

RIVERSIDE GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL P&C ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2008

The meeting was opened at 7.40 pm by the President, Cheryl Osborne.

Attendees

As per the circulated Attendance Sheet.

Apologies

Cheryl Brown

Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the last AGM (basically a list of the elected Office Bearers) were tabled.

Moved: Brad Powe *Seconded:* Cheryl Osborne CARRIED

The President, Cheryl Osborne, presented her report for 2008 –

The P&C in 2008 has seen an increase in attendance at our meetings and some new initiatives to involve and inform parents.

At the beginning of the year the P&C held a welcome lunch for new parents to the school. This informal activity had not been held for some time, and with approximately 40 people attending gave these new parents the opportunity to meet other new parents and to talk and meet with others who were ‘experienced’ at Riverside.

As a consequence of discussions at a P&C meeting a Faculty information evening was held for parents of year 7 girls. Head teachers from each curriculum area spoke about the areas of study for year 7 and what the girls could expect, and was expected of them, as year 7 students. In excess of 80 parents attended and it will be held again in 2009.

This year there has been a regular P&C report in the school newsletter, *Currents*, in an attempt to keep the wider body of parents informed of issues and activities being undertaken by the P&C. This report has been supplemented by regular e-mail contact with a broader parent base.

We have organised and/or assisted with

- Working Bees to continue to spread mulch and general gardening to enhance the front of the school, and organised for lopping and removal of trees mainly in the senior lawn area to make it safer for students. While we have achieved a reasonable amount there is still much to be done.
- Orientation day, assistance with the clothing pool and running a gelato bar
- Open day BBQ

- BATH Day, where we assisted with funding of the day and ran the gelato stall. Funds raised were used to assist with the payments of speakers and activities.

Riverside has around 1100 students, equating to approximately 900 families of which only about half pay the P&C contribution.

The Special Projects levy, of this contribution, was used to:

- assist talented sport students who gained state or national selection, with some sponsorship
- fund some girls to attend a leadership skills camp
- co-funded the opportunity for three Year 12 girls to attend an HSC study camp
- fund resources to support the introduction of Spanish, a new elective in Year 9
- purchase six digital video cameras for use in English in Years 9 to 12
- fund new texts for Year 9 maths alternate course
- fund 30 new desks and tables for 2 classrooms
- fund materials for a lunchtime program to support student self esteem and a sense of belonging

Lastly I would like to thank the staff, particularly Judy and her deputies, for their assistance and guidance to me as required. Thank you also to Brad, Sharon and Cheryl Brown for taking on committee positions, your support has been greatly appreciated.

Next year in 2009 we will continue to improve the lines of communication with parents, to provide seminars that benefit students through their parents, and to work with the school to access areas where the P&C can be of some support.

Moved: Cheryl Osborne *Seconded:* Brad Powe **CARRIED**

Cheryl then handed the meeting over to the Principal, Judy King, to conduct the election of Officers for 2009. Standing Orders were suspended and all positions declared vacant.

Election of Office Bearers

POSITION	NOMINEE	NOMINATED BY	SECONDED BY
President	Cheryl Osborne	Brad Powe	Sharon Weismantel
Vice President	No nomination		
Secretary	Brad Powe	Cheryl Osborne	Allison Chivers
Minutes Secretary	No nomination		
Treasurer	Sharon Weismantel	Cheryl Osborne	Brad Powe
Grounds Convenor	No nomination		
Fundraising Coordinator(s)	No nomination(s)		

The parents listed were all elected unopposed. The positions that remained vacant are to be advertised at Orientation Day and on the P&C website.

Treasurer's Annual Report

At the start of the year, the P&C's CBA bank account held \$18941.18

As of the AGM, the account held \$13112.13

It was noted that contributions via the annual P&C Levy were down by 10% compared to the amount received in 2007. It was suggested that more suppers provided by the P&C at School events could present modest fund-raising opportunities.

Moved: Sharon Weismantel *Seconded:* Cheryl Osborne CARRIED

Standing Orders were resumed at 8.00 pm

Minutes of Previous General Meeting

These were of the meeting dated 15 October 2008.

Motion: To accept the Minutes as circulated.

