



Annual General Meeting 2016

Date: 21 December 2016

Venue: Building E2.111
James Cook University
McGregor Road,
Smithfield Qld 4878 AUSTRALIA

Time: 11:00am

Present:

Mike van Keulen (MVK) (<i>skype</i>)	President
Jessie Jarvis (<i>proxy RY</i>)	Vice President
Len McKenzie (LM)	Secretary
Catherine Collier (CC)	Member
Rudi Yoshida (RY)	Member
Jeffrey Gaeckle (<i>proxy LM</i>)	2014/16 Steering Committee member
Masahiro Nakaoka (<i>proxy LM</i>)	2014/16 Steering Committee member
Anitra Thorhaug (AT) (<i>proxy MVK</i>)	2014/16 Steering Committee member
Richard Stafford-Bell (<i>proxy LM</i>)	Member
Michael J. Durako (<i>proxy LM</i>)	Member
Ainsley Calladine (<i>proxy CC</i>)	Member
Mardi McNeil (<i>proxy LM</i>)	Member
Hugh Kirkman (<i>proxy LM</i>)	Member
Eugenia Apostolaki (<i>proxy LM</i>)	Member
Mary Bernadette B. de Venecia (<i>proxy CC</i>)	Member

- Opening:**
 - LM proposed Mike van Keulen (MVK) to chair the meeting, seconded by RY
 - The Chair (MVK) opened the meeting at 11:02am
 - LM recorded meeting minutes
- Welcome by Chair**
 - MVK welcomed the members attending in person and gave appreciation to the members who provided proxies and views
 - MVK outlined the legal requirements of the meeting
- Agenda and Apologies:**
 - The Agenda was agreed to by all members.
 - Apologies from all members who sent proxy forms
- Registration of Proxy voters and members**
 - LM noted the members present (4) and by proxy (11)
 - There was a quorum (9) for the meeting
- Dissolution (retirement) of Management Committee 2014-2016**
 - MVK thanked all the members for the retiring WSA Management Committee (2014-2016) for their efforts and service to the Association
 - MVK officially declared the dissolution of the 2014-2016 WSA Management Committee
- Election/appointment of members of the new management Committee**

LM outlined the election process:

 - 14Nov16 - call for management committee nominations was sent via email to all members outlining nomination process and AGM2016
 - 21Nov16 - reminder sent to all members
 - 28Nov16 - nominations for executive positions closed
 - The only nominations received were:

President - Mike van Keulen (*proposer: Anitra Thorhaug; seconder: Jennifer Verduin*)

Vice President - Jessie Jarvis (*proposer: Len McKenzie; seconder: Mike Van Keulen*)

Treasurer - Lina Mtwana Nordlund (*proposer: Len McKenzie; seconder: Richard Unsworth*)

Secretary - Len McKenzie (*proposer: Jessie Jarvis; seconder: Mike Durako*)

According to WSA Rules, as one candidate has been nominated for each position (i.e. sufficient number of candidates nominated), there is no requirement for the positions to go to election and positions can be appointed unopposed

MVK officially declared the new WSA Management Committee to be:

President - Mike van Keulen

Vice President - Jessie Jarvis

Treasurer - Lina Mtwana Nordlund

Secretary - Len McKenzie

Immediate Past President – Richard Unsworth

7. Appointment of members of the Steering Committee

- LM received 5 expressions of interest to be appointed to the Steering Committee.
- As committee is capped at 10 members, LM approach a few other financial members for other countries to ask their interest in being considered, but still waiting on response.

Action: LM to compile list of members who expressed interest to be appointed to Steering Committee, send to the members of the WSA Management Committee (WSAMC) so that Steering Committee can be appointed ASAP in 2016.

