

MINUTES FOR HCSA [GENERAL] COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday 12 October 2015 5.30pm – 7pm
State Library South Australia

Present: Peter Monteath, Annmarie Reid, Susan Marsden, Annette Mills, Greg Slattery

Apologies: Richard Venus

1. Minutes of previous meetings

- a) There were no minutes of the Executive meeting (13 July, 2015) as the meeting was cancelled and the time used to work on the Cultural Gifts (DGR) application.
- b) Noted: General Committee meeting minutes (31 August 2015) note incorrect spelling of Philip Payton's name and note misspelling of Etherington in the apologies. Also noted in 3B the name is Layther not Lather. Moved Greg seconded Susan
- c) 2015 AGM minutes noted
- d) Business arising covered in the agenda items listed
- e) DGR status needs pursuing

2. Vacant position on the Executive

Discussion ensued re strategic representation.
All agreed approach to HistorySA in the first instance.

3. HCSA Advocacy and advice

Susan suggested that she and Peter get together to talk through some of this. Susan is getting her files together to handover to Peter. Peter asked what type of advocacy issues should we be getting involved with for example the recent Martindale Hall issue. Susan suggested that it is always difficult with built heritage issues and sometimes wise to seek some counsel from the National Trust about the best approach to support their efforts concerning built heritage issues.

Annmarie suggested that for the November general meeting that we ask members to think about an issue or concern pertinent to their organisation and to be prepared to talk about it at the first meeting for 2016 and these issues could be our advocacy focus for 2016.

[Action Annette to add to the next general committee meeting agenda]

Discussion ensued about previous advocacy partnerships. Also it is traditional for the new president to obtain a meeting with the relevant Minister if possible and suggested that Peter and Susan arrange a meeting with the head of ArtSA Peter Louca. Susan also suggested that it would be an idea to meet with the Tourism Minister to discuss value of heritage in regional tourism – heritage and tourism has slipped off the tourism agenda and since Peter Cahlan's retirement; it appears there is no one who is providing this linkage.

[Action Susan and Peter to arrange meetings with Peter Louca and Tourism Minister Leon Bignall]

Greg commented that Geoff Brock as Minister for Regional Development is approachable, Annmarie commented that he has recently asked to be removed from our email list

Susan pointed out that the President's letter is also an advocacy tool.

4. Events: Annual Lecture (see also no 14, for all events, updated)

a) Annual Lecture 2016 > City and Country

Various options to consider : Combine with AGM

Have it stand alone

Hold it later in the year

Country – consider partnering with a larger historical society

Greg suggested that for the regional event for 2016 we consider Philip Butters on CJ Dennis to be held in Laura and that our city event could be another speaker who would only stay the night in Adelaide.

Susan pointed out that the tradition has been one year an interstate speaker and the next a local speaker .

Sue also mentioned at the last meeting of History Councils across Australia that there was an idea to pool together to bring an international speaker out to speak in each state.

The idea was suggested if Peter was aware of any visiting scholars who already in the country who would be willing and available to deliver the 2016 lecture. We would need to know fairly soon due do the CAL funding application.

Some other things to consider include what the theme and where is the SA Regional Centre of Culture for 2016. Any other themes ie for 2016 it is the *International Year of Pulses*.

Peter suggested that David Horner has written a history of ASIO – perhaps he could be approached on a suggested topic of 'Secret history of SA'.

Peter liked Greg's approach of delivering a separate City lecture and working collaboratively with a country historical society.

For 2016 all agreed to co-host with Laura and all agree for Greg to go ahead and keep organising.

All agreed to bring this to the general committee for further discussion

[Action Annette to add to the general committee agenda]

b)History Festival > SA History Fund applied for \$500 > Sponsor a recognised authority on Digital Humanities to speak in South Australia during *About Time History Festival*

Annette raised this as an agenda item as we are still awaiting the outcome of the grant application and whether we will still go ahead with the event regardless of the grant application. All agreed that the event should go ahead and if there is a practical component participants can be asked to BYOD or have a demonstration on a big screen.

[Action Annette to continue organizing]

5. Awards and prizes

a) Wakefield Prize Publicity and Logistics

Due 15th December and Wilf and Annmarie will be away. Several options:

- 1) Instruct nominees to send essays in hardcopy to the PO Box
- 2) Leave as is to receive both electronic and hardcopy and have some-one check both email and PO Box over this time.

