



Annual General Meeting 2020 for FreeSchools World Literacy Australia

FreeSchools World Literacy Australia

ABN 13 233 167 644; Reg No = A0050403N

DATE commencing: Saturday 14th Mar 2020 TIME: 9:00 am
DATE completion: Tuesday 31st Mar 2020 TIME: 9:00 pm

INTERNET VENUE: FreeSchools Literacy Australia email network
fswl-australia@googlegroups.com

Member pre-registration is essential to participate and vote

Minutes of the Meeting

1. Rollcall of members present and apologies.

There were 9 participants in attendance (*Committee member)

Sister Mary Crescence
Bernie Belarski*
Merindi Belarski*
Graeme Chapman*
Robert Coenraads*
Ian Esmore*
Marion Lesaffre*
Delphine Swadling*
Kathleen Swadling*

2. Welcome and background briefing by the Chairperson/President.

Dear Committee and Friends,

Our 2020 AGM will open Saturday 14th of March at 9:00am and run for a few weeks, thereby allowing all of the Committee Members ample time to register and vote. This year we will try to speed the process along to ensure Ian Esmore is able to submit our meeting minutes and reports earlier this year.

Please find attached the standard Agenda for the 2020 AGM. The main purpose of this meeting is to present the 2019 Annual Report containing the audited accounts of FreeSchools World Literacy for 2019, and to elect our new Committee of Management for 2020.

3. Minutes of previous year's Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2019

Motion: That the minutes of the 2019 AGM be accepted by the Committee.

Move: Kathleen Swadling Second: Graeme Chapman Carried

4. President's Report. As circulated to membership

It has been two decades now since Mark Bloomfield and I traveled to Motihari Evening School in Bihar State, India in 2000 – a single schoolhouse for the poor children of the village being run by Sister Crescence. There, I realized for the first time in my life, the real need for free education for the poor, and the ability of education to drastically change the lives of those who were lucky enough to get it. I also saw the benefits of that knowledge spread from the student back to their families and to the local community.

Since that time, donors in Australia have raised a total of \$98,006 towards our educational efforts.

In Bihar State, we have 1148 students being taught by 27 teachers at 23 FreeSchools World Literacy funded centres.

A total of \$4,322 was raised for FreeSchools World Literacy aid projects during the 2019 reporting period for the Free Schools in Bihar, India, thanks to the fundraising efforts of a dedicated group of regular donors including Melissa Alldis, Marion Lesaffre, Julian Martin, Chelsea McLean, Bob Mills, Ken Morley, Saskia Raevouri, Che Stapleton, Kathleen & Trevor Swadling, Andrew & Delphine Swadling, Ken Morley, the Coenraads Family's Francis C. Nieves Memorial Fund, Margaret Walls, and the Forest Kirk Women's Fellowship. This also includes student scholarships raised by the Forest Kirk KidzChurch (for Shilpi), Warrick & Lorna Brady (for Lalmuni), and Francheska Coenraads (for Ruby). (FreeSchools World Literacy annual registration fees of \$55.80 were donated and paid directly by Secretary Ian Esmore).

FreeSchools World Literacy maintains high-quality audited annual accounts and reportage presented to Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) standard.

Finally, I would especially like to thank the FreeSchools World Literacy Committee of Management, many of whom have been members and donors since the Committee's inception.



Dr. Robert Coenraads
President FreeSchools World Literacy (Australia)

5. Treasurer's Report.

I have the pleasure of submitting the FreeSchools World Literacy Financial Report and Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2019 as part of full FreeSchools World Literacy Annual Report for 2019. The accounts are an unbroken record dating back to the beginnings of FSWL in 2001 and are presented in ACFID standard format.

