

# Arrowtown School PTA Meeting

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2011 held in the staffroom commencing at 7:30pm.

PRESENT: Nicole Griffiths, Melissa Hinves, Jody Gill, Jonty Howley , Julie Little, Kay Young, Carla Spring, Rhonda Frew, Sue Parnell, Tracey Turner, Alice Hutchens, Joel Peasey, Bennie Neilson, Mandy Erskine

Apologies: Charlotte Graf, Vicki Morrison, Robin Harris, Rita Kroemer, Bridgitte Jones, Yvonne Stevenson, , Linda Jarvis

Minutes of the previous Meeting were presented and accepted.

## . Fundraising

**The Quiz night** held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May raised a total of \$263. Many thanks to Julie, Rhonda, Vicki and Kay for organizing it and to Don Hazlett for being MC. Numbers were down ( 24 people turned up) as it coincided with another Autumn festival event held at the same time- something to consider next year.

The **Winter Sports sale/ swap** is to be held in the School Hall this Friday. It has been advertised in the newsletter and fliers will be handed out on Thursday.

**PTA Winter Quiz nights** will start on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July for 6 weeks** (ends 30<sup>th</sup> August) starting at 7.30 pm. Although this date is the second week of the school holidays, the quiz is a long running local fixture for late July and very popular with the senior citizens in the community.

Julie confirmed that they had some plans already in train and would ask David John if he would be the MC again.

**The Willows** rang up and have offered to donate their Bingo night takings ( door sales and raffle takings ) to the School as the nominated charity. The Bingo would run for approximately 10-12 weeks on a Tuesday and is organized by Ian Patterson ( Queenstown Cricket Club).

It was resolved to accept this very generous offer, provided that it did not clash with the PTA Quiz night run to start on 26<sup>th</sup> July.

**The Entertainment Book** has been reviewed and it was resolved that it would be good to do it again this year. It raised about \$600 last year. The current book expires the end of May, so Tracey, Bennie and Kay would organize another run to start 1<sup>st</sup> June , so the full 12 month package could be enjoyed.

A note would be put in the newsletter when the books would be sent home with the children.

**Disco** fixed for **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July** , being before the end of term 2. Linda, Carla , Sue and Rita would help.

It raised \$1200 last year and if we could try to reduce costings further , it could be an even bigger fundraiser. We could try to get the food donated and maybe ask the High school kids to be DJ, or even Henry from More FM ( who did the Autumn Festival). A number of parent helpers on the doors would be very useful this year.

**Book sales** Carla has sold most of the boxes ( 30 in each box) and there are only a few boxes left. Rita is helping. They are sold to businesses for \$10 who sell on for \$15.

**Sausage sizzle** There has been another good response and it is running very smoothly, as all the volunteers turn up! There have been 54 bulk orders for this term.

**Rock & Roll Night** to be held for adults on **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September** ( 5<sup>th</sup> week of term 3) which will be after the Extravaganza on 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> August. We may be able to get the Athenaeum Hall at a subsidized rate and some help with lighting etc . Alice and Carla to help. All money raised would go towards the Performing Arts Facility.

**Hoodies, ice scrapers-** it was decided that an optional school hoodie was something to be looked at again. The ice scrapers were probably a lot of work , given the profit that could be made.

External Fundraiser proposals - Planetcard, Chalk Educated Toys, Outdoor Adventure Products- not to be pursued at present.

## 2. Netball equipment

Money had been requested to fund netball equipment on the basis that if further monies are received from the Trust, money paid out by the PTA would be paid back.

The PTA has recently received confirmation that \$3129 will be donated from the Wakatipu Netball Charitable Trust and an application has also been made to the First Sovereign Trust for a further \$3000.

It was resolved that the PTA funds currently available should be allocated towards classroom equipment or similar. Limited resources could not realistically be allocated to the various sports groups at present who have in the past very successfully raised funds for their individual clubs as required.

