

Combined Old Girls Association (COGA)

Minutes of Annual General Meeting Sunday 6 October 2013

AGENDA

- 1.0** Meeting declared open at 2.10pm with welcome from Prudy Barker, President of the OLA, who thanked everyone for coming. Prudy introduced the Principal, Susan Just to welcome the group. Susan had also conducted a tour of the school for interested groups prior to the meeting.

Present: Host: Lauriston Girls' School

Firbank, Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar, Korowa, Lauriston, MLC, Royton, St Catherine's, Loreto Mandeville Hall, Intern, St. Margaret's, Loather Hall

Apologies: Helford, Hermitage, Strathcona

Correspondence: There was no correspondence

Previous Minutes: Passed

Proposed: Liz Taylor, Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar

Seconded: Prudy Barker, Lauriston Girls' School

All in Favour

- 2.0** Prudy introduced the speakers for the day and explained that we had invited these ladies to speak to us about building effective networks to instigate discussion and ideas for the individual alumni groups and stronger ties amongst the Combined Old Girls alumni networks.

- 3.0** 2.15pm: First speaker for the day, Lyn Swinburne AM, who is the Founder of Breast Cancer Network Australia. Followed by questions from the attendees.

Please refer to attached presentation.

2.40pm: Second speaker, Julie Reilly, Chief Executive Officer of The Australian Women Donors Network. Followed by questions from the attendees.

Please refer to attached presentation

- 4.0** 3.15pm: Open Discussion

The main question of the day was "What do we want to achieve as a combined group".



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Discussion amongst the attendees around the role and benefits of a combined alumni association. General consensus was that the group would have a networking focus, not a fundraising focus, and that we can envisage benefits to our individual members by creating closer ties between the alumni groups.

The following are some of the comments/suggestions that were raised throughout the afternoon:

Tintern – Can we do one major event together per year?

Lauriston – Do we each want to “friend raise” within our own alumni circles and then combine to raise money for community groups/charities? Alumni groups are run for friendship raising, the fundraising is done by the School.

Lyn Swinburne AM – Is there a reason? Is there a value to doing something as a combined association

St. Catherine’s – they are run by a set of rules/constitution and would need to check whether they would be able to be involved in something combined. Advised that other groups should check as well.

General consensus that any combined alumni group would not have a fundraising focus, not a networking / friendship raising focus.

It was concluded that a sub-committee would be formed that would brainstorm and set out the aims for the combined alumni groups. This sub-committee would then implement/share them with the rest of the group.

The sub-committee includes:

- Carol – Tintern
- Maria – MLC
- Donna – Lowther Hall
- Chrissie – Loreto
- Annie – Ivanhoe Girls’ Grammar
- Bec/Prudy – Lauriston
- Sally – Firbank

Prudy asked the whole group to entrust the sub-committee to create ideas/events

Bec will initiate the first discussions and then hand over to Prudy to act as the Lauriston representative.

Bec (Lauriston) – was asked to explain the network group she wishes to form which is for the Alumni Representatives from schools to get together twice a year to discuss and share ideas. It works very well amongst the Boys APS schools and Bec feels it would be very beneficial for the girls’ schools to start something. Bec to instigate.



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- 5.0** Korowa thanked Lauriston for having us and also made comment on how beneficial they found these meetings and hope they continue.

2014 Meeting – Ivanhoe Girls Grammar

2015 Meeting – Firbank

2016 Meeting - Korowa

Meeting closed at 4.00pm followed by Afternoon Tea

