

Turner P & C
Minutes of the P&C General Meeting 20 August 2014
(Turner School Library)

Attendees

Helen Bell (President and Chair)
Ephraim Grunhard (Assistant Treasurer)
Diane Jones
Clem Jones (Minute Secretary)
Jo Padgham (Principal)
David Dunstan (Public Officer)
Bob Edwards (Board Chair)
Greta Doherty
Katie Cole

Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting at 8.10pm and welcomed all those present.

Apologies

Tina Campbell
Heather Kettle
Amy Seath
Merrilyn Woodward
Nicola Gibson

Acceptance Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2014 were accepted - Ephraim Grunhard, seconded Helen Bell.

Business Arising from Minutes of previous Meeting

ACTION LIST FROM P&C COMMITTEE MEETING 18 June 2014

- Opportunities to apply for community grants/funding. Tina Campbell Claudia Guszych. Ongoing
- Friday canteen and lunch orders. – Helen Bell to write to Black Mountain school thanking them for the healthier option changes to the canteen menu, especially brown bread, yoghurt and fruit salad.
- Protocol for obtaining approval of P&C funded projects. Draft being developed. **Ongoing.**
- Items for musical playground. Expenditure deferred till after the 2014 Fete. **Action deferred.**
- Garden Arches. In Claudia Guszych's absence and subsequent funding decisions this item has been deferred till after the 2014 fete. **Action deferred.**
- Basketball Hoops. Expenditure on this item has been deferred until after the 2014 fete, but Bob Edwards to follow up on quotes on supply removable hoops for the trainyard. **Further action required.**

- Outdoor seating for students. Teachers agreed to relocate courtyard furniture subject to suitable replacement. However, due to subsequent funding decisions, expenditure on this item has been deferred until after the 2014 fete. **Action Deferred**
- Digging Mound. A suggestion that the mound be stabilised by the use of tractor/truck tyres to be checked with the SRC and ETD. Jo Padgham. Report September meeting.

Reports

(a) President's Report

Helen Bell reported that

- The Pot Luck Dinner was wonderful. Thanked Anne Napier for organising. Suggestion for a summer event and possible hire of mobile pizza oven.
- Positive feedback from Black Mountain School for inclusion of healthier options in Turner's Friday canteen.
- Competitive options now available for after school French language lessons
- Boomwackers set up in Afters – **need to check any impact of Boomwackers on children with special needs Helen**
- Consideration of options for car-pooling for children attending after school activities.
- Request for possible establishment of "Cloud". **Bob Edwards to look at other options**, but view of meeting was that greater use should be made of existing school/P&C website for contacting school community.

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

(b) Treasurer's Report

In Heather Kettle's absence, the Assistant Treasurer, Ephraim Grunhard presented the report. Balances as at 18 August were:

- Internet savings account - \$43934.97;
- Operating Cheque Account \$2255.58 –
- Total \$46190.55.

Turner School Library fund account **has been** established – P&C Library Fund Account to be closed.

Jo Padgham advised the meeting that the design for the Cubby ramps and barriers had been completed (cost \$2500 for the design and a further \$1500 for post-construction inspection). Based on the design, three quotes for the construction of the Cubby ramps and barriers have been received and were substantially higher than originally estimated. The quotes were \$7,331.50 plus a ballpark figure of \$14,000 for concrete path work; \$22,784.98 and \$28,920.

Following an extensive discussion, including the option of providing only one access concrete path, it was moved Helen Bell, seconded Clem Jones that as the provision of ramps and guides to make the cubbies wheelchair accessible was a condition of the initial opening of the cubbies for use, that the P&C transfer \$22,784.98 to the school, subject to Jo Padgham seeking revised quotes for the reduction in the extent of the concrete paths.

It was further Moved Ephraim Grunard, seconded Helen Bell that all non-essential expenditure be deferred until after the 2014 fete and existing funds be committed to the cubbies project.

Jo Padgham advised that a total of \$7,350 had been spent on a number of items approved in previous meetings comprising a donation of \$2000 to the STEM festival and \$5350 for a range of items, including a new fridge for use by the P&C; class musical instruments; contribution to landscaping fees for the ramps.

Expenditure on other items, e.g. outdoor percussion instruments, basketball hoops has been deferred. In addition expenditure on Fairy Garden Arches, out-door seating has also been deferred.

The Treasurer subsequently advised that with the deferral of these items there would be sufficient funding to proceed with the ramp project.

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:

- STEM festival was hugely engaging time for students;
- Limelight Art festival – 29 Turner students had their works of art displayed;
- Turner Trebles co-winners in the National Eisteddfod;
- Turner school Style Guide presented - copy available in Condamine St Office;
- Car park recommendations still being considered/assessed.
- Year 1 / 2 courtyard enhancements deferred as it is tied in with the car parking considerations;

General Business

- Cubbies Ramp Update – discussed under Treasurer's report.
- Fairy Arches and outdoor seating update – not discussed in detail as Claudia Guszich was absent. However funding has been deferred till after the 2014 Fete.
- P&C Project protocol – a work in progress.
- Dirt Mound development. – Further options being sought – ETD to be contacted re the use of tyres to stabilise the mound.

Other Business

- Coffee Chat 1 September – Presentation by Dickson College.
- Invitation to Principal of Lyneham High School to speak to interested parents.

