

**COM.IT.ES. Meeting– Monday 26 June 2017 7:00pm**

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

MINUTES:

**1. Welcome & apologies**

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

**2. Conflict of Interest**

None.

**3. Confirmation of the agenda**

Moved item Dante Alighieri Ente Gestore Preventivo 2018 (Approval of Funds) to item 5.

**4. Confirmation of April Minutes**

Amendment month of Com.It.Es. meeting, it was April.

Michael Donato moved, seconded Antonio Rosato and carried.

4.1.1 Business arising

None.

**5. Dante Alighieri 'Ente Gestore Preventivo 2018' (Approval of Funds)**

- 'Preventivo' is submitted and tabled
- Christian Verdicchio moved to accept, approve and support the Dante Alighieri 'Preventivo' for 2018 for 105.000,00 euros, seconded by Alessandro Ragazzo, all in favour.
- Motion carried with Com.It.Es. in favour of the submitted 'preventivo'.

## 6. Reports

### 6.1.1 President's – Mark Quaglia

- Liberation Day. The event was successful, thanked Christian Verdicchio for all his work.
- Had discussion with Gianna Vorrasi and Christian Verdicchio as Community Engagement committee regarding the new arrival seminar. There are a lot of migration law changes that will come into effect in July, therefore it will be difficult to have a proper discussion until the legislation is applied and what impact it will have.
- Discussion followed on:  
the seminar must be planned well to avoid confusion; it is important to be able to explain the new changes; the session should cover general information; invite technical people as experts to be part of the panel; there will be different questions from previous seminars; prepare case scenario; prepare a list of questions but also encourage people to submit their own questions with the registration form; the seminar will be conducted in English however participants can express in Italian; invite immigration agents to engage with the participants and answer any questions they wish to clarify; potential date for the seminar, October 2017.

**Action:** Mark Quaglia and Gianna Vorrasi to formulate questions, include case studies, e.g. sponsorship. Questions to be sent to Christian Verdicchio. Mark will also circulate some ideas for the panel.

6.1.2 Secretary's – Christian Verdicchio

Report tabled.

- Correspondence In
  - Marche Club Press Release RE: Earthquake
  - Marche Club Cancer Council Fundraiser
  - Dante Alighieri Preventivo for 2018
  - Franco Papandrea CGIE re: 'Promozione Lingua e Cultura'
  - Press Release – Adelaide Central Earthquake Appeal
  - Consolato d'Italia
    - CAP3103 Funds Deposit
    - Editoria e Ordine dei Giornalisti
    - Com.It.Es. - Parere del Servizio degli affari giuridici e del contenzioso diplomatico sull'eventuale sussistenza di agevolazioni fiscali per donazioni a beneficio dei Com.It.Es. da parte di aziende o privati
    - Schema di decreto legislativo per la ridefinizione della disciplina dei contributi diretti alle imprese editrici di quotidiani e periodici.
- Correspondence Out
  - Parere Nuovo Paese
  - Co.As.It Meeting Invite
  - Mark Quaglia – Roberta Ronzitti letter re: 2 June Italian Republic Day
  - Comitato dei Presidenti Com.It.Es. Australia – letter to Ambassador re: Italian Australian Council (IAC), indicating concerns about the process for the council.
  - Comitato dei Presidenti Com.It.Es. Australia – response to the Ambassador letter re: IAC.



- Discussed letter of complaint sent to the Consul regarding the Italian Republic celebration. Mark Quaglia explained what happen at the event and the reasons for the complaint, which was shared in conversation by some sponsors. Members have raised concerns about the content and the tone of the letter and the fact that such sensitive matter wasn't discussed amongst the committee as members could have expressed their opinion and might not have shared the same view. Concerns were also raised for the fact that the complaint was written on Com.It.Es. letterhead and signed as President.

The President could have approached the Consul in person and have a discussion about the issue, could have offered Com.It.Es. support. Com.It.Es. needs to have a good relationship with the Consul. To date no response from the Consul has been received, however Mark Quaglia spoke to Antonio Accorso e Benedetta Giovanelli and explained that there have been some mistakes the way the event was organised.

Members are of the opinion that a letter of apology should be sent to the Consul indicating that the content of the letter wasn't the view of the members.

Sponsors also have been contacted by the Consul, any complaints have been denied and this will reflect on Com.It.Es.

Questioned whether Com.It.Es. should approach the sponsors and the Consul to clarify comments that were raised.

In future if a letter of sensitive matters needs to be formulated, a draft must be sent at least to the executive committee for approval.

**Action: Mark Quaglia to write an email to the Consul explaining that the content of the letter sent to her was not the view of Com.It.Es. members.**

- Letters to the Ambassador regarding IAC. Mark summarized the request from the 'Comitato dei Presidenti Com.It.Es.' to the Ambassador on 31 March 2017 to clarify some points about the process in nominating members of the Italian community. The Ambassador did not see the correspondence until recently and replied via email only last week answering to some of the questions. The second letter from the 'Comitato dei Presidenti Com.It.Es.' was a thank you to his reply. Christian Verdicchio pointed out that the proposal was tabled at the last Com.It.Es. meeting, no particular issues were raised and the committee decided to endorse it. The Working Party has worked hard to produce something valid; input raised at the Intercomites in Perth was accepted, and it's disappointing not having the support needed.

