

COM.IT.ES. April Monthly Meeting– Monday 3 April 2017 6:15pm

Com.It.Es. SA – 262a Carrington St Adelaide

MINUTES:

1. Welcome & apologies

- Present: Mark Quaglia, Christian Verdicchio, Angela Scarino, Gianna Vorrasi, Tony Piccolo, Michael Donato, Alessandro Ragazzo, Antonio Rosato.
- Apologies: Andrea Ramon, Martina Matta.
- Consular Rep: none

2. Conflict of Interest

None.

3. Confirmation of the agenda

None.

4. Confirmation of February Minutes

Christian Verdicchio moved, seconded Gianna Vorrasi and carried.

4.1.1 Business arising

None.

5. Reports

5.1.1 President's – Mark Quaglia

- Reported Marinella Marmo's resignation because of new work commitments. Has sent letter of thank you for her contribution. Discussion followed to speak to her to reconsider her position.

Action: Mark Quaglia will contact Marinella Marmo.

- **Intercomites.** Received good feedback.
 - Com.It.Es. reform: there is a proposal to change the threshold number of Italian citizens registered AIRE from 3.000 to 10.000 for the purpose of Com.It.Es. elections. For Australia this will impact Canberra and New Zealand. A resolution was presented, together with Com.It.Es. New Zealand, to not change the current threshold. The resolution will be presented to the CGIE through Prof. Franco Papandrea, CGIE Councillor, at the first CGIE Plenary Assembly for 2017 in Rome.
 - 'Enti Gestori'. A resolution was addressed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to strengthen their role in setting any new strategy in Australia for the promotion of the Italian language and culture by the Italian Government using the 'Enti Gestori' as interlocutors and giving them a coordinating role, at national level, promoting with other organisations operating in the territory.
 - Italian Australian Council (IAC). The final approved proposal was presented and discussed at the Intercomites. Some Presidents were sceptical about the initiative and concerned about the process in nominating members of the Italian community. Recently a letter was sent to the Ambassador, as he has the initial task to appoint an interim national committee, to clarify the process. Angela Scarino pointed out that there will always be issues with representation, however it is important to give it a chance; if it will not perform properly and it proves unsuccessful, it might not proceed.

Briefly discussed Com.It.Es. SA position to endorse the proposal.

Mark Quaglia moved to endorse the proposal submitted and support the Italian Australian Council formation, seconded by Angela Scarino, all in favour.

- Received good comments on Angela Scarino's speech at the second part of the Intercomites.

5.1.2 Secretary's – Christian Verdicchio

Correspondence:

- Letter from Antonio Accorso – advance funding cap. 3103 (admin)
- Email from Department for Communities and Inclusion – MOU Disaster Recovery, Tuesday 16 May 9.30am to 2pm, Gianna Vorrasi to confirm
- Youth Leadership function Thursday 6 April – 2 nominations Christian Verdicchio and Martina Matta
- Nuovo Paese – funding documents

5.1.3 Treasurer's – Gianna Vorrasi

- Current bank statement with a closing balance of -\$343.92.=
- Tabled income and expenses 1st quarter 2017 on Cap. 3103 administration. Cap. 3106, President travel, is at a zero balance as no funds are available.
- 2016 Consuntivo. A few things needed clarification and were sorted out. For future reimbursements to members a declaration of money received must be issued and signed.
- Communication received from Antonio Accorso regarding an advance in funding of 3.726,00 euro for administration.
- Noticed that the bank charges \$10 in administration fees every month on top of the transaction fees. No notification has been received from Com.It.Es.

Action: Gianna Vorrasi to investigate.

Angela Scarino moved all reports to be accepted, seconded Alessandro Ragazzo, all in favour.

6. Nuovo Paese Approval

- Discussed possible improvement to the magazine to be more contemporary. To discuss with the Consul.
- Lack of clarity on what is received from the Italian Government; to look into the legislation parameters for approval of the request for funds.
- Based on the current legislation Nuovo Paese meets the criteria by having articles in Italian for more than 50% and the magazine is printed 11 times a year.

Christian moved to approve the request from Nuovo Paese, seconded by Gianna Vorrasi, all in favour.

7. Sub-Committees Reports

7.1.1 Communications and Public Relations – Christian Verdicchio

- Liberation Day 25 April. Gianna Vorrasi MC; lunch at the Fogolar Furlan. Christian Verdicchio to send reminder to all Com.It.Es. members.

7.1.2 Community Engagement – Mark Quaglia

- Associations: collating information and draft a report.
- Fogolar Furlan was unable to attend tonight's meeting; the club has been going through same changes in the last 3 months.
- Meeting with the Associations/clubs will continue throughout the year.

Action: Mark Quaglia to organise letters to be sent out to organise attendance at meetings.

7.1.3 Education and Research – Angela Scarino

- Mark Quaglia sent email to Dr. Rodrigo Praino (ARIA) regarding the final database of Italian Scientific and Research Expertise. It is important to have the list available, and to use as a networking event.
- Angela Scarino. Great collaboration with ARIA, might be possible to have a function for and with teachers although difficult with minimum funding; liaise with Prof. Rita Tampon from the Italian Embassy Cultural Office in Canberra. Briefly touched base with the person nominated in last year preventivo.
- Hasn't heard any follow up from the Consul regarding last year conference of Italian Teachers. If there has been a follow up, should work on that.
- Briefly spoke about different ways to understand teaching; there is a need of professional development, current teachers not with a contemporary teaching approach. It is difficult to organise a conference without funding, but could to with a limit budget.

Action: Angela Scarino will present a draft at the next meeting for a possible conference in the second semester, around October.

- Christian Verdicchio suggested talking to Silvia De Cesare, the newly elected Dante Alighieri President.

8. Consular Report

Not present.

9. Other business

9.1.1 Projects – Christian Verdicchio

- Proposes for Com.It.Es to organise the New Arrivals seminar for June/July with the same format from last year.

Action Community Engagement Sub-Committee to follow-up

- Cultural and language training to nurses and carers in the 2 Italian nursing homes, BENE and St. Hilarion. Dante Alighieri to run the teaching with cost for teachers for 10 weeks course around \$3,050.
- Proposed that this project is co-funded with Co.As.It and can collaborate together since Co.As.It are the peak welfare body.

Action: Christian and Mark to finalise proposal and engage Co.As.It to see if they wish to co-fund the proposal to run the project jointly.

- Alessandro Ragazzo regarding Education, suggested a project that involves Italo-Australians through arts, exhibitions, etc. and getting the art gallery involved to facilitate with major entity. Mentioned the 'Mosaico minuto' (micro mosaic) exhibition as an example.
- Other areas could be explored, e.g. fashion.
- Tony Piccolo suggested contacting other art galleries, Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra.

Action: Alessandro Ragazzo to put forward an idea.

Angela Scarino left meeting at 7.40pm.

- Christian Verdicchio proposed a research survey in the second semester, an online survey with questions on Com.It.Es. and Consular services.
- Discussed Prima Fermata, whether Com.It.Es. could adopt the initiative from Com.It.Es. QLD and make it relevant to South Australia.
- Tony Piccolo is of the opinion that young people travelling abroad should have proper information before they leave their country.

Action: Christian will contact Mariangela Stagnitti – Com.It.Es. QLD for information.

P.I.S.A. Official opening Wednesday 5 April.

10. Meeting Close 8.00 pm

Signed by:



Mark Quaglia

President



Christian Verdicchio

Vice President & Secretary