### 3. Traffic control around School

There have been a number of reports of parents parking on the yellow lines outside the school drive in Chalmer Place. Parking in such areas creates a very dangerous obstacle for the children. The School has been advised that a cycle lane is not an option available to help regulate cycle traffic coming out of school.

The afternoon drop-off zone is also a problematic area, due to the location of the crossing so close to the school entrance. A number of parents have also asked whether the crossing outside the school gates on Centennial Ave could also become a Zebra Crossing.

These issues have been examined very carefully by the School in previous years and a Meeting with the Land Transport Department took place to see what could be done to maximize traffic safety in and around School. There are a number of reasons why the crossings have to be where they are. For example, the crossing on Centennial Ave has to be a certain minimum distance from the 50km zone sign and it is important that children do not assume traffic will stop at the crossing automatically.

It was resolved to make a recommendation to the BOT that the School Drop –off zone be cordoned off at 2.55 pm every school day. The car parking is usually full by then and this will minimize vehicle traffic when children are getting onto the buses.

### 4. School Fair

The School Fair is to be held on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November**. All money raised to go towards the Performing Arts Facility.

More FM have kindly agreed to advertise and have a show at the fair. There have also been other kind offers of support and help which will be discussed at the meeting to be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May.

## 5. Monthly update

The Income from the book sales to date this year is \$3364 to end of April. The sausage sizzle income is \$2600 for the year so far. Profit is \$9979 to date.

Money has been put aside for the Year 7 & 8 camps already ( \$3500 for yr 7 and \$3500 for year 8).

The PTA has received a Bill from the BOT for \$ 23, 260 + GST. Of this , the PTA has paid over \$17500 for the White Boards. The remaining BOT Bill is for Deluxe Buckets for the sandpit, whiteboards \$8970, road warden. As there are enough funds, it was resolved that the balance of the BOT Bill be paid.

It was suggested that another long term income stream for the PTA be considered . Ideally fundraising could involve groups outside the local community who are always being asked to contribute, albeit to a good cause.

One suggestion was to review whether school uniforms be put back on the Agenda. The PTA could keep the profits and have a second hand shop. Last time 71% of parents voted in favour of looking at having a uniform , but this was not sufficient for the 75% needed by the BOT to go ahead.

One option was to have School T-shirts instead of a uniform. Postie Plus had reasonably priced uniforms. If this was to be considered, it would need to be well researched to give parents an idea of cost, colour and style ( eg- would it cover sports kit as well as everyday uniform).

Uniforms gave the children an identity and pride in their school. But they could be expensive and make it harder for the youngsters in the school to identify bullies, for example- as often the little ones would know what someone was wearing, but not remember their face or name.

One option could be to phase uniforms in over a year or so, or to allow the top 2 year groups to opt out for the first 2 years, as they would not get as much wear out of them as the rest of the school. An optional uniform would probably not work as a general concept however.

It was decided that this would be discussed again at a later date.

## Any Other Business

### **Southern Region Federation of PTA**

Two more sections of their handbook have been printed- one on Charitable Status, the other on Parent /Teacher Interviews. These have been put in the PTA folder and anyone is free to ask the Secretary for a copy.

### **Proxy Voting Form from the Southern Region Federation PTA**

The form emailed to Committee Members on 5<sup>th</sup> May was considered and a vote will be communicated to the Southern Region Federation. To be signed by the Chairlady and a school stamp added. It would need to be posted straight away to get there within the deadline requested.

### **Requests for funding**

Any groups that would like to ask for funding within the school can draw up a request and ask the PTA to consider. Joel to prepare a generic form for this purpose.

## Next PTA Meeting

The next PTA Meeting is fixed for **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June in the Staff room.**

(Lunchtime meetings would be difficult for the teacher representatives and working parents, so alternate Mondays and Wednesdays would be preferred.)

The Meeting closed at 9pm.