Next Meeting – Wednesday 17 September 2014 7.30pm

Close

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Wednesday, 20th August, 2014.

Thanks for coming along tonight to our second fete meeting of 2014. As our focus in is on the fete my report is quite short.

The Pot Luck Dinner was wonderful. Anne Napier, who organised the event, came back this week with some suggestions on how we can improve future events. The main things were a big thank you to Jo for the use of the staff room, Allison Scott for her help all night, to those who shared food and to everyone who came. We learnt a few things to keep in mind for future events. The online survey worked well for collecting responses and organising helpers. Babysitting (and other small but uncertain costs) should be underwritten by the P&C to give people certainty of the price they'll need to pay. The income for the night was equal to the expenses (\$150 for babysitting and the \$35 in gold coin donations covered incidentals). Anne suggested we set up a P&C cloud drive to share this sort of information in the future.

I wrote a longer report for the newsletter, which I'm sure you've all read!

In other news, I've had some positive feedback about the inclusion on healthier options in the Friday lunch orders, especially the brown bread, yoghurt and fruit salad.

We have some competition in the French language space, with two schools now offering after school classes. Now that Sarah is back from her overseas adventures I am working with Afters to set up Boomwackers one afternoon per week, with the aim of starting next term.

I've been thinking about car-pooling. Amelia, my daughter, also does Karate in Ainslie and Heidi does gymnastics in Belconnen. I know other parents also drive their children across town each afternoon which has made me wonder if perhaps there is an opportunity to set up a network.

Back to the fete and the focus of tonight's meeting – I've heard the curry stall is going to be great. If you're interested in helping out let me know!

Yours sincerely,

Helen Bell.

Appendix A Pot Luck Dinner wrap up – Anne Napier

In the end we had about 24 people attend (a few cancellations and a few unexpected (and very welcome surprises). This was a really manageable number for a first time, but we should set our ambitions higher.

The online surveys through Survey Monkey made administration really easy. Nobody raised any concerns, although a couple of people thought they had registered for dinner when they registered to help. Of course, most registrations happened in the last few days, after a few reminders. It was a bit touch and go whether we had a viable number to proceed.

Allison Scott mucked in all night. I would never expect anyone to do this, but she assured me that she was very happy to and it was greatly appreciated. The helper roster wasn't really followed after set up. People just stepped up do whatever needed doing. We can't expect an Allison every time, so a roster of helpers was still important for a fall-back and to create a sense of obligation.

Jo's generosity with the staff room and equipment made the night much more pleasant than if we were using throw away plates and cups. It might be worth considering hiring if this option was not available next time.

Helen took care of the babysitting which was great. We ended up with many under 5s requiring a higher ratio of babysitters than anticipated. I was a little concerned with the way we had to do this because the P&C expressed concern about subsidising babysitting. We had to set a high price which would have resulted in overcharging parents, except for the fact that we ended up with a large number of under 5s at the last minute (which we hadn't offered up front). The upshot is that a small number of parents of the over 5s subsidised the cost instead of the P&C. Without the under 5s, the P&C would have taken a profit on babysitting - an equally perverse outcome. As a principle, I think it is important that the P&C underwrite its activities so that organisers have some certainty and to ensure that costs are shared equitably. Underwriting is different to subsidy. It is only a subsidy if the cost is set unrealistically low so as not to meet costs. All that said, I still believe it is worth subsidising childcare in order to engage the parents with the under 5s in the community who may otherwise find it hard to get out in the evening and may not otherwise get involved in P&C early in their involvement with the school. Whilst not everyone in the membership used the service, we have other areas where significant subsidies only benefit small numbers of families and in this instance we were debating a trifling amount.

All up expenses were as follows:

\$150 babysitting

\$25 Survey Monkey

\$10 sundries (teas, milk, cream, bread, snacks, veg, telephony - I took the remainder of these home so not seeking reimbursement for the total cost if that is OK)

Income:

\$150 babysitting fees

\$35 gold coin donation

I have saved all the docs here in case they are useful next time. I would suggest that the P&C set up its own cloud drive for these sorts of things so that anyone can access them.

<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B-n74CDOQdgBUTNXTVZQdmVoVmM&usp=sharing>

Next time, I think we should hire a mobile pizza oven and do it in the summer time with families.

All the best, Anne

ATTACHMENT C

ACTION LIST FROM P&C COMMITTEE MEETING 20 August 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.
Protocol for obtaining approval of P&C funded projects. Draft being developed	Committee members	September Meeting	Draft Protocol to be developed through discussion/e-mail
Items for musical playground	Jo Padgham		Funding deferred until after Fete
Basketball Hoops.	Bob Edwards		Funding deferred until after Fete Bob Edwards to be asked to follow up on quotes.
Garden Arches	Claudia Guszich		Funding deferred until after Fete
Outdoor seating for students	Jo Padgham		Funding deferred until after Fete
Digging Mound	Committee Members	September Meeting	Jo Padgham to check with ETD re suitability of tyres for stabilising mound.
Boomwackers set up in Afters –	Helen Bell	September Meeting	Need to check any impact of Boomwackers on children with special needs Helen
Cubby ramps and barriers	Jo Padgham	September meeting	Jo to obtain revised quotes with reduced concrete paths.