

Stanmore Public School Parents & Citizens Association

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 30 October 2012

Present: Fran Larkin, Sue Rose, Kylie Williams, Buzz McKenzie, Gina Angelicas, Lea Dawson, Madi Morrison, Deahna Sheerin, Gillian Woodhouse, Mark O'Donnell, Sara Craig, Rebecca Cox

Apologies: Neil Atwell, Adam Shapiro, Denise Watson, Jana Hunt, Sally Fryer, Melissa

Meeting opened at 7:05pm

Previous minutes

Madi Morrison verified the minutes from the previous meeting and signed them as correct.

President's Report

- Buzz noted that not all issues/things that may need addressing can be solved in one P & C meeting and hence in meetings in future might be useful to note this.
- Last meeting it was great to have so many parents attend. Following on from this the Acting Principal of Marrickville High will attend our Week 8 meeting to provide more information – approx 30 mins will be devoted to this, rather than major part of meeting
- BBQ election was wonderful and was a great community event.
- Sadly this was tempered by the vandalism of the Kitchen garden but it was great see the rallying of the school community and a negative event became a positive one³. Garden going well now. Thanks especially to Neil Atwell and Jo Wallace for their work in garnering support.

Treasurer's Report

Bank statement \$ 42,498.77

Building fund \$12879

Action point

Treasurer's report to go school website and notice board

\$8000 on outdoor furniture still to be spent, school waiting for samples (with e-poxy finish) before decision made. Fran to look at with the help of Amelia Holloway.

Principal's Report

- Garden looking well. Sarah is happy with how it is going. School has had offer a number of fruit trees though person who wants to donate would like more security for kitchen garden
- Kitchen program has started under Nicci Swann. Children responding positively to this despite limited facilities and working in a makeshift arrangement before floor restored. Nicci always happy to have volunteers, needs more help. Should be up and running more fully by beginning 2013.
- Likely to be 23 classes in 2013 – up one more class. There will be 4 Kindy classes next year and possible 4/5 composite. Strong out of area demand but few spots offered.
- Department has offered a demountable but this will result in less play space and school will have more children. Fran seeking approval from Department to renovate and fit out old Distance Ed buildings currently used for languages as this would provide longer term solution given expected

growth over next few years. In 2015 likely to have 615 students – reflecting increased birth rate in past few years.

- High School Info night for Year 5 parents to be held on Monday night. Can find out what schools offer and assist them with what is becoming a more complicated application process. Was well attended last year. Transition program in place where possible. E.g. visiting schools.

Fundraising and Calendar of Events

- Officeworks BBQ not the success was hoped it would be, unfortunately on day of footy grand final
- Booked to go to Bunnings Ashfield BBQ in June 2013 – these tend to be more successful. Also looking at booking as Mascot one too – on a waitlist
- Gearing up for night market on Friday, Nov 30. Lots of posters around for stallholders. Likely to use pre-paid wristbands for rides. Rides operator has been confirmed. 12 stallholders confirmed but looking for more esp. food stalls. Need things that are quick and easy to produce e.g. hotdogs, popcorn.
Idea was raised to have Christmas photos there. Ms Poon organising live entertainment.
A grant for irrigation of kitchen garden and Greenhouse have been applied for.

General business

- Issue of use of Montague Gardens used as venue and trying to prevent mess from shaving foam that was left last year and a couple of parents had to clean up cans etc. Ms Larkin may raise with Year 6 there might be another way of doing this and that kids capable of coming up with their own solution
- Kitchen garden and improved security was raised. Possibility of sensor lighting, fake CCTV cameras, improving any fencing.
- Kitchen build options being looked at but a parent/s may supervise the building using Ikea flatpack kitchens. Save considerable money this way but still being investigated. Fran mentioned we will continue to employ garden and kitchen specialists.
- In the future we could look at hiring kitchen out for cooking lessons/functions
- Nicci Swann still needs 3 or 4 volunteers each session. She also needs some more funds released to fund her kitchen specialist work.
- Gala days to be changed as take up 8 teaching days a year and this has big impact on learning. Stanmore to start being involved in weekly sport on a Friday afternoon for those kids in relevant teams for winter and summer sport. To compete against other schools in Balmain District. Aim to increase team-building, fitness and sportsmanship of children – clear benefits from team work in competitive team sports. P & C may look at funding part of extra costs this may incur for families e.g. subsidising transport, as will reduced in increased cost. General approval that this was a good idea.
- Sara Craig raised the use of Facebook and Twitter in the school community and how the uptake was increasing and helping improve communication. Murray Nance has been a great help in this. Also looking at making SNIP a full .html file rather than download as makes more accessible for people. Visual images etc would be in body of email rather than as pdf. attachment.
- School also looking to use SMS system so parents can notify of absences. These would also be sent out if a child has not arrived at school within 30 mins of school starting.
- Acting Principal of Marrickville High to attend next P & C meeting – Wk 8. To talk about the school, opportunities, provide info etc. This would take up approx 30-40 mins of meeting and won't be its main focus but interested parents welcome to come along. To be advertised in SNIP.

Meeting closed at 9:20pm.