MSCW Parents and Friends Association
Minutes of General Meeting, May 4th 2010

Present: Daniela Sigglekow, Belinda Paslis, Cathy Schiller, Mary-Lou Peachey, Cathy Spiller, Jane Rungwerth, Michele McCabe, Bernadette Ienna, Anne Evans, Elizabeth Devine, Paul Xenikos, Anne Quill

Apologies: Joe and Linda Der, Sue Smith, Tracey Mitchell

Minutes of previous meeting
The amended minutes of the previous meeting, February 9th 2010, were moved and seconded. Moved: Cathy Schiller Seconded: Cathy Spiller

Business arising from minutes

1. Progress on draft constitution
A few minor amendments are still required. Once these are done, it will be formatted and put in the newsletter for comment.

2. Drug and Alcohol Talk
To date, 42 people have paid to attend the talk being held on 11th May. As this is considerably less than the 100 that was hoped for to cover the cost of the $1,000 fee, there was discussion of whether or not to go ahead. It was generally agreed that this was an important topic and it would go ahead regardless of numbers, with the school possibly contributing towards the shortfall. Promotion of the event, both within MSCW and at local schools, would continue in the hope of boosting numbers.

3. Trivia Night
Daniela Sigglekow spoke about progress for the upcoming Trivia Night to be held on 29th May. Emails have been sent to all prospective sponsors requesting donations and silent auction items, and there has been a good response so far. As the main fundraising event for the year, with the loan for the commercial kitchen to pay off, it’s hoped that we have a good attendance, similar to the 180 who came along last year. The committee is doing all they can to promote the event.

3. Community Service
Possible options for the students to be involved in community service were discussed, including helping with activities such as craft at a home for intellectually disabled women. However issues surrounding child protection may make this difficult and for this reason the school does not organise activities for community service.

Correspondence
Application forms and paperwork has been received for the NEITA Awards, which provides the opportunity to nominate and recognise teachers for outstanding commitment to their profession. For those unfamiliar with it, there was a discussion of the process and criteria for nomination. Some possible nominees within the school were put forward.
Principal’s Report

- Sr Fidelis thanked the P & F Association for their work this year so far.
- The new commercial kitchen is operating and working well. The school is now able to meet the criteria for the Hospitality course.
- The school is doing well in all sports. The achievements of the Dragon Boat Racing team being particularly noteworthy.
- The year 7 students are adapting well to the new Woolwich Integrated Learning (WILL) program introduced this year.
- Some students will be going to Cambodia this year as part of a program called ‘Mates Abroad’. They will have the invaluable experience of finding out about another very different culture first hand. This is the first immersion trip of this kind for the school.

Treasurer’s Report

- Opening Balance after last meeting - $5,300.00
- Closing Balance as at 4th May 2010 - $9,122.69

President’s Report

- Cathy thanked all those who had helped at the various events so far – the Year 7 Welcome Night and the Open Day. Elizabeth Devine Poulos did a tremendous job running the BBQ at the open day and we are extremely grateful to Boronia Park Bakehouse for their generous donation of bread rolls for the BBQ.
- The Lifehouse special school assembly was a moving occasion and the student’s behaviour was exemplary.

General Business

- Anne Evans raised the subject of introducing a compulsory ‘school bag’ (standard with school logo). She felt that it would add to a tidier, more uniform appearance. However, Sr Fidelis felt that this would be difficult to implement.

  It was also suggested that making the summer school hat non compulsory, would improve the appearance of the uniform, as at present when the girls actually wear them, the hats often look crushed and out of shape from being in their bags. However, a number of people felt that this would detract from the integrity of the uniform.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

Next meeting to be held Tuesday 3rd August