All agreed that option one is preferable and Annette can check the email whilst Annmarie is away for anything pressing needing immediate attention.

[Action Annette to update website]

Also need to approach potential judges. All agree that two judges is ample.

We also need to consider publicity for the awards. Peter will write to the Universities seeking nominations. Annmarie suggested that Kiera would be the best academic at UniSA to approach as she is teaching Australian history and politics.

Paul Sendziuk has been the contact from Adelaide University and Melanie Oppenheimer from Flinders University.

[Action Peter to write to the History heads seeking nominations]

Peter suggested that a colleague of his at Flinders University ran a High School Senior history essay prize and it might be worth reprising this for 2016. Annmarie commented that many senior high school students are doing history as their project topic – and the work is of a high standard. Would be good to include these as a category or incorporate in some way. Annmarie suggested that we work with the HTASA to encourage and support nominations if this initiative goes ahead.

[Action add High School essay prize to agenda for general committee for further consideration]

b) 2016 Awards

We need to find a venue and set a date. It would be great to invite the Governor to present the awards and we will need to write to him soon to lock in a date when he is available.

All agree that the State Library's Hetzel Lecture theatre is a convenient location. It has been suggested that Ayers House would make a suitable venue. Suggest that we discuss this with Norman Etherington for 2017.

Susan suggested that the Adelaide Town Hall will be 150 years old next year and suggests approaching the Adelaide Town Hall. All agreed this would be highly appropriate if Adelaide City Council is willing to host.

[Action Susan to find out more and contact Alison Mackinnon how and who she worked with at ACC when she arranged the 175th symposium]

All agreed to keep the awards night sometime in July

6. History Council SA records

Annette distributed the box list which Lauren Gobbett prepared whilst consulting the HCSA records for her Honours thesis. Before handing the records over to the State Library to add to their collections are there any items we want to retain or embargo. All agreed to retain the foundation documents such as certificate of Incorporation and tax file number and embargo any records which contain contact details (ie addresses, email or telephone numbers)

7. Website/Communications

Website is stable and has been updated. We paid our domain hosting fee which was \$36 for two years. Ursh can provide this for \$25 for two years. All agree to maintain what we have for now and when it comes up for renewal to shift it over to Ursh.

8. President's Report – Peter had nothing additional to report . Will aim to do a President's newsletter quarterly.

9. Members' report including member numbers

Michael and Greg have met and we currently have 93 members. About 36 former members have not renewed. Michael will send out a letter as a reminder. Sue asked if Peter would like to see the letter before it goes out and Peter conferred he is happy for Sue to pursue this directly with Michael.

Annmarie, Michael and Annette to talk with possibilities for membership database and newsletter capacities early in the new year.

10. Treasurer's Report. Greg outlined that Sue needed to be reimbursed for petrol and meal from the country lecture that Rosalie delivered.

11. Correspondence Roger Bates correspondence regarding articles missing from microfilmed newspapers. Susan has passed this on to Annette and she is investigating further.

12. Any other business

Greg put to the group the idea of a literary trail Port McDonnell to Mt Gambier and up to the North.

Greg initially thought 5 groups might put up \$100 each in seed funding for a literary trail brochure and then considered if the HCSA would consider it as a project.

Sue and Peter agreed that the best approach would be for Greg to write a couple of paragraphs about the project which can be presented to the general committee for consideration. Peter further suggested that it would be good if Greg could bring some examples such as those he presented to the executive this evening.

[Action Annette to add to the general committee agenda

Greg to write paragraphs]

13. Dates of 2015 meetings. (Mondays 5.30-7pm)

Executive: (Mondays 5.30-7.30pm at State Library meeting room).

Tentative 2016 dates:

No meeting in January;
8 February;
11 April;
11 July;
10 October

Council (General committee) (Exec members attend these also)

Times & venues: 5.30–7.30 pm, History SA Board room, Torrens Parade Ground

23 November

Tentative dates for 2016

7 March
20 June;
08 August
14 November

14. Event dates:

- a. Wakefield Prize nominations due 15 December 2015
- b. Awards Night
- c. City annual lecture
- d. Country Lecture
- e. AGM

Meeting closed at: 7.55pm