

FACT SHEET 13: ROLE OF THE SECRETARY

The Secretary is responsible for carrying out the administrative tasks related to the decisions of the meetings as resolved. The Secretary prepares, in consultation with the President, all meeting agendas.

The Secretary is required to attend every association meeting and take notes of the discussions in order to produce a set of Minutes for subsequent distribution to members and for receipt, possible amendment and adoption at the following meeting. (In the absence of the Secretary the meeting should elect a person to take the Minutes, this person should be identified in the Minutes.) Further, the position includes receiving and tabling all correspondence as well as writing and dispatching outgoing correspondence as resolved/appropriate. The Secretary also issues notice of all meetings and maintains official records of the P&C Association such as the constitution, by-laws, rules of subcommittees, Incorporation Certificate, ABN details, list of financial (voting) members, Minutes, Attendance book.

Notice of Meeting

P&C Constitution by-laws state that P&C Associations meet on a regular day each month 'during term time' at the school. Secretaries may use the P&C newsletter, school newsletter/website, school sign, or other means to promote meetings. Motions on Notice, issues and events to be discussed should be advertised along with names of guest speakers.

Minutes

Minutes are a formal brief summary of proceedings at meetings. Accurate Minutes officially record decisions, resolutions and actions to be taken and by whom. They provide evidence of expenditure authorised, inform members not present at the meeting, provide documentary evidence for audit purposes and provide a permanent record of the P&C Associations' history.

Agenda

An agenda is a list of items of business to be considered at a meeting. An Agenda should include the name of the organisation, the type of meeting (e.g. Annual General Meeting, General or special meeting); where the meeting will be held; the date the meeting will be held and time the meeting will commence. An Agenda will contain the following;

1. Welcome and formal opening of meeting
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the previous meeting (Receipt/Amendments/Adoption)
4. Business arising from the previous meeting Minutes
5. Correspondence
6. Business arising from the correspondence
7. Reports:
 - President's report
 - Treasurer's report
 - Sub-committee reports
 - Principal's report
8. General Business
9. Close

An agenda for Annual General Meetings will be similar to the above with the inclusion of items that only occur at an AGM such as election of Officers and Executive, appointment of the Auditor, membership fees, by-law changes etc.