

COM.IT.ES. Meeting– Monday 6 November 2017 6:15pm

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

MINUTES:

1. Welcome & apologies

- Present: Christian Verdicchio, Gianna Vorrasi, Martina Matta, Angela Scarino, Andrea Ramon, Mark Quaglia, Alessandro Ragazzo (video conference), Tony Piccolo (video conference; left at 6.40pm).
- Apologies: Michael Donato, Antonio Rosato.
- Consular Rep: Vice Consul Dott. Antonio Accorso.

2. Conflict of Interest

None.

3. Confirmation of the agenda

None.

4. Proposed Meeting Dates for 2018

- 12 February
- 9 April
- 4 June
- 6 August
- 3 September
- 5 November

All in favour.

5. Confirmation of September Minutes

Martina Matta moved, seconded Angela Scarino and carried.

Business arising

5.1.1 None.

6. Reports

6.1.1 President's – Christian Verdicchio

President report tabled. Highlights:

1. Intercomites October 2017 in Canberra

- **Prima Fermata.** A national Prima Fermata will be developed and it will be coordinated by Christian Verdicchio in conjunction with Queensland Com.It.Es. South Australia's version should be completed in 1½ week. Awaiting updates from Mark Quaglia regarding Immigration and Visas, he will send some notes to add.
- **Immigration changes.** Each Com.It.Es. will lobby these issues individually to the Federal Government with a letter to FECCA (Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia). Discussion followed whether the letter will have any weight.

Action: letter to be drafted by the end of the week.

- **Electoral Changes.** Information was sent by an Italian MP about changing the law to allow Italians in Italy to run for a foreign electorate. A joint letter was suggested to send to the Italian Government against this amendment, as there has been no consultation and leave Italians abroad exposed as if an Italian was elected in Italy he has no ideas of the issues abroad.

The executive was emailed following this as Christian Verdicchio did not commit to it and the group all agreed with the notion that this should be supported.

- #### 2. Carnevale 2017.
- Com.It.Es. to send a letter to congratulate CIC for another success. CIC will organise a feedback meeting, Mark Quaglia expressed interest to attend.

3. **Meeting with Associations.** Meetings will continue in 2018. Marche Club, Campania Club, ANFE, BENE Aged Care, St. Hilarion, Nuovo Paese and Radio stations were all informed about meeting.
4. **New Arrivals.** At the last seminar unfortunately only 3 people attended. Martina Matta questioned whether to continue with this structure. Christian Verdicchio is of the opinion that the 3 attendees benefited from the seminar as they had previously received incorrect advice and have now been told by 6 experts in the field on how to progress. Gianna Vorrasi added that having Questions & Answer was a success. It is therefore decided to continue to organise the seminars, suggested April 2018.
5. **Patronati meeting.** Gianna Vorrasi will send copy of the minutes to the Patronati. Christian Verdicchio thanked Gianna Vorrasi and Mark Quaglia for attending the meeting and also Gianna chairing it. Main issue that was raised is the difficulty in communicating with INPS. Also issues were raised about navigating the Italian Consulate website, not much user friendly and making online appointments.
Action: Gianna Vorrasi to organise a letter highlighting the issues raised at the meeting and send a letter to the Italian Consulate regarding the website.
6. **Meeting with Zoe Bettison and Steven Marshall.** Executive met with Steven Marshall on Thursday 26 October. Apologies have been made for the wrong choice of words posted on facebook; it has now been removed. A meeting with Min. Bettison will take place on Wednesday 15 November, members are welcome to attend. Martina Matta is available to attend. Might be able to discuss funds for the launch of Prima Fermata.

7. **Settimana della Cucina Italiana.** Thursday 23 November at 6pm at Rusco & Brusco for an Aperitivo Italiano.
8. **Prima Fermata,** see item 1.
9. **Radio Station presence for 2018.** Proposed Com.It.Es. members go onto Radio stations once a month for 30 mins. to promote Com.It.Es. Suggested to use Antonio Dottore's program on Radio Italia Uno on every Friday.
10. **Com.It.Es. and CGIE reforms.** Christian Verdicchio expressed disappointments on the CGIE Conference. Tabled a draft proposal.
11. **Christmas dinner.** Dates for availability will be circulated.

