

MESA AGM 2011

Meeting opened at 5.06pm 19/5/2011

Meeting chaired by Michael Burke

Attended by: Andrew Vance, Chris Preston, Harry Breidahl, Jo Ludbrook, Peter Biro, Kate Kilgour, John Johnstone, Michael Burke.

Apologies: Michael Burgess, Richard Wylie

Minutes of past AGM moved Peter Biro and seconded by Harry Breidahl. Carried.

Reports

President – hard copy to be circulated. Acknowledgement of the great work that Angela Colliver has done over many years as the driving force behind MESA.

Treasurer – John Moved by Chris Preston, Seconded by Harry Breidahl. Carried. No auditor's report at this point.

Secretary – Report on line. Formal acknowledgement of work Chris has done Moved by Andrew Vance, Seconded by Kate Kilgour. Carried.

Web manager – Report on line. Michael acknowledges the fantastic work that Peter has done in maintaining the website. Moved by Chris, Harry Breidahl seconded. Carried.

State representatives reports

NSW – Chris

Vic – Andrew Vance

QLD - Laura – unable to get microphone working

WA - Michael Burke

Appointment of public officer and auditor

Public officer – Harry Breidahl nominated by Chris Preston, seconded by Michael Burke. Acknowledgement of Harry's great work as public officer.

Auditor – John to appoint an auditor. John to have books audited for last financial year in the next few months.

Election office bearers & council reps

Michael Burke appointed Harry as returning officer for election of office bearers. Some nominations were made on line.

President Michael Burke – moved by Chris Preston, seconded by Peter Biro.

Vice President – Andrew Vance nominated by Harry Breidahl, seconded by Chris Preston.

Secretary – Chris Preston nominated by Peter Biro, seconded by Harry Breidahl

Chris Preston – NSW nominated by Peter Biro, seconded by Harry Breidahl

Jenny Burdon – Tasmania Nominated by Chris Preston, seconded Harry Breidahl

Andrew Potter – Victoria nominated by Harry Breidahl, seconded by Chris Preston

Laura Dunstan – Queensland Nominated by Chris Preston, seconded Harry Breidahl

Michael Burgess – WA nominated by Harry Breidahl, seconded by Chris Preston

John Johnstone – Treasurer, nominate by Chris Preston, seconded by Peter Biro

Councilors – Richard Wylie and Jo Ludbrook, nominated by Harry Breidahl, seconded by Chris Preston.

Non-voting council members: Web manager – Peter Biro, Kate Kilgour – combination of secretariat and undercurrents editor.

Peter suggests we find another person for NSW rep, who can be proposed at the next general meeting.

Michael Burke took over the meeting as the new President of MESA

Other business

Working more closely with the Centra people – events can be put on line, Peter to work with Chris. Any suggestions for units Peter can develop from the website.

Michael Burke – MDCA network MESA has come up in previous discussions, opportunity at the next meeting in June to discuss their thoughts on collaboration especially with regards to Seaweek and additional membership. Need to revamp the kind of links that we had previously.

Harry Breidahl – also work with International Aquarium groups. MESA should be the national and international voice for marine education.

Chris Preston – this meeting is the best attended and most positive meeting that we have had in a while. Spoke about MESA bookmarks that she funded – a great publicity idea, handed out to teachers, these can be good for putting in bags at MDC's a little reminder, it has the website on it, teacher's like to be given things.

Formal Motions

1. Notices of motions – moved by Peter Biro – theme for Seaweek 2012 be decided as soon as possible – seconded by Chris - Carried
2. Councillors work with Peter to Expand the A-Z of Australian Marine life section of the website – seconded by Chris – Carried

3. Distribute one edition of undercurrents to all past members and prospective members and we pay Kate to push a membership drive in consultation with the MESA executive. Moved by Peter Biro, Seconded by Chris Preston. Carried.

Discussion

- Ways to increase member numbers. Using the newsletters as a way of encouraging people to rejoin.
- Katie Kilgour offered to draft up an email to send out to all previous members.
- Michael acknowledged the great work Katie Kilgour has done on editing Undercurrents.
- Katie suggests asking people to post photos on facebook page. Formal acknowledgment of the fantastic work Kate has done on reviving undercurrents and on setting up the facebook page.
- Zoos possible live events
- Develop a wall of fame (as opposed to a wall of shame) for restaurants to advertise that they are Shark fin free. Work through Katie, she will forward the details to Peter to put on the website.
- Harry is representing MESA internationally to present a paper in Boston (US) on 25 years of MESA.

President's award

Awarded to Angela Colliver - for the hard work that she has done over a number of years in keeping MESA going. Michael will arrange for a certificate to be printed and sent to Angela.

Meeting closed.