

Turner P & C
Minutes of the P&C General Meeting 21 May 2014
(Turner School Library)

Attendees

Helen Bell (President and Chair)
David Dunstan (Public Officer)
Robert Edwards
Heather Kettle (Treasurer)
Tina Campbell (Secretary)
Diane Jones
Clem Jones (Minute Secretary)
Jodi Wood
Ephraim Grunhard (Assistant Treasurer)
Jo Padgham (Principal)
Pip Chapman*
Linda Keith
Alison Scott
David Crick
Sam Reinhardt
Anne Napier
Claudia Guszych*
*Second half of meeting

Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.35pm and welcomed all those present.

Apologies

Merrilyn Woodward
Michael Quigley

Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 March were accepted – Ephraim Grunhard, seconded Heather Kettle.

Business Arising from Minutes of previous Meeting

- P&C close the Library fund account and that the balance of that account is to be transferred to a new account owned and operated by Turner School. Clearance from ATO. Library funds being transferred to Turner school bank account. **Action complete**
- Authorised Signatories to operate the P&C accounts. List of Authorised Signatories lodged with Bank. **Action Complete**
- Opportunities to apply for community grants/funding. Ongoing - Tina Campbell/Claudia Guszych
- Unfavourable press reports on the administration of the NSW P&C Council. No longer appropriate as criticism by the Press lapsed. **Action complete.**

- Fete related expenses – tables. Marquee repair, fridge, outdoor electricity access. Funding approved out of session for 15 tables; fridge, outdoor electricity access. Marquee repair. **Action complete.**
- Common Seal – purchased. **Action complete.**
- Request for sausage sizzle at Bunnings. Meeting accepted Bunning’s offer of 6 December for sausage sizzle. **Action complete.**
- Teachers and SRC items for P&C budget consideration. Jo to meet with SRC at a combined meeting in two weeks. **Further action required**
- Fairy garden Arches. Deferred to later in meeting.
- Basketball Hoops. Initial quotes received \$3850 and \$2135 (both incl installation and GST). Jo Padgham to clarify with SRC the need and location of the hoops and to discuss with Michael Quigley. **Further action required.**
- Items for musical playground. Jo Padgham advised that she understood that the proposal was not for a “musical playground’ rather that musical items be placed throughout the school grounds. Jo Padgham and Jodi Wood to discuss with teachers. **Follow up action required.**

Vacant Office bearer Positions

Vice President – Nominations again called from the meeting - no nominations received.

Reports

(a) President’s Report

Helen Bell reported that she continued to meet with parents and carers to discuss issues and concerns and canvassed ideas that the people would like the P&C to consider. These (and comments from the meeting) included:

- Music tutors in the school - request that the school consider additional tutors and/or put the contract for tutors out to tender in the future. Concerns were raised about students being taken out of class for lessons and possible coordination role for the P&C.
 - *Jo explained the existing parameters for attending music lessons in school which the meeting was happy with and as no volunteers offered to take on the coordination role it was not pursued.*
- Languages offered in the school – request that French an Asian language, other than Indonesian be considered.
 - *Not supported by the meeting.*
- After school French classes
 - *There are now two local providers of after school French classes. It was also pointed out that Lyneham High School teaches French and Indonesian language.*
- Boomwhacking at Afters.
 - *The YMCA is considering introducing the Boomwhacking program in Term 4. More details at (<http://www.actacademyofmusic.com/Boomwhacking.html>)*

- Bubblers.
 - *Jo said the school had spoken to the Directorate and are currently looking at providing a water filling station as well as bubblers for the trainyard.*
- Social functions
 - *Anne Napier reported on a planned "Pot Luck Dinner" to be held at the school - 21 June pencilled in. The idea is that people bring and share food in the school hall. The Library will be set up for children to watch movies, baby-sitting etc. Volunteers need to help set up and clear up hall.*
 -

A copy of the President's Report is at Attachment A.

(b) Treasurer's Report

Heather Kettle reported that no new expenditure had occurred for the month. The funds of \$49,000 are fully committed.

In a later part of the meeting, following approvals of expenditure for a number of projects, Heather advised caution and suggested that projects should be implemented progressively and the projects be staggered where possible.

A copy of the Treasurer's Report is at Attachment B.

(c) Principal's Report

Jo Padgham presented her report covering Learning and Teaching; Leading and Managing; Student and Community Engagement.

