

## **Minutes of SAEP AGM Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2011 10am – 12noon**

### **Venue: Tsoga Centre, Philippi**

**Welcome:** Khanyo Seyisi (vice- chairperson) welcomed all 81 people present. There were apologies from Shiela Yabo, Avuyile Koli, a number of school principals who were attending a conference, and others.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the last AGM were approved by all and were signed by Helena Duk as the chairperson.

**Annual Report and Programme Developments:** Jane Keen, Director, thanked Laura Pugliese in her absence for the design of the annual report, and all staff for the compilation of the report.

**1. Early Childhood Development Programme:** Isabel Babenschneider, ECD Manager for 2010 took the floor and addressed the audience, reflecting on last year's events, sharing the achievements of the ECD programme. She listed progress made on various buildings.

Principals are given ongoing training and mentoring, through courses offered by various training organisations and volunteers including English, Hygiene, First Aid, Computer skills, Cooking & Nutrition, Movement & Dance. Andre Demos, an American volunteer facilitated the workshop on Grade R, made available to the principals and staff. 22 staff members attended the Grief and Loss Support for Young Children course hosted by Khululeka organization. A national ECD conference which SAEP attended was very successful, and used as a platform to liaise and network with other NGOs and governmental departments in the sector.

Nobuntu Mkhencele, principal of Zamukhanyo and chair of the Safety Unity Crèche Forum stood up and shared a few inspirational words with the audience, saying that SAEP to her feels like a 'grandmother for those without a grandmother, and a mother for those without a mother' always assisting and guiding them every step of the way, and always going the extra mile. Isabel thanked everybody for attending and Nobuntu for the inspiring words shared, and introduced the new ECD Manager, Elise Farley who has taken over since she left in early 2011.

**2. High School Programme:** Shep Willis, Manager of the High School and Bridging Year programmes took the floor and briefly shared a few of the challenges of the last year eg. the Soccer World Cup which was followed by the teachers' strike. Fortunately the communication between the schools and SAEP was good and plans were made to continue classes at another venue.

The floor was then handed over to Bongani Ndubata, **Hope Scholars** Coordinator, to talk about some of the highlights. He explained that the programme started in 2009 with 30 Grade 9 learners from Sophumelela and Zisukhanyo schools, and has grown since then. It is an intensive program, where 30 learners are selected from Philippi schools namely Zisukhanyo, Sophumelela, Sinethemba, which is provided with daily tutoring for English, Math's, Accounting. It's an opportunity to approve your academic performance. The 7 day winter camp at the West Coast National Park was a success. The learners participated in arts & environmental activities and various other outdoor excursions.

Andile Nqoko, Coordinator of **Matric Success** then shared a few achievements from the previous year. He worked with subject teachers at Sophumelela and Zisukhanyo to ensure that tutoring given was in line with the school curriculum. It was a successful collaboration between SAEP and TeachOut of UCT. The programme had a positive impact at both schools. 6 of the students are enrolled in various educational institutions.

Luyanda Kota, Manager of **ADT Teach** introduced the tutors and mentioned the positive partnership with ADT in Cape Town and Johannesburg. In Cape Town +/- 300 learners are in the programme (grades 10 – 12) and in Johannesburg there are +/-240 learners (in grades 10 and 11). Prizes were awarded at the end of the year to successful students and the top learners were given desk top computers to take home.

**Arts Programme:** Mahluli Sibanda, Arts Coordinator from 2010 highlighted the activities from last year. Funding from the Lottery enabled the programme to expand to include drama, graffiti, music, film, photography and visual arts, for a total of 138 students. Indra Raj was introduced as the new volunteer Arts coordinator.

**Environment Programme:** Greg Mutumi, Environment Coordinator reported on the curriculum he compiled to educate learners about their environment in Phillipi. The highlight for this programme was the constructing of a larger than life size giraffe sculptured made out of recycled tin. SAEP joined forces with UNEP which planted trees at each of the 3 schools; certificates were received by the schools and given to SAEP, very successful project. Excursions, amongst the club members were very popular, including to Drift sands Nature Reserve, Silvermine Nature Reserve and the World of Birds.