8. Discussion and voting on resolutions 1-2

- 1) **That we accept the tabled financial summary from the Treasurer 2015/16**
LM outlined the financial status as USD2,179.51 and AUD533.17 (01 July 2016) in the PayPal and National Australia Bank accounts, respectively.
LM proposed, CC seconded, members voted, agreed unanimously and it passed
- 2) **That the association members entrust to the Management Committee the day-to-day running of the Association business**
CC proposed, RY seconded, members voted, agreed unanimously and it passed

9. Other business and Discussion

Update from the Secretary

Since the last meeting (#49, 20Oct16), activities relating to the business included:

- 14Nov16 – notified members of AGM2016 date and call for agenda items
- 14Nov16 - call for management committee nominations was sent via email to all members outlining nomination process and AGM2016
- 15Nov16 - proposed the following applicants for WSA membership:
 - Mr Rufus Sullivan - Student (Undergrad, University of St Andrews), Great Britain
 - Dr Fahad Aljamali - Doha
 - Dr Tiina Salo - Eawag / ETH Zurich, Switzerland
 - Dr Mary Bernadette de Venecia - Marine Environment and Resources Foundation, Inc., Philippines*Seconded by Richard Unsworth. Motion passed*
- 15Nov16 - all members notified of membership financial status
- 17Nov16 - proposed the following applicants for WSA membership:
 - Dr Nicolas Sturaro - (Institute of Oceanography - National Taiwan University), Belgium*Seconded by JJ. Motion passed*
- 21Nov16 – all members reminded of management committee nominations
- 28Nov16 - nominations for executive positions closed
- 10Dec16 - AGM2016 agenda, proxy form, financial statement 2015/16 emailed to all members
- 19Dec16 - all members reminded to send AGM2016 proxy if unable to attend
- 20Dec16 – minutes from meetings #48 and #49 uploaded to WSA website

Update from the Treasurer

JJ (19Dec16):

- PayPal account balance 21Dec16 = **USD1,525.42**
- NAB account balance 19Dec16 = **AUD571.64**

- Petty cash 21Dec16 = **AUD31.55, USD20.00,**
- Expenditure since 20Oct16:
nil
- Expenditure forecast for quarter:
LM requested approval to pay of \$51.70 to the Office of Fair Trading for Annual Return of Association. MVK approved, seconded by CC

Other:

LM presented the statistics from the WSA website (wsa.seagrassonline.org) prepared by WSA Web Manager Ainsley Calladine on 20Dec16. The website had received 1,001 visitors (2,426 views) over the last 12 months, with the greatest in October 2016 with the release of the consensus statement "Securing a future for seagrass" and ISBW12. The report is attached.

AT (19Dec16): proposed several items for consideration:

"We purchase one or more battery operated microphone with dues for those of us "oldie goldies" whose continual diving experience has left them hearing impaired and cannot keep up with voices of questions at the meetings. The microphones usually good for speakers, although some speakers are very naughty and refuse to use them. Strangely more women than men."

MVK felt that the provision of microphones at ISBW meetings were normal PA facilities provided at meetings, and was the responsibility of the ISBW Organizing Committee. LM suggested that a recommendation be made to ISBW organizers to ensure a suitable audio/PA system is provided at meetings, to enable all members to hear speakers and discussion. This was agreed unanimously.

"The concept of the organizers asking the entire committee to suggest programmatic material by Unsworth was a good one and should be made part of planning."

The comment was noted by those present and agreed.

"I propose the concept of using the generalized seagrass values statement Unsworth et al. wrote and we all signed as a part of "Who we are, and what we stand for" on our web site."

It was noted that the statement was already prominent on the WSA web site.

"To keep up with style of other major organizations, perhaps a small biography which each member of the committee can write with photo on the web site. That would give a better picture of the organization. (Position currently, any relevant past positions, field of seagrass research, etc.)"

Those present agreed that this would be useful for members to feel better connected with the management committee and might help with membership. LM suggested that a link to institutional profile page might be appropriate; RY felt that a separate photograph and brief statement would be better. Agreed unanimously.

10. Wrap up and Close of Meeting 11:22am finish

We confirm these are the true minutes of the World Seagrass Association Annual General Meeting 2016. Dated the 21st day of December 2016.



Mike van Keulen
President
World Seagrass Association Inc.



