



Geography Teachers Association of South Australia

Minutes: **AGM**

Friday 31 May 2013 – GTASA Conference, EDC, Milner St, Hindmarsh

Introduction and Welcome

The meeting started at 10:15 am with Greg Way, GTASA President officially opening proceedings.

Minutes of the previous AGM – Thursday 24th May 2012

Proposed to be accepted by Alex Piggott and was seconded by Roger Smith

Treasurer's Report – Peter Melnyk

Copies of the audited financial report were circulated. GTASA Treasurer, Peter Melnyk, summarized the report which indicated a net loss (debt) of \$621.76.

This report was proposed to be accept by Simon Miller and was seconded by Ross Johnson

Secretaries Report – Ross Johnson

Ross detailed his background at the ABS and then informed those present of how and why he joined the GTASA and took on the role of secretary. He then made know his resignation from the secretarial duties (essentially effective immediately) but indicated that he will however remain on the Executive.

Ross gave an announcement for his book and thanked Geography teachers for their support and involvement.

Should anyone require any ABS support, Ross has willingly offered his expertise.

President's Report – Greg Way

Greg highlighted some important achievements for Geography that have been the culmination of years of dedication and planning - the release of the Australian Geography Curriculum F-10 and GeogSpace (or rather the latter will be later today when it goes live).

Greg asked those present to pay tribute to Rita Shepherd for her flagship in many ways over the years. Rita has represented GTASA on AGTA for the past 10 years. Those present showed their gratitude and appreciation for her contribution over the years by applauding her.

Alex Piggott was awarded as the recipient of the DD Harris Award – Congratulations! And thank you for your outstanding service. Alex will be the first recipient to choose a text signed by DD Harris from 4 or 5 that have been donated to GTASA to be awarded to the winner in subsequent years (starting this year).

As of 30 May GTASA had 88 financial members. This is important for the organisation and for access to the journal. Greg encouraged others to consider joining.

The current Executive is in the second year of its two-year term. Therefore most positions will remain the same including Peter Melnyk in the role of Treasurer.

Ross Johnson however will remain on the Executer but not in the role as secretary

Ian Johnson was acknowledged for the wonderful job he has done organising the conference this year– his diligence is second to none and as such is invited to take on the same role next year. Ian tentatively indicated that he would do so for 2014.

Greg acknowledged Alex and Rita's work in producing the Panda Kit and informed those present that it won an awarded from the AGTA. He suggested that it is a recommend resource for middle school Geography.

It was also noted that Rod Yule from World Vision presented an Indonesia Kit at AGTA in Brisbane – pre-resource and worth having as well.

DRASEN from Disaster resilience were acknowledged

The inundation of up-to-date resources will hopefully improve the way we teach especially in light of the new Australian Geography Curriculum.

Andrew Penny and Sandy Stuart were thanked for their efforts in putting together the Study Guide for Year 12s this year, 2013.

Year 12 night in August – Rita Shepherd

Rita invited teachers to bring students on Thurs 22 August 2013, to the University of Adelaide. This takes place after University Open week.

Speakers: **Dr John Tibby** will address ecological foot-printing and **Professor Graeme Hugo** will present on an aspect of Population Geography using up-to-date research.

Refreshments and copies of the Study Guide will be available on the night.

More information and details will go out to schools early in term 3.

Greg resumed control of the meeting and acknowledged Malcolm McInerney's work (alluding to his role on AGTA and the creation of the GeogSpace resource) 'he is just amazing' and 'proactive to the point of being manic' in attempting to help us (Geography teachers) help each other to deliver relevant and engaging curriculum especially in light of the Australian Geography Curriculum.

To Malcolm – 'thank you'.

This may be Malcolm's last role on AGTA but time will tell....

The issue of non-compulsory study of Year 10 Geography under the new Australian Geography Curriculum requirements was raised. Greg implored teachers to employ the same focus regarding the need to 'plug' the jurisdictions to acknowledge the importance of Geography as a subject and have it offered at Year 10.

Primary school engagement is important and combined meetings are opportunities for teachers to see what to do. Greg sought teacher support to 'push' the need to include more primary teachers to become involved.

Call for nominations and the election of new Executive members 2013-14.

Mick Boers - Sacred Heart Michael.Boers@shcs.sa.edu.au

Peter Mann – Sacred Heart peter.mann@shcs.sa.edu.au

Joanne Wegener – Concordia JWegener@concordia.sa.edu.au

Ben Whyte – Xavier Catholic College bwhyte@xavier.catholic.edu.au

These new members were voted in unanimously by all present

Life member, Margaret was acknowledged and she also offered 4 more DD Harris books to go as prizes to winners of the award in future years.

Greg Way sought consensus as to whether it was okay to continue with our present auditor BDO. BDO have been accepted as our auditors for next year, 2014.

Ian Johnson will continue dealing with CEASA

Business Arising

None arising

Meeting closed at 10:40 am