The 2010 **Arts and Environment Festival** drew a large crowd over the Heritage Day weekend.

**3. Bridging Year Programme:** Shep Willis introduced the programme as Kanya Mdaka, the Coordinator was not present as he was attending an open day at UWC with the interns.

The programme aims to improve exam results to matriculants and to prepare them for the many challenges lying ahead in their tertiary studies. Last year over 100 applications were received, of which 30 applicants were interviewed and finally 12 selected, The year started with the students attending an Outward Bound camp, allowing them the opportunity to identify their strengths, weaknesses, and learn how to overcome obstacles. Apart from academic tutoring the students also learn computer skills, are given career guidance, counseling and support (where necessary) and many other life skills. It is hoped that the programme will be able to take more than 12 students in future.

A few ex-interns were invited to take the floor and share their experience of how SAEP has impacted their lives. Mpathiswa Dodo, now studying Operations Management at CPUT, shared his heartfelt story. He said the programme had groomed him to be the person he is today, supporting him in his quest to obtain gold and achieving a better future for himself and his family. All praise went to SAEP. Shep concluded by thanking Kanya Mdaka in his absence for doing such a good job.

**4. Tertiary Support Programme:** Jane introduced the Tertiary Support Programme Coordinator, Beauty Ndlovu, who then explained how SAEP was supporting students now at university. Assistance available included the payment of registration fees, accommodation for some, book, transport and living allowances, career guidance,

counseling, mentoring and support. She mentioned various students who had graduated recently: Shiela Yabo, from UCT in December 2010 and Bandile Qashani with a national diploma in chemical engineering from CPUT. Bandile was congratulated and then shared his moving story with everyone.

**Financial and fund raising report:** Norton Tennille, treasurer, presented the audited financial report (as given in the annual report), and explained where the funds of over R2.7million were raised.

**Proposed Changes to the Constitution:** Jane explained the motivation for the proposed changes to the constitution, and after discussion the following changes were agreed unanimously (words added in ***bold italics***, words deleted indicated with bold **strikethrough**):

Clause 5: The organisation's primary objectives are to provide ***holistic*** education, ***to promote arts and culture***, to improve the social and economic development of Philippi and neighbouring communities, and to improve living standards and the physical environment through:

**Clause 5.2: Promotion and development of arts and culture in the community through:**

- **Training in visual art, drama, dance, music and other art forms in the schools,**
- **Provision of opportunities for the presentation of these art forms through shows & festivals,**
- **Exposure of learners to cultural diversity through visits to exhibitions, shows etc.,**
- **Preservation of local art forms and culture.**

Clause 8.1: A management committee of not less than seven ~~or more than ten~~ members will manage the organisation.

**Questions:** One person requested that the annual report be presented in Xhosa in future. It was also suggested that newsletters be distributed to inform people of developments.

**Acceptance of Annual and Financial Report:** Accepted unanimously.

**Appointment of Auditor:** Norton Tennille proposed that Mike Schreiber of the firm Low and Schreiber be appointed as the auditor again and this was agreed unanimously.

**Election of Management Committee:** The following members were elected to the Management Committee: Helena Duk, Khanyo Seyisi, Ros Emanuel, Norton Tennille, Avuyile Koli, Zandile Mahlasela, Babini Fatyela, Mzimasi Hoho, Nomsa Shosha, Shiela Yabo, Isabel Babenschneider, Nobuntu Mkhencele (Sindiswa Tebeka) and Phelisa Kanzi.

**Thanks:** Helena thanked everybody, donors, and volunteers for attending the AGM. She also went on to say how good it is to be part of a winning team. Jane also thanked Nisa Goncalves, the new office manager, and all those who had helped to organise the AGM, and the staff and volunteers for their hard work and commitment, and the committee members for their support and time.

**Signed:** ..... **Date:** .....