Len McKenzie
Secretary



WSA web site (wsa.seagrassonline.org)

Page visits, 2016 (top pages)

	Total	5188
Securing a future for seagrass		1195
Welcome		1139
Meetings		583
Downloads		523
Securing a future for seagrass signatories		514
Registration		176
About		166
Membership		150
Committee		113
Bolinao Declaration		89
Payment		87

Referrers (links in), 2016

	Total	1819
search engines (almost all Google)		740
BBC		382
isbw12.org		100
Facebook		78
Twitter		21

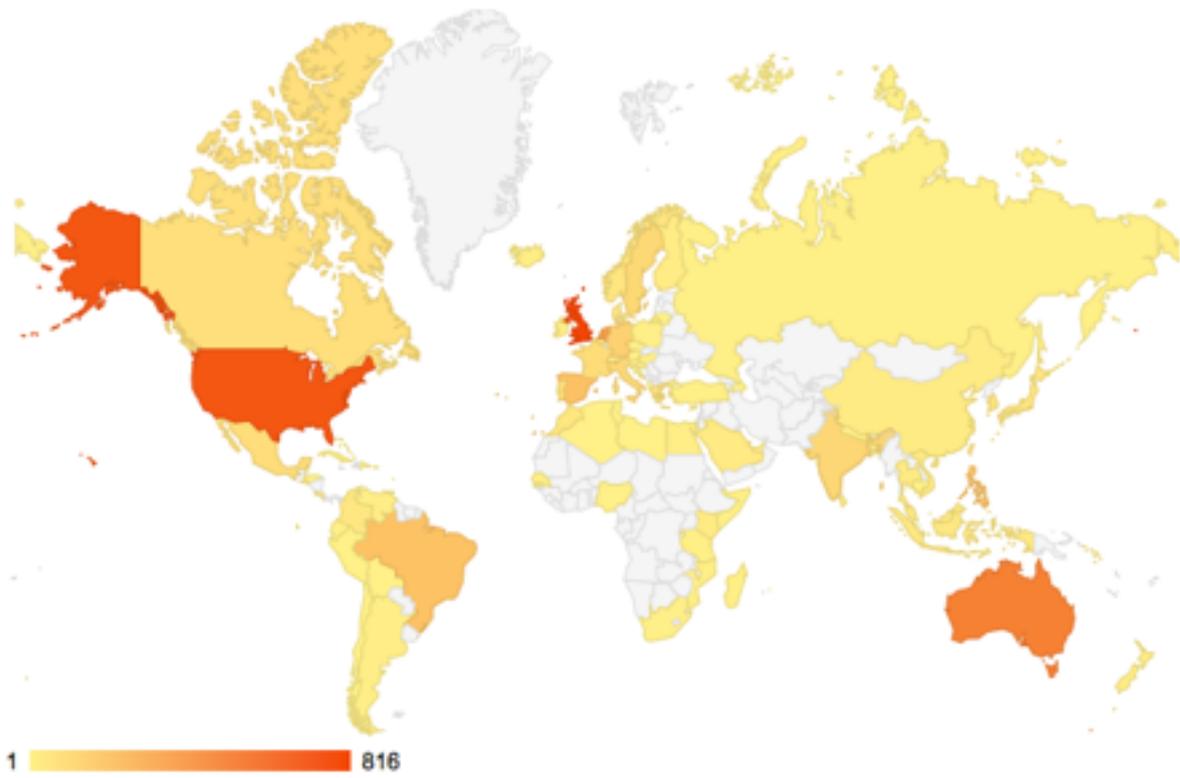
Clicks (links out), 2016

isbw12.org	161
mediterranean.seagrassonline.org/sardinia/	13
theconversation.com	10
Twitter	21

File downloads (wsa.seagrassonline.org/downloads)

The Filebase management software reports that of our 'permanent' repository of 67 reports, correspondence and minutes as issued by the Association there have been 18 315 downloads since instigation (last year about this time it was 49 files / 5639 downloads). Note that this will also including indexing spiders.

Views by country



Views and visitors