Items Jo highlighted were:

- NAPLAN – Yrs 3 and 5 completed week three.
- A number of school activities as part of Education Week:
 - Strong school community support at the Read Aloud and picnic;
 - Year Six Band performance at the O'Connor shops well received;
 - The combined Turner Trebles choirs were to perform at the Belconnen Mall on Friday 23 May;
- School excursions:
 - Visit by Year 5/6 class to Jamie's food as part of their Inquiry into the Eco System;
 - Day trip to Taronga Park Zoo
 - Day trip to Birrigai by year 3/4 to support their Inquiry into the Gnumnawal people and the traditional use of land;
- Capital Works and Repairs and maintenance– scoping for redesign work of Kindergarten Wing. Fee design accepted and initial concept brief provided to architects; bubbler/water refill station in the train yard.
- Car park consultation – continuing. Work on concept plans; Roads and Traffic meeting with Jo Friday 23 May to discuss Hartley and Condamine Sts parking changes; and the recommendations to reduce parking and safety issues.
- School open days - all Yr. 5 trained as tour guides for the open sessions and were brilliant ambassadors for the school
- Pre-school grant to establish a Bush Tucker garden - working bee organised to establish garden

General Business

Cubby Update

Plans for the design of the ramps to enable wheelchair access to the Cubbies has been received. The landscape architect has provided three options and Jo Padgham and Michael Quigley have developed a fourth option. Quotes for the actual work are now being sought.

Fairy garden arches

Claudia Guszich presented a detailed drawing and quote for the supply and installation of three arches –one for each entrance – for the fairy garden. The quote was \$2300 (\$1800 arches, \$300 installation, \$100 for “rust’ finish and up to \$100 for concrete). The project was approved subject to satisfying safety requirements. Moved Helen Bell, Seconded Anne Napier –

Anne Napier subsequently informed the committee she felt unable to support the proposal to fund the arches when it was taken together with other funding decisions at the meeting and felt she had no choice but to withdraw her support.

Claudia subsequently advised that a second, oral quote, significantly less than the original quote has been received. A formal written quote is being followed up.

Proposal to provide financial Support to a Disadvantaged School

- Sam Reinhardt presented and talked through the proposal
- Aim to identify remote disadvantaged school
- One without capacity to raise significant funds
- Turner has the capacity to raise funds and contribute to the such disadvantaged school
- Benefits – publicity; students’ involvement etc. – to flow to Turner school and students

The proposal was discussed at length and the views of all those who were present at the meeting as well as a number of people who contributed via e-mail were considered.

Two main aspects of the proposal were discussed – 1. allocating Fete funds to an organisation outside the school community and, 2. establishing connections with a disadvantaged school (either within Australia or in Indonesia). The allocation of Fete funds was unequivocally (although not unanimously) opposed, with the majority feeling that funds raised at the Turner School Fete should benefit Turner School directly, but the idea of linking our school with another received a degree of qualified support. The majority view was, however, that any such project should be initiated by Turner School not by the P&C. To this end, the committee asked Jo Padgham to consult with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Committee within the school and to ask them to identify any projects that they would like us to consider supporting.

There was no vote on whether the project should be approved or not – it was simply a vote to indicate if the project had support for further consideration.

Other Business

Turner School fete

Tina Campbell advised that all stall holders had been contacted to ask if they were available for this year’s fete – some responses received. Tina then went through and indicated the vacancies and called for volunteers as well as ideas on any new stall that could be included in the fete.

The purchase of the items previously approved for the fete is proceeding – 15 tables @\$40 each; marquee repair – free, fridge approx. - \$1200, external power supply (2) approx. \$300.

Next Meeting – (with an emphasis on the fete)

Wednesday 18 June 2014 7.30pm

Close

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

President's Report 21st May, 2014

Welcome to our first meeting for Term 2! Thanks for leaving your warm houses to take the time to help make our school a better place. Thanks also to everyone who has taken the time to contribute thoughts and suggestions for the proposals on tonight's agenda, and to Tina for collating them all! I have been contacted by parents over the last two months with suggestions for improving our school. I sent these around as an email earlier in the term and I have outlined them below. While some of the matters raised are within the Board's realm, the P&C can represent parent wishes to the Board. I'd like to run through these and gauge the support for each.

It's great to have so many parents taking an active interest in improving our school!

Item 1: Music tutors

The school would like the P&C to coordinate the tutors but we have not had people to do this so Deb and Jo manage it within parameters agreed by the Board. (Briefly, those parameters relate to the times lessons may be scheduled, the rotation of lessons, fees and insurance). It would be great to have a small music committee (1 or 2 parents/P&C members) to co-ordinate our music tutor program.

Our current music tutor providers are Celtic Arts for violin and guitar and a single piano tutor. The **school can only allocate 3 rooms/spaces** and our existing providers currently fill them. While we're aware of the demand for music classes (as demonstrated by the waiting lists), we are limited by the space available within the school, so we're not able to offer additional music tutors.

There was a question raised over the provision of tutors in future years. I asked if people are happy with the current providers and received little response. Is there any interest in considering different providers and/or a broader set of instruments? Should we consider seeking expressions of interest for the provision of music classes for 2015 or 2016? What would we use to judge the expressions of interest? Is anyone interested in taking on the role of music co-ordination? (There is some set up in this, however the on-going role is a small role).