FreeSchools World Literacy - Australia
TABLE OF CASH MOVEMENTS FOR DESIGNATED
PURPOSES

Cash movements for year ended	Designated Project	Cash available at beginning of year	Cash raised during year	Cash disbursed during year	Cash available at year end
2019	Bihar, India	\$ 3,840	\$ 4,320	\$ 8,130	\$ 30
2019	Interest	\$ 78	\$ 2	\$ 80	\$ -
TOTAL 2019		\$ 3,918	\$ 4,322	\$ 8,210	\$ 30

Note: International transfer of funds to India \$3,917.54 on 16/1/2019 for 2018
Note: International transfer of funds to India \$4,292.09 on 27/12/2019 for 2019

Statement:

1. FreeSchools World Literacy is reliant on donations for its overseas projects and is financially healthy. During 2019 FreeSchools raised \$4,322. On Jan 16, 2019 FreeSchools sent \$3,918 to its India Project (2018 donations). On 27 Dec 2019 Freeschools sent \$4,292 to India (2019 donations), leaving its end 2019 bank balance at a total of \$30.25.

2. These funds were disbursed in their entirety to FreeSchools project in Bihar, India where they were used to pay salaries of teachers working at the FreeSchools according to the disbursement letter. This works out to be an average cost of about \$15 to \$20 per year per child being educated and we consider this application of donor funds to be highly effective in providing an education to disadvantaged children.

Motion: That the President's report and audited accounts be received and accepted as read as part of the FreeSchools World Literacy Annual Report for 2019.

Move: Graeme Chapman Second: Ian Esmore Carried

6. Election of Committee of Management and Nomination of Public Officer

The majority of the 2019 FreeSchools World Literacy Committee of Management indicated their willingness to re-stand for office during 2020, Donna Cervantes chose to retire and was thanked for her support over the years. The Committee members were elected as follows:

ROBERT COENRAADS nominated as President_Chairperson FSWL
Move: Kathleen Swadling Second: Graeme Chapman Carried:

IAN ESMORE nominated as Secretary FSWL
Move: Robert Coenraads Second: Kathleen Swadling Carried:

MERINDI BELARSKI nominated as Treasurer FSWL
Move: Robert Coenraads Second: Graeme Chapman Carried:

BERNARD GABRIEL BELARSKI nominated as Committee Member FSWL
Move: Robert Coenraads Second: Graeme Chapman Carried:

GRAEME CHAPMAN nominated as Committee Member FSWL
Move: Robert Coenraads Second: Ian Esmore Carried

MARION LESAFFRE nominated as Committee Member FSWL
Move: Robert Coenraads Second: Graeme Chapman Carried

DELPHINE SWADLING nominated as Committee Member FSWL
Move: Robert Coenraads Second: Graeme Chapman Carried:

KATHLEEN SWADLING nominated as Committee Member FSWL
Move: Robert Coenraads Second: Graeme Chapman Carried:

7. Chairperson to confirm appointments.

President Robert Coenraads confirmed the appointments to the Committee of Management as listed in Item 6.

8. Confirm schedule of membership fees

It was confirmed that FSWL Australia will have NIL membership fees for 2020.

Move: Robert Coenraads Second: Kathleen Swadling Carried

9. General Business:

ROBERT COENRAADS –

Under this item, I would like to note (for our Minutes) the following votes of formal thanks:

1. I have sent a letter and Certificate of Thanks to Bob Mills CPA for auditing our annual accounts to the standard of the ACFID Code.
2. I would like to formally thank Committee Member Graeme Chapman of Architectural Art <http://www.archart.com.au/> for uploading the 2019 FSWL Annual Report, and these Minutes to the FreeSchools Australian Web page which can be found at the following addresses:

www.freeschools.org.au

www.robertcoenraads.com.au/freeschools.htm

These volunteer efforts in support of FreeSchools World Literacy are as real to us as any monetary donation, as we would otherwise have to pay with valuable donor funds for these services.

10. Set date and time for next Annual General Meeting. Close meeting
The next Annual General Meeting of FSWL will commence in February 2021.

The Committee is thanked for its involvement in the AGM

END OF MINUTES