



## Management Committee (WSAMC) Meeting #43

Date: 27 March 2015

Venue: email

Time: 12:00pm

**1. Present:** Richard Unsworth (email) ..... President  
 Mike Van Keulen (email)..... Vice President  
 Jessie Jarvis ..... Treasurer  
 Len McKenzie ..... Secretary  
 Giuseppe Di Carlo (email) ..... Previous Past President

**2. Welcome & Apologies:** Jessie (Chair) opened meeting at 12:05 pm  
 Len agreed to take minutes.  
 Apologies: nil

**3. Update from the Secretary & Treasurer** **3.1. Update from Secretary (Len)**

Since the last meeting (*AGM2014*), activities relating to the business included:

- 12Dec14 - minutes from AGM2014 and letter from President sent to all members
- 12Jan15 - submitted Annual Return of Association to the Queensland Office of Fair Trading and paid annual fee of \$48.25 from personal funds (to be reimbursed from WSA)
- 16Mar15- Meeting #43 call for agenda items (*incl. minutes from AGM2014*)
- 19Mar15 - Meeting #43 agenda sent to WSA Management Committee members.

**3.2. Update from Treasurer (Jessie)**

Since the last meeting (*#41*), activities relating to the business included:

- New WSA Bank Account with National Australia Bank (NAB):  
 Branch: Smithfield, Queensland Australia  
 Account Type: Community Fee Saver Business Checking; Business Account #0441  
 BSB:084-922  
 Account Number: 24-307-0441  
 Signatories: *WSA Secretary and Treasurer; will be adding the VP*
- have begun the process to link the PayPal and NAB accounts. As soon as that is completed I will let the committee know.
- PayPal account balance 27Mar14 = **USD\$2,129.25; AUS\$59.76**
- NAB account balance 27Mar14 = **AUD\$0.07**
- Petty Cash 27Mar14 = **AUD\$31.55**
- Expenditure since 20Dec14:  
 nil
- Expenditure forecast for quarter:
  - Reimburse LM for 2012/13 Annual Return of Association to the Queensland Office of Fair Trading = AU\$46.60

**Action:** Jessie to follow up on ISBW11 silent auction.

**4. Tasks and Discussion**

**4.1 WSA Steering Committee**

Len (17Mar15): sent spreadsheet of nominations received to WSAMC. Commented that members are mainly from Australia and USA, so this is not really "global".

Mike (17Mar15): commented it would be nice to see some European involvement – no idea who would be prepared to get involved though ...

Giuseppe (18Mar15): Responded that he was happy to approach a few members at the 4th Mediterranean Seagrass Workshop in May to be on Committee

Len (26Mar15): proposed the following nominations to the WSA Steering Committee:

Jeff Gaeckle (USA)  
 Jennifer Verduin (Australia)  
 Anitra Thorhaug (USA)  
 Masahiro Nakaoka (Japan)  
 Paul Erfteimeijer (Australia)  
 Rob Coles (Australia)  
 Adriana Verges (Australia)

Seconded by Jessie. Unanimously accepted. Motion passed and members appointed to the WSA Steering Committee

Len: commented that WSA still need another 3 members to fill committee. Some previous WSAMC members did not respond, so he will follow up.

**Action:** Giuseppe to approach European WSA members at 4th Mediterranean Seagrass Workshop regarding appointment to WSA Steering Committee.

**Action:** Len to approach previous WSAMC members in regards to continued appointment 2015-16.

Rich (15Feb15): Commented that in the past there had been very little interaction from the steering committee, possibly because members were waiting on suggestions / directions. Suggested that once new WSA Steering Committee established, each position should have particular roles, possibly including (but open to all ideas):

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

Jessie: suggested that Steering Committee include a Student representative who can assist with Student Liaison.

#### 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

**Status:** ongoing

**Activity since last meeting & Discussion:**

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

11Jan15 - Notes from the Field: Beaufort, North Carolina, USA

[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) - World Seagrass Association, 225 members [27Mar15]

[twitter](https://twitter.com) - World Seagrass Assoc @WSA\_tweets. 61 followers, 36 tweets [27Mar15]

#### 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/s:** Giuseppe & Anitra

**Due date:** ???

**Status:** ongoing

**Activity since last meeting & Discussion:**

nil

**4.4 Monitoring review**

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

**Responsible officer/s:** Giuseppe

**Due date:** TBA

**Status:** ongoing

**Activity since last meeting & Discussion:**

nil

**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 & Len

**Due date:** 2016

**Status:** ongoing

**Activity since last meeting:**

Nil to report

**4.6 Actions Carried forward from last meeting (LM)****5. Other****5.1 ISBW11 follow up**

**Action:** RY to prepare letter on behalf of WSA to thank to Profs. Liangmin Huang and Xiaoping Huang (ISBW11 Chair & Co-Chair), and all the members of the Local Organizing and Scientific Committees on behalf of WSA Inc., for their tremendous efforts in making ISBW11 an informative, enjoyable and successful event.

**5.2 WSA website**

Rich: Commented that WSA needs to establish a way that the website moves into the 21st century and that multiple people can edit it. Having to go through our Web Manager (Ainsley) can be demanding on his time and makes it quite difficult.

Would it be worth spending money to make this an easily accessible and editable site that gets regularly updated (e.g. use 1and1.com).

**5.3 WSA student network**

Rich: Commented that WSA needs to create a WSA student network. The aim would be for Profs/academics globally to nominate PhD students to join a global network. The aim would be for students to undertake mini initiatives between them (using senior help as when required). For example – make a video on global seagrass conservation progress, write easily accessible and readable summary reviews of key research areas, facilitate global discussions forums on key topics in seagrass research and conservation.

**5.4 WSA Webinars**

Rich: Suggested that WSA establish a series of webinars by leading scientists around the world. The JCU ARC centre for coral reef excellence do a whole series of online lectures that we could aim to run from a seagrass perspective, initially live but recorded to enable playback on Youtube through a WSA youtube channel. Have no idea technologically how to set this up but presumably we can work something out.

**5.5 WSA seagrass special issue Ocean & Coastal Management**

Rich: Proposed a new WSA seagrass special issue (Mike vK and Leanne have both shown interest in doing this, Leanne mentioned Ocean & Coastal Management - Journal - Elsevier [www.journals.elsevier.com/ocean-and-coastal-management/](http://www.journals.elsevier.com/ocean-and-coastal-management/))

**5.6 Online events**

Rich: Suggested that the WSA try and run more online events, such as the one in 2011 with SeaWeb.

- 6. Wrap up and Close of Meeting**      Jessie thanked the members for their participation and contributions to the meeting.  
Meeting Closed 1230pm

I confirm these are the true minutes of the World Seagrass Association Management Committee Meeting #43.

Dated the 12th day of April 2015



Len McKenzie  
*Chair/Secretary*  
*World Seagrass Association Inc.*



## **Actions carried forward from previous WSA Inc. meetings**

<b>Meeting #</b>	<b>Actions Arising from Discussion</b>	<b>Status</b>
40	<b>Giuseppe</b> to provide details on status of funds from Eva's family	ongoing
41	<b>Anitra</b> to progress the formation of a sub-committee and criteria for WSA Life Membership award nomination/assessment process	ongoing
AGM2014	<b>Len</b> 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 2015.	completed
	<b>Jessie</b> to set up new account with NAB.	completed
	<b>Len</b> to check with Ainsley (Web Manager) if donation section of payment can be established on WSA website.	ongoing