Item 2: Language taught at school

The current language is Indonesian. As I understand it, this is reviewed every 5 years, keeping the benefits of consistency in mind. While there are some parents who may prefer a different language to be taught within the school, this is a matter for the Turner School Board. Should we raise it with the Board or ask parents to go them directly? Is there any support for this?

Item 3: French classes

We (Cass Coleman) have approached the Alliance Franois school with the aim of arranging for a French classes one afternoon per week, after school. We have since discovered there is a second local provider for French classes after school, so happily, we now have two options.

Item 4: Boomwhacking at Afters

The Afters program is extremely popular at Turner. There are several activities that students attend during Afters, leaving the class and returning. These currently include music lessons, drama and chess. There's a fun musical class called "Boomwhacking", run by the ACT Academy of Music (<http://www.actacademyofmusic.com/Boomwhacking.html>). They currently run a class at Lyneham Primary on Thursday afternoons (3.15 to 4pm). It costs \$85 per term. They have the capacity to host a program at Turner one afternoon per week. They would need to have at least 10 students to make it viable. This has been discussed with the YWCA (who were generally supportive) and we will look at it in more detail during term three, once the Director has returned from annual leave, with a view to implementing it for term four. I'm happy to work on this if there is some support (and no objections).

Item 5: Bubblers

The funding of bubblers in the school playground wasn't included as one of the projects we are proposing to support for 2014. Many parents (10+) have expressed their concern about this omission, and asked whether this is something that the Directorate should be providing to the children. Ideally, we would like to have a bubbler, or access to drinking water, in the Train Yard. As an interim solution, Jo is going to ask the kindergarten teachers to remind students to fill their water bottles before they go out to recess and lunch. I suggest we write to the ACT Directorate and seek their support for funding for plumbing for the additional bubblers. Jo has offered to add her own letter of support to ours. Is anyone interested in taking this up?

The last item was social activities and a calendar. Anne Napier has been great at organising our first activity – a Pot Luck Dinner, which will be discussed later tonight. She also suggested hiring a pizza oven for our next one and making our own pizzas.

In other news, I had the pleasure of joining Bob in addressing our incoming parents at the 2015 enrolment information night earlier in the month. I felt proud to be a Turner parent as Jo, Robyn and two of our school captains spoke about our great school. I encouraged them to put the fete into their diaries, so I'm looking forward to seeing them all there. 157 sleeps to go!

Yours sincerely,

Helen Bell

Turner School P&C - Treasurer's Report P&C Meeting – Wednesday 21 May 2014

Account Balances

Our account balances at 18 May 2014 were:

- Internet savings account \$20,811.00
- Operating cheque account \$28,393.91
- **Total** **\$49,204.91**

- Library Fund account \$1,116.77
 (Note the Library Fund account balance will be transferred to the school once the school's library account is operational).

Expenditure

There has been no new expenditure since the last meeting on 19 March 2014.

Financial commitments

Current commitments (\$22,000)

- \$7,000 Design, plans and construction of ramps and barriers for Cubbies.
- \$5,000 Contribution to students attending nationals, Pegasus Riding School, etc.
- \$10,000 To be held in reserve for pre-fete costs – to be fully recovered
- Sub-total* \$22,000

New budget commitments agreed at 19 March meeting (final costs still to be agreed by the P&C Committee)

- \$5000 Years 1/2 courtyard upgrade
- \$6500 Musical playground/sensory garden
- \$1500 Musical instruments as determined by music teachers Kirsty and Giselle
- \$2000 STEM festival – (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)
- \$7000 Shared between basketball hoops, fairy arches and outdoor seating.
- \$5000 Fete-related expenses consisting of: 15 x trestle tables (actual cost \$600 total), repair of marquee (likely to be less than \$100), new fridge (approx. \$700-\$800), installation of 2 exterior power points (quote to be provided).

Sub-total - \$27,000

Total commitments (current and new) – approximately \$49,000

The P&C funding is fully committed at this stage and no further financial commitments should be made.

Heather Kettle
Treasurer
21 May 2014

ATTACHMENT C

ACTION LIST FROM P&C COMMITTEE MEETING 21 May 2014

Action	Who	By	Remarks
Claudia Guszich and Tina Campbell to follow up opportunities to apply for community grants/funding	Tina Campbell/ Claudia Guszich	Ongoing	Ongoing.
Jo to continue to meet with SRC and teachers to prioritise the items they have listed for consideration in drafting the P&C's budget.	Jo Padgham	June meeting	Jo to meet with SRC at a combined meeting in two weeks. Further action required.
Basketball Hoops	Michael Quigley	June meeting	Initial quote received. Further quotes to be sought. Michael Quigley to provide advice on safety and suitability of hoops. Follow up action required.
Items for musical playground	David Dunstan Jodi Wood	June meeting	Jodi Wood to meet with teachers. Follow up action required.
Proposal to Support Disadvantaged School	Jo Padgham and Jodie Wood	June Meeting?	Jo Padgham to consult with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Committee within the school and to ask them to identify any projects that they would like us to consider supporting.