORMATION

Minutes of the meeting of the Equal Opportunity Committee held on 19 October 2015

Noted.

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance, Investment & Audit Committee held on 27 November 2015

Noted. It was agreed that Michelle Fraser be informed, pursuant to her correspondence to the former President, that material regarding the availability of financial concessions to readers regarding the cost of the Bar Practice Course in cases of hardship is available on the Association’s website.

Evaluation report from McCarthy Mentoring for the NSW Bar Association mentoring program for 2015

Noted.

The following papers were circulated via e-mail prior to the Council meeting.

- Email to the Bar Council dated 7 December 2015 from the Deputy Executive Director – District Court funding – media release
- Email to the Bar Council dated 15 December 2015 from the Deputy Executive Director – President’s media release
- Email to the Bar Council dated 18 December 2015 from the Executive Assistant – Breeze – NCAT Decision
- Email to the Bar Council dated 2 February 2016 from the Deputy Executive Director – Media release – Legal Aid

The meeting closed at 5.15pm.

Confirmed as a correct record:

Noel Hutley SC
President

Date: