



Com.It.Es.

Comitato degli Italiani all'Estero
South Australia

COM.IT.ES. Meeting– Tuesday 14 July 2020, 6:15pm
262a Carrington Street - Adelaide

MINUTES:

1. Welcome & apologies

- Present: Dr Christian Verdicchio, Gianna Vorrasi, Mark Quaglia, Michael Donato, Prof Angela Scarino, Alessandro Ragazzo, Hon Tony Piccolo (video conference)., Andrea Ramon (video conference).
- Apologies: Antonio Rosato, Michael Donato, Martina Matta (on maternity leave).
- Consular Rep: Adriano Stendardo
- CGIE Representative: Franco Papandrea apologies
- Guest: Dr. Ilaria Pagani

2. Conflict of Interest

None.

3. Confirmation of the agenda

None.

4. Confirmation of May 2020 minutes

Mark Quaglia moved, seconded Alessandro Ragazzo and carried.

4.1.1 Business arising

All actions followed.

5. ARIA Presentation by Dr. Ilaria Pagani

- Introduction: Dr. Ilaria Pagani is a biomedical researcher in the field of cancer. She has been recently appointed President of ARIA (Association for Research between Italian and Australia); the re-launch was cancelled because of COVID-19. She is an Affiliated Lecturer at the University of Adelaide; she did a Post-Doctoral Researcher at SAHMRI.
- ARIA SA vision is to Foster research cooperation between Italy and Australia; provide a point of contact for Italian and Australian researchers, research organisations, government institutions and companies.
- A document was tabled on ARIA's strategic plan, the mission, marketing, events and planned events.



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- Highlights: establish a bilateral collaboration with the Italian IRCCS – Scientific Institute for Research, Hospitalization and Healthcare – and South Australian Research Centres, for promoting exchanging and collaboration between researchers.
- ARIA will continue with the webinars/seminars through the years and anyone can join; plan to participate to the Adelaide Italian Festival with Radio Italiana 531.
- Com.It.Es. is happy to support the organization and available to discuss projects. It was suggested to get in touch with Mr. Marco Baccanti whose research interest is Biomedical Science; he held roles as Chief Executive of Health Industries South Australia and managing director of the San Raffaele Biomedical Science Park based in Milan.

Dr. Ilaria Pagani left the meeting at 6.40pm.

6. Reports

6.1.1 President's – Dr Christian Verdicchio

President report tabled. Highlights:

- Letter to Premier lighting up Parliament House for the Italian Republic Day. It was a successful and good PR.
- COVID-19
 - Have not heard any further issues regarding assistance for the Italian citizens
 - Thank you to the Consul for his amazing work during these times
 - Regarding the letter sent to the Premier regarding financial assistance, Antonietta Cocchiario of SAMEAC called today and reported that a response will be sent. SAMEAC supports the letter from Com.It.Es. Other community groups have also lobbied to the government for similar support. Hon. Frank Pangallo sent a copy of the letter addressed to him from the Hon. Rob Lucas Treasurer.

Issue raised:

- difficult situation for temporary visa holders;
- confusion regarding access superannuation;
- providing information on tax return – where to find it;
- collaboration the group Italiani in Adelaide to promote information;
- Com.It.Es. to post information on lodging tax return, access early superannuation, link to temporary visa. Update every 2 months on social media and the relative groups.

Action: Promotion of Facebook - post reference points.

- Discussion follows regarding more exposure of Com.It.Es.:
- platform to reach out using social media; be a source of information;
- what is the purpose and what does Com.It.Es. do;
- give helpful information to the public.

Com.It.Es South Australia
(Committee for Italians Abroad)
The Italian Centre - 262a Carrington St, Adelaide 5000
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Action: use of social media; target approach; leading the project Christian Verdicchio, Martina Matta and Antonio Rosato.

- **SACE Award**
 - Contacted and provided application for Italian Award;
 - SACE will contact Com.It.Es. in September in relation to award for 2020 which will be presented in 2021.

- **Community Engagement and Language and Culture Youth Projects**
 - All completed and translated.
 - Received quote from Victoria Placentino for respectively \$1,750.00 and \$750.00 (quotes tabled) for both design costs.
 - Need to apply for extra funds from the Italian Government.
 - Proposed to have booklets printed for the Language & Culture Youth Projects
 - SAATI and Dante Alighieri would like to promote this project on their social media

Action: quote for printing costs to include in the 2021 'preventivo'.

- **AIRE Project**
 - The Consul very happy on project and have provided and worked on updating information from the Victorian version
 - Consul has emailed updates and put together a FAQ section
 - Received quote from Victoria Placentino for \$350 (tabled) for design costs. Need to apply for extra funds from the Italian Government.
 - Need to apply for extra funds from the Italian Government.

- **Talenti per il Sud**
 - Project about Southern Italians Abroad in professional scientific, technology and commercial business areas to create a worldwide network to promote the work of South Italians abroad.
 - Discussed initially with the executive and emailed off to ARIA for assistance and online to promote. Deadline 30th July 2020 for potential names.



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- Com.It.Es. of Australia meeting via zoom with Com.It.Es. from South Africa
 - Mark Quaglia attended the meeting . He provided a summary of differences on projects and issues across the two regions.
 - Mark Quaglia reported that the Italian citizens in South Africa rely on assistance from Italy and their Government. The lack of financial resources is a concern as the rate of crimes has increased.

- Ambassador Official Visit: to be confirmed

- Preventivo for 2021

Due in September, suggestions asked of a possible project.

Angela Scarino suggested having a follow up of the previous project. SAATI, Dante Alighieri and the Italian Consulate to promote the project. It will still be an online survey and aimed to 8-18 year old students and would include: students with Italian background, we are now entering in the 3rd and 4th generation; children from 'new' migrants; Australian students studying Italian. We might have to consider having 2 teachers of Italian to make sure that their classed undertake the survey online.

Action: Angela Scarino to put together a proposal to include in the 'preventivo' for 2021.

Alessandro Ragazzo moved to accept the President report, seconded by Angela Scarino, all in favour.

6.1.2 Secretary's – acting Dr Christian Verdicchio
Correspondence in dropbox.

6.1.3 Treasurer's – Mark Quaglia

- **Integrativo' Cap. 3103.** Budget submitted and tabled. Approval for extra funds to cover expenses for the Italian Community and Language Reports and for the AIRE Project for a total of \$2,850.00.=

Gianna Vorrasi moved to accept and approve the budget presented for extra funds, seconded by Andrea Ramon, all in favour.

- Current bank statement with a closing balance of \$12,288.02.= on Cap. 3103.

Alessandro Ragazzo moved to accept and approve the Treasurer report, seconded by Angela Scarino, all in favour.

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7. **Consular Report – Adriano Stando Italian Consul**
Being busy with spreading comprehensive information. There have been less people at the door.
General enquires and requests for passports are at low numbers since March.
Referendum: Postponed to end of September 2020.
Exploring the possibility to implement debit and credit cards for fees payment and also having digital archive but it's costly.

8. **Sub-Committees Reports**
 - 8.1.1 **Community Engagement and Public Relations – Christian Verdicchio**
See President report.

 - 8.1.2 **Education and Research – Angela Scarino**
The forum for both the Community Report and Language project on hold.

- Gianna Vorrasi moved to accept all reports, seconded by Mark Quaglia, all in favour.*

9. **Other business**
Com.It.Es. Elections. No information available.

10. **Meeting Close 8.00 pm**
Next meeting Tuesday 8 September 2020 at 6:15pm

Signed by:



Dr Christian Verdicchio
President



Mark Quaglia
Treasurer