Tabled letter from the Hon. Alex Hawke MP, assistant minister for immigration and border protection, and from the Ambassador Pier Francesco Zazo, regarding progressing a bilateral agreement under the Australia Government Agreement stream of the Temporary Work (subclass 403) visa.

Christian proposed to set up a meeting with BENE Aged Care and St. Hilarion at their facilities with the Minister for Ageing.

Action: to set a date.

Events invited:

- Calabrese Association Dino Puglisi Dinner
- Carabinieri Association Virgo Fidelis
- Carnevale Event hosted by Premier

Events attended.

- Carnevale Launch

- **yWork Calabria Project by Martino Princi.** It is a youth exchange project between Calabria and South Australia and the aim is to give unemployed youth of Calabrian background a study and work experience in Calabria. They are looking support from Com.It.Es. for this project.

Members have expressed favourably in supporting the project with the understanding that Com.It.Es. will be informed on plans, valuation and outcome.

Motion from Angela Scarino to support the project with reference of the above, seconded by Martina Matta, all in favour.

6.1.2 Secretary's

Correspondence tabled:

- Correspondence In
 - Australia Donna – use of boardroom
 - CGIE – letter of meeting Melbourne 2017
 - CGIE – richiesta contributo Enti Gestori nel Mondo 2017
 - Jus Vitae – Invite to Don Pino Puglisi dinner
 - Italian Festival/Carnevale – invitation to ceremony
 - San Giorgio AGM
 - Assoc. Carabinieri – invite to Virgo Fidelis
 - CGIE - Electoral law changes
 - Verbale riunione Intercomites 2017 Canberra
- Correspondence Out
 - D. Zollo letter to congratulate Montevergine
 - Molfetta Club – 60th Anniversary congratulations
 - Italian Club Mt. Gambier and AIAPE letter RE: Joe D'Agostino

- Steven Marshall letter of meeting
- Bettison letter of meeting
- Australia Donna letter for meeting availability next year
- Intercomites letter to Immigration about effect of migration changes
- Association invites for meeting sent to: Radio Italiana, Radio Italia Uno, Marche Club, Campania Club, ANFE, St. Hilarion, BENE.

Discussed letter sent to Steven Marshall in which M.O.U. was mentioned. Christian Verdicchio apologised for the choice of words.

Action: Christian Verdicchio to wait for a response to the letter and act after accordingly to clarify.

6.1.3 Treasurer's – Gianna Vorrasi

Gianna Vorrasi has notified via email that she will be stepping down from the position of Treasurer and executive member.

Bank statement reports a balance of \$12,164.78.= for Cap. 3103 and 3106. Some invoices are still to come through.

- Approval for Travel to Melbourne
Budget submitted and tabled.
Gianna Vorrasi moved to accept and approve the budget presented, seconded by Angela Scarino, all in favour.

Christian Verdicchio moved to thank Gianna Vorrasi for her work and contribution, seconded by Mark Quaglia, motion carried.

The position will be vacant and it will be fulfilled in February 2018.

Angela Scarino moved to accept all reports presented, seconded by Gianna Vorrasi, all in favour.

7. Sub-Committees Reports

7.1.1 Community Engagement and Public Relations

See President report.

7.1.2 Education and Research

- Language Teachers Conference: it will be held on 8 February 2018 using UNISA Magill or Adelaide campus. Prof. Jo Lo Bianco will be attending; Prof.ssa Pallotti unable to attend because of previous commitments and Anna Rita Tamponi Cultural Office Canberra is trying to get someone else.
- Project 'Italian perspective of young Italians being Italian' is ready to commence next year.

8. Consular Report

Administration: for extra funding for the Intercomites meeting in Melbourne, has explained to the department for the request of extra funds.

Teacher's conference in 2018, as Com.It.Es. budget works on cash, any incurred expenses made this year must be recorded in the current financial report.

Visit from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Angelino Alfano, 27-28 November 2017.

Italian Cuisine week from 20 to 26 November 2017

9. Other business

Protocol for what gets posted online.

Action: Martina Matta to draft some guidelines.

10. Meeting Close 7.30 pm

Next meeting 12 February 2018 at 6:15pm

Com.It.Es.
Comitato degli Italiani all'Estero
South Australia

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Signed by:



Dott. Christian Verdicchio
President



Martina Matta
Vice President & Secretary