Concerns were raised by the members about the timeframe from when the letter from the 'Comitato dei Presidenti Com.It.Es.' was sent to the Ambassador and when Com.It.Es. SA endorsed the proposal; it was questioned why endorse a document when matters of concern were not clarified. The decision made by Com.It.Es. SA should have been made known and this will need to be clarified with the other parties.

**Action: Mark Quaglia to inform the Ambassador and all Com.It.Es. Presidents that Com.It.Es. SA has approved to support IAC.**

6.1.3 Treasurer's – Gianna Vorrasi

- Tabled income and expenses to date (26 June) on Cap. 3103 administration with a balance of \$15,195.68.=; Cap. 3106, President travel, \$1,297.70.=
- Invoice from Marylisa Fabian for \$210. As she has charged more than 6 hours for her service, it needs the approval for the committee.

**Gianna Vorrasi moved for payments to Marylisa Fabian, seconded by Christian Verdicchio and carried.**

- Bendigo Bank has reimbursed \$70 for charging a monthly fee from November 2016. However from June's bank statement, another \$10 monthly fee has been charged. Gianna Vorrasi to follow up.

Alessandro Ragazzo moved all reports to be accepted, seconded Antonio Rosato, all in favour.

**7. Sub-Committees Reports**

7.1.1 Communications and Public Relations – Christian Verdicchio

Report tabled.

- Liberation Day 25 April. Successful event attended by 120 people and 80 at luncheon. Much easier format by using external club for lunch bookings to directly go to them and not via Com.It.Es.
- Prima Fermata Proposal – document tabled.

The Prima Fermata is a booklet with basic information and directory. Com.It.Es. QLD who initially developed the booklet is happy for other Com.It.Es. to utilise the concept. The booklet is placed at government departments, airports, consulate and online for those coming from Italy. It provides basic relevant information for new arrivals and seems to have been quite effective interstate. The booklet will have to change slightly for South Australia and in particular with new visa changes. Has made contact with Alex Favalli from Puntoitalia in Brisbane who is the developer and



designer of the booklet for QLD. Quote he provided for his work to develop Prima Fermata concept for South Australia is \$1,510.00.= plus GST. Quote provided by Snap Printing for 1,000 booklets is \$1,469.50.= plus GST, total cost \$3,232.45.= There will be extra costs for images of Adelaide-South Australia for approx \$250.00.= each. The project will be completed by December.

It is suggested to get another two quotes for printing, e.g. Artegrafica. Images of Adelaide might be able to download from government website.

Christian Verdicchio moved to support and accept the proposal, subject to quotes and cost of images of Adelaide, seconded by Michael Donato, all in favour.

- **Welfare Proposal**

Christian Verdicchio proposed that given Com.It.Es. cannot use its own funds for this project, to engage in a third party for sponsorship.

A discussion took place about funding of project, Com.It.Es' role and the need for it.

It was decided at the end that before continuing with this project to consult and meet directly with Bene Aged Care and St Hilarion.

**ACTION: Mark to organise a meeting with Bene and St Hilarion, and then liaise with the full committee potential dates and times to allow a couple of committee members to also attend.**

#### 7.1.2 Community Engagement – Mark Quaglia

- New Arrivals Seminar previously spoken about in Presidents Report
- Regional Visit – Delayed until next meeting
- Regional Representative – Christian proposed that following the meeting in Mt. Gambier last December, that Mr. Joe D'Agostino President of the Italo-Australian Club of Mt Gambier be appointed to the role of Com.It.Es. SA representative. Seconded Gianna Vorrasi and moved.

- The title discussed is to be the 'Com.It.Es. SA Mt Gambier Regional Liaison.
- The role shall include that this liaison shall:
  - provide a report every 6-months on that general state of affairs relating to the Italians living in Mt Gambier to Com.It.Es. (or earlier if it relates to an immediate matter of emergency),
  - when providing that report they may also take place via teleconference in a Com.It.Es. meeting,
  - assist in the co-ordination of any visits conducted by Com.It.Es. to Mt Gambier and the area surrounding.

**ACTION:** Christian shall draft letter of this position, circulate to the executive for approval and then email via the Com.It.Es. email to Mr D'Agostino.

- Mr D'Agostino shall (if accepting of this role) also provide a CV for Com.It.Es. members perusal.

7.1.3 Education and Research – Angela Scarino

None – Angela Scarino absent.

Mark Quaglia informed that Angela Scarino is working towards a project with Prof. Anna Rita Tamponi, Cultural Officer from the Italian Embassy in Canberra.

8. Co-Optee Vacancy

Discussion postponed until further notice with regards to interpretation of the law.



9. Consular Report

Not present.

10. Other business

Alessandro Ragazzo talked about a possible idea of an art exhibition of a famous Italian artist at the art gallery. Everyone is in general agreement and support.

**ACTION:** Mark to organise a meeting with curator of art galleries and will liaise with committee about the meeting (in particular Alessandro).

11. Meeting Close 10.00 pm

Next meeting 7 August 2017 at 6:15pm

*Signed by:*



Mark Quaglia

President



Christian Verdicchio

Vice President & Secretary

