



Management Committee (WSAMC) Meeting #46

Date: 12 April 2016

Venue: email

Time: 12:00pm

1. Present: Richard Unsworth (RU)(email)President
 Mike Van Keulen (MVK)(email) Vice President
 Jessie Jarvis (JJ)(email) Treasurer
 Len McKenzie (LM)Secretary
 Anitra Thorhaug (AT)(email)..... Steering Committee Member
 Rob Coles (RC)(email)..... Steering Committee Member

2. Welcome & Apologies: LM (Chair) opened the meeting at 1202 and recorded the minutes (from emails received)
 Apologies: Leanne Cullen-Unsworth

3. Update from the Secretary & Treasurer

3.1. Update from Secretary (Len)

Since the last meeting (*AGM2015*), activities relating to the business included:

- 28Mar16 - Proposed the following applicant for WSA membership:
 - Ms Amanda Clarke (University of Newcastle) - PhD candidate
 - Dr T E Angela Quiros (University of California Santa Cruz) - Ordinary member

Seconded by MvK, 28Mar16. Motion passed

3.2. Update from Treasurer (Jessie)

Since the last meeting (*AGM2015*), activities relating to the business included:

- PayPal account balance 10Apr16 = USD2,515.01
- NAB account balance 10Apr16= AUD722.17
- Petty Cash 10Apr16 = AUD31.55, USD20.00
- Expenditure since 17Dec15:
 - None
- Expenditure forecast for quarter:
 - Reimburse LM for 2012/13 Annual Return of Association to the Queensland Office of Fair Trading = AU\$46.60
 - Reimburse LM for 2013/14 Annual Return of Association to the Queensland Office of Fair Trading = AU\$48.25
 - Reimburse LM for 2014/15 Annual Return of Association to the Queensland Office of Fair Trading = AU\$49.95

4. Tasks and Discussion

4.1 WSA Steering Committee

On 23Jun15, all Steering Committee members were emailed the following list of tasks and asked to nominate which task they would like to contribute:

- a. Communications and website (see 4.2)
- b. Social media (see 4.2)
- c. Notes from the field (see 4.2)
- d. Webinar programme (see 4.7)
- e. Student liaison (need a Student Rep) (see 4.6)
- f. Seagrass education (see 4.6)
- g. Fund raising (see 5.1)
- h. Conservation
- i. Awards (see 4.3)
- j. Journal publications (e.g. another special issue) (see 4.8)
- k. Major initiatives (e.g. new books, an Atlas update, a methods update) (see 4.9)

4.2 Communication and social media tools

Objective: *to increase the line of communication with members and non-members; to improve the visibility of the Association within the seagrass community; to raise the profile of seagrasses through stories, blogs, news, etc.*

Responsible officer/s: Giuseppe, Siti, Rich, Adriana

Status: ongoing

Activity since last meeting & Discussion:

<http://wsa.seagrassonline.org/blog/>

www.facebook.com - World Seagrass Association, 249 members [12Apr16]

twitter - World Seagrass Assoc @WSA_tweets. 66 followers, 36 tweets [12Apr16]

MVK(12Apr16): SeagrassForum, 688 members

4.3 WSA Life Membership Award

Objective: *Award to WSA members who have made significant or outstanding contributions to the Association and scientific representation*

Responsible officer: Anitra Thorhaug

Due date: TBA

Status: ongoing

Activity since last meeting & Discussion:

AT (04Apr16): I will be sending a Life-time achievement report shortly.

LM: I have received a draft document from the subcommittee (chaired by Anitra) titled *"The Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Seagrass Scientific Research and Service to Enhance Seagrass Sustainability"*. I will send to the WSAMC first for feedback and review ASAP.

4.4 Monitoring review

Objective: *review of seagrass monitoring efforts: last 10 years of monitoring*

Responsible officer/s: Giuseppe, Rob

Due date: TBA

Status: ongoing

Activity since last meeting & Discussion:

RC (11Apr16): Currently in the process of conducting a review of literature.

4.5 ISBW12, Nant Gwrtheyrn, Gwynedd, North Wales, 16-21 October 2016:

Objective: *facilitate the biennial International Seagrass Biology Workshop (ISBW), an official WSA Inc. event.*

Responsible officer/s: Rich, Leanne & Len

Due date: 2016

Status: ongoing

Activity since last meeting:

RU (25Feb16): in order to assist the owners of this year's ISBW venue (a small and new organisation) we've made some very slight amendments to the dates of the ISBW12. Welcome drinks and the first plenary will be on the evening of Sun 16th October and departure will be on Friday afternoon (21st). The draft schedule is online: <http://isbw12.org/final-program>

LM: reminder that ISBW12 abstracts are due 01 May 2016.

4.6 WSA student network

Objective

Responsible officer/s: ??

Due date:

Status:

Activity since last meeting:

Nil

4.7 WSA Webinars & Online events

Objective:
Responsible officer/s: ?
Due date: ???
Status: ongoing
Activity since last meeting:
 Nil

4.8 WSA seagrass special issue Ocean & Coastal Management

Objective:
Responsible officer/s: Leanne, Mike vK and Lina
Due date: ???
Status: ongoing
Activity since last meeting & Discussion:
 Nil

4.9 Major initiatives

Objective: e.g. new books, an Atlas update, a methods update
Responsible officer/s: Rob
Due date: ???
Status: ongoing
Activity since last meeting & Discussion:
 Nil

5. Other**5.1 Other business**

LM: AC will set up a 'donate' button (in which the donor enters their own contribution amount) for "*contribution to Evamaria Koch Student Travel Fund*". Waiting on someone to write text for the page that we'll be accepting donations on and some more text for a thank you email or post-payment landing page once someone has sent money. Any volunteers???

5.2 Other business

AT (04Apr16): the Coral Reef Society has given the UNEP and UNESCO its suggestions on International Coral Reef areas to be Preserved and off limits for anthropogenic destruction. It occurred to me, if we put our heads together and began to work as a group we could outline at least 10 -20 key seagrass conservation areas in the world's oceans to suggest as experts to these groups. It could be of great value to international governance, and might begin to stem the tide of degradation of the 51,000 km² decimated seagrass written about at the Australia meeting by Waycott et al. It is also publishable and could be of value to resource managers who would welcome an international voice to help them preserve their resource. Of course, I would begin with the Australia Great Barrier Reef seagrasses and someone must pinpoint the bulk of the most valuable seagrasses and where the geography would begin and end. Then we could proceed to Indonesia's seagrass, the East African seagrasses straddling several nations, the Mediterranean, the Caribbean (e.g., Nicaragua), Gulf of Mexico (several sites), and Pacific Coast of the Western Hemisphere plus several boreal spots. This may help stem the tide of really degrading seagrass activities within these Key areas. I would emphasize newly developing nations of seagrass wealth where resource management governance may not be strong.

5.1 Wrap up and Close of Meeting

LM thanked the members for their participation and contributions to the meeting.
 Meeting Closed 12:05pm

I confirm these are the true minutes of the World Seagrass Association Management Committee Meeting #46.

Dated the 12th day of April 2016



Len McKenzie
Chair/Secretary
World Seagrass Association Inc.



Actions carried forward from previous WSA Inc. meetings

Meeting #	Actions Arising from Discussion	Status
40	Giuseppe to provide details on status of funds from Eva's family	ongoing