

Annual General Meeting 2015

Date: 17 December 2015

Venue: Building E2.111

James Cook University

McGregor Road,

Smithfield Qld 4878 AUSTRALIA

Time: 3:00pm

Rob Coles (RC)	. 2014/16 Steering Committee member
Catherine Collier (CC)	Member
Rudi Yoshida (RY)	Member
Mike van Keulen (proxy LM)	Vice President
Jessie Jarvis (proxy CC)	Treasurer
Giuseppe Di Carlo (proxy LM)	Immediate Past President
Jeffrey Gaeckle (proxy LM)	. 2014/16 Steering Committee member
Michael J. Durako (proxy LM)	Member
Ainsley Calladine (proxy LM)	Member
Mardi McNeil (proxy LM)	Member

- 1. Opening:
- LM explained to the members present that the large screen and camera set-up in the meeting room were for the available skype connection (worldseagrass) should any members choose to call in
- LM proposed Rob Coles (RC) to chair the meeting, seconded by RY
- The Chair (RC) opened the meeting at 3:00pm
- LM recorded meeting minutes
- 2. Welcome by Chair
- RC welcomed the members attending in person and gave appreciation to the members who provided proxies and views
- RC outlined the legal requirements of the meeting
- 3. Agenda and Apologies:
- The Agenda was agreed to by all members.
- Apologies from all members who sent proxy forms and Anitra Thorhaug
- 4. Registration of Proxy voters and members
- LM noted the members present and by proxy (7)
- There was a quorum (9) for the meeting
- 5. Discussion and voting on resolutions 1-3
- 1) That we accept the tabled financial summary from the Treasurer 2014/15

LM outlined the financial status as AUD3,134.70 (01 July 2015) in the $\,$

Commonwealth Bank and PayPal accounts.

LM proposed, CC seconded, members voted, agreed unanimously and it passed

2) That the annual membership fee be set at USD\$20.00 for full membership and USD\$10.00 for student membership and USD\$500.00 for corporate membership or the close equivalent in foreign currency and that membership be open.

LM proposed, RY seconded, members voted, agreed unanimously and it passed Discussion:

RC: noted that the membership fee has not changed in 13 years (since WSA was incorporated in 2002)

LM: this was raised at AGM2013 and AGM2014, however WSA members did not show any interest in whether fees should be increased. Also noted that the membership fees are only used to pay for student assistance at ISBW's and to cover the annual return fees of Association to the Queensland Office of Fair Trading, ~\$50 per year.

RC: emphasised that with limited overheads, the WSA should pitch to members that fees are to support students and perhaps we should push more for donations.

LM: reminded members that the results from the WSA questionnaire in 2012 that most members were not willing to sponsor the membership of a student or scientist, so WSAMC is unsure of success of donations. Nevertheless, they support the inclusion of a donation button on the website for to the *Evamaria Koch student travel award*. Ainsley has advised this can be easily done, but is just waiting on someone to provide some text (max 50 words) RC: suggested that it doesn't need to be a donation to the award, but maybe just a more general donation to the WSA and that some text could be prepared outlining how the WSA funds are 99.9% to support students and raising awareness. Suggested WSAMC consider increasing fees (by a moderate amount) and as discussed at AGM2014, that could be done as part of registration for ISBW12.

3) That the association members entrust to the Management Committee the day-today running of the Association business

RC proposed, RY seconded, members voted, agreed unanimously and it passed

6. Update from the Secretary

Since the last meeting (#45), activities relating to the business included:

- 06Dec15 notify members of AGM2015 date and call for agenda items
- 06Dec15 proposed the following applicant for WSA membership:
 - o Dr Bin Zhou (China) Ordinary Member Seconded by MVK and RU 11Dec15. Motion passed
- 11Dec15 AGM2015 agenda, proxy form, financial statement 2014/15 emailed to all members
- 11Dec15 all members notified of membership financial status
- 7. Update from the Treasurer
- PayPal account balance 17Dec15 = USD2,359.65
- NAB account balance 17Dec15 = AUD722.17
- Petty cash 17Dec15 = AUD31.55, USD20.00,
- Expenditure since 300ct15:

nil

Expenditure forecast for quarter:

Reimburse LM for 2012/13 and 2013/14 Annual Return of Association to the Queensland Office of Fair Trading = AU\$94.85 (see meeting#40 & AGM2014)

LM requested approval to pay of \$49.95 to the Office of Fair Trading for Annual Return of Association. RC approved, seconded by CC

8. Other business and Discussion

Brief discussion about WSA Life Membership Award, and whether it should still be considered.

• LM: outlined that a subcommittee headed by Anitra will provide an update on progress in the New Year.

General discussion about seagrass special issue Ocean & Coastal Management.

- RC: mentioned that it could be a lot of work for the editors.
- LM: responded that Leanne, Mike vK and Lina will hopefully give an update in the New Year, but many people in Australia are possibly busy completing chapters for the Larkum et al book.

9. Wrap up and Close 3:30pm finish of Meeting

I confirm these are the true minutes of the World Seagrass Association Annual General Meeting 2015. Dated the 17th day of December 2015.

Rob Coles

Chair/ Steering Committee member World Seagrass Association Inc. Len McKenzie Secretary

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