Moved: Brad Powe *Seconded:* Cheryl Osborne CARRIED

Business Arising

Forward planning for 2009 meetings will include –

- Five Expressions of Interest in the contract to run the School Canteen tender were received.
- The RIEP (Music) Subcommittee wants to run the Gelato Cart on Friday 5 December, so will recruit and advise accordingly.
- Good quality folding tables have not yet been located for purchase.

An update of pro-environment activities at the School was presented by Rick Lovegrove (Science) –

- The installation of smart water-metering was canvassed (\$1500 to set up, and \$200 per annum for monitoring).
- Grants for various solar- and water-related projects are being reviewed and/or pursued.
- There was extensive student involvement throughout the year, with the SRC's Nina Axelsen and Lucy Goldstein receiving special mention.
- The worm-farming and weed removal programmes had been very successful.
- The School's new video noticeboards will carry enviro info from the start of 2009.

Motion: That the P&C fund the purchase of a 'smart' water meter (\$1500), if one cannot be acquired via a grant or other means.

Moved: Sharon Weismantel *Seconded:* Brad Powe CARRIED

Correspondence In

- Various fund-raisers.
- NSW P&C Federation advice of their on-line school transport petition.
- Australian Education Union (AEU) advice of on-line pro-public education petition.

Correspondence Out

- E-mail to all P&C list subscribers requesting volunteers to assist on Orientation Day.
- E-mail to all P&C list subscribers with information on the Commonwealth Education Tax Rebate.

Principal's Report

Judy King noted –

1. Joe Hockey, Member for North Sydney, was to visit the School at 11 am on the 12th of December. Parents were welcome to attend and ask questions.
2. The latest cuts and changes announced by the Director-General of Education. Federal computer funding (\$1000 per PC) programme had effectively been warehoused. The COAG meeting on 17 November was unlikely to result in extra funds for public education
3. Industrial action by the Teacher's Federation would occur on morning of 19 November, with a possible strike at the end of January 2009.
4. World Teacher's Day had seen the arrival of AEU representatives for a press conference, but no press. As in previous years, the Ba'hai community provided a substantial lunch.
5. Student Katarina Kraft had been selected for the national school-girl soccer team to tour Japan. The P&C was asked to consider supporting her trip with a \$100 subsidy.
6. The Grounds Sub-committee could look at funding 'skirting' to prevent leaf-litter building up under thetas demountables, and the acquisition of a new (advanced) tree to plant outside the Office entrance after the dead one is removed over the Christmas break.
7. The filling of two staff vacancies, including Head Teacher English, would involve Cheryl Osborne as a member of the Selection Panel.

Motion: That the P&C provide \$100 to support Katarina Kraft.

Moved: Sharon Weismantel *Seconded:* Brad Powe CARRIED

Treasurer's Report

Tabled (see AGM report).

Motion: To accept the Treasurer's Report.

Moved: Cheryl Osborne *Seconded:* Sharon Weismantel CARRIED

Fundraising Report

No report.

Music Committee (RIEP) Report

New Music Director Nick has settled in and looks likely to stay for the long term.

The Sub-committee's bank account has a balance of \$7518.

A Music Soirée showcase/fundraiser will be held on Tuesday 9 December. Cio Saul/RIEP are to provide details ASAP for distribution to the P&C's e-mail list etc.

Grounds Report

See *Business Arising* and *Principal's Report* above.

General Business

The following meeting schedule was proposed for 2009 –

- 11 February – Cyber-bullying
- 11 March – Faculty presentations for Year 7 parents (ie no normal meeting that night).
- 8 April – Normal meeting
- 13 May – Maths Dept presentation for Years 8 – 12
- 10 June – The new Principal chosen to succeed Judy King (following her retirement at the start of July 2009) will be invited to address the June P&C meeting.
- 8 July – Student Welfare, with Dr Suzy Green (theme will be ‘Belonging’ and anti-depression techniques).
- 12 August – Normal meeting
- 9 September – Normal meeting
- There will be no meeting in October (school holidays)
- The AGM will be in November

Open Day 2009 will be on 12 March; it was proposed that the Gelato Cart be staffed by RIEP members on that Thursday and the following Friday (13 March).

The staff were asked to compile a ‘wish-list’ of possible expenditures for 2009, as was the Librarian. It was hoped that these proposals would be available for consideration at the first meeting for 2009.

It was noted that one important position remains vacant; a new Minutes Secretary is still required, and volunteers will be called for via the usual avenues.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

**The next meeting will be held on
Wednesday 11th February 2009**