



Com.It.Es.

Comitato degli Italiani all'Estero
South Australia

COM.IT.ES. Meeting– Tuesday 11 February 2020, 6:15pm

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

MINUTES:

1. Welcome & apologies

- Present: Christian Verdicchio, Gianna Vorrasi, Mark Quaglia, Michael Donato, Angela Scarino, Alessandro Ragazzo, Andrea Ramon.
- Apologies: Antonio Rosato, Tony Piccolo, Martina Matta.
- Consular Rep: Adriano Stendardo

2. Conflict of Interest

None.

3. Confirmation of the agenda

None.

4. Confirmation of November 2019 minutes

Amendment to 6.1.2 Education and Research, add Matteo Farina for the thanks to the motion: Christian Verdicchio moved to thank Angela Scarino, Enza Tudini and Matteo Farina for their work and contribution, seconded by Mark Quaglia, all in favour.

Michael Donato moved, seconded Angela Scarino and carried.

4.1.1 Business arising

None.

5. Reports

5.1.1 President's – Christian Verdicchio

1. **Consuntivo.** Has been audited by Gildo Marveggio and Paolo Aromataris.

2. **'Integrativo' Funds.** The extra funds were received only on 18 December 2019 and were used to cover Matteo Farina's invoice of \$2,500. The remaining \$1,105 was allocated for the New Arrivals Seminar. Due to the lateness it was not possible to organise a seminar in such short time. Therefore an enquiry was forward to the Italian Consulate asking permission to utilise the funds for the Community Engagement's report translation. Unfortunately no reply was received before the end of the year. Roberto Affortunato was of the opinion that the funds would have to be spent on the project submitted.

Action: the Consul will look into the issue.

Tabled Matteo Farina's quote for the Community Engagement report translation. The quote is accepted, funds to be used will be determined once Com.It.Es. receives a reply from the Consul.

Angela Scarino express bewilderment that the procedure of the Consulate to enquire with MAECI for a matter of a small amount seems trivial that it has to go to the Department in Rome, there should be a more simple process.

Discussion followed whether having a seminar for the new arrivals is still feasible considering a decrease in attendees. Most of them are already informed.

3. **Com.It.Es Elections for 2021.** To be called at the end of the year, around November for lists of candidates, in view of possible elections between April and December 2021.

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4. **Co-Optee Vacancy.** Discussion whether the committee is still interested to pursue.
Some of the nominees have in the past express not to be interested anymore.
Possible candidate to consider is Robert Bria.
Michael Donato moved for Christian Verdicchio to make contact with Mr. Bria for consideration, seconded by Mark Quaglia, all in favour.

5. **Consul Welcome Event.** The event is organised in conjunction with the State Government who will provide admin support, for Tuesday 10 March at 6pm at the Italian Centre for 100 guests and on invite only. Local funds of \$1000 already approved towards expences; SAIA co-sponsor and Serafino winery is sponsoring the wine.
The Consul informed that he has already received an official invitation from the Premier's office in which the Italian Ambassador Francesca Tardioli also is invited.
Unsure whether this is a different event.
Action: Christian Verdicchio will circulate the preliminary list of invites from the State Government when available.

6. **Language award.**
 - a. UniSA
 - i. Michael Donato attended the presentation at UniSA and presented the award to a student who has excelled in the Italian course.
 - b. Flinders
 - i. Flinders is still having issues, they have changed their system and it is no longer possible to create an award and therefore it should no longer be pursued.

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Other suggestions were discussed regarding the language award recognition and it was decided that it would be important to award a student from year 12 who received the highest ATAR in Italian, this might encourage more students to study Italian in the State. However this will need to be checked with SACE board.

Action: the idea is accepted in principal and Christian Verdicchio will contact the SACE Board.

Angela Scarino briefly explained how teaching of Italian differ from school to school, or from Catholic school to Public school; foreign language not compulsory in secondary school.

7. Intercomites April 18th in Melbourne.
8. Festa della Liberazione Saturday 25th April.
 - a. The new Mausoleum Manager is happy to host. Lunch at the Fogolar Furlan as usual; Gianna Vorrasi MC.
 - b. Christian Verdicchio proposed Marylisa to assist with administration.

Michael Donato moved that Marylisa Fabian assist Com.It.Es. with any administration for the Festa della Liberazione, seconded Mark Quaglia, all in favour.

Gianna Vorrasi moved to accept the President report, seconded by Michael Donato, all in favour.


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5.1.2 Secretary's – acting Christian Verdicchio

Correspondence in dropbox.

- a. Eugene Wong – Chinese Welfare Services of SA. Would like for Com.It.Es. to present to the Chinese community about Italy, the strong Italian culture and the strong community that exists in Australia. Question was raised whether the organisation would be more interested in general information of Italy or on Italian services in welfare. More information is needed.
- b. Complaint letter Diego Herraiz regarding the Italian Consulate.
- c. Citibank issues regarding the proof of life of pensioners and privacy. Gianna Vorrasi explained the procedure. Pensioners with issues regarding INPS and Citibank should go to the Patronato or to the Italian Consulate.

5.1.3 Treasurer's – Mark Quaglia

Consuntivo Approval.

The auditors are Gildo Marveggio e Paolo Aromataris and have checked the accounting records, income and expenses. The auditor nominated by the Italian Consulate is Marco Serangeli.

Mark Quaglia moved to accept and approve the 'consuntivo' presented, seconded by Michael Donato, all in favour.

6. Sub-Committees Reports

6.1.1 Community Engagement and Public Relations – Christian Verdicchio

See president report.

6.1.2 Education and Research – Angela Scarino

Angela Scarino gave a brief summary for the Consul on the project.

Forum, suggested having the children involved. To discuss at the next meeting.

Michael Donato moved to accept all reports, seconded by Gianna Vorrasi, all in favour.


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7. Consular Report

The Consul is committed in attending Com.It.Es. meetings. He regards Com.It.Es. as an important institution, fundamental for the Italian community. South Australia is very active and there are many opportunities. The Italian Government tends to look the Italian community abroad in an old-fashioned way, but the reality is different with great involvement in Defence, Technology and Research.

The Consul also reported on the new arrivals and how some of them felt a bit out of touch as they didn't have clear resources. Perhaps the format used so far needs to be reviewed. Happy to collaborate.

8. Other business

None.

9. Meeting Close 8.00 pm

Next meeting Tuesday 12 May 2020 at 6:15pm

Signed by:



Dr Christian Verdicchio
President



Mark Quaglia
Treasurer