
MEETING MINUTES

Pacific Rim Real Estate Society (PRRES) Board of Directors Meeting

Date: 18 January 2011
Time: 7:30 a.m.
Held at: Holiday Inn Surfer's Paradise
Gold Coast, Australia

Present: David Parker (Executive Director), Greg Costello (President), Deborah Levy (immediate past President), Hera Antoniades (Treasurer), Michael Rehm (Secretary), Valerie Kupke (President Elect), Yasmin Mohd Adnan, Ming-Long Lee, Clive Warren, Georgia Warren-Myers, Connie Susilawati, Peter Rossini, Song Shi and Peddy Lai.

Apologies: Anthony De Francesco and Garrick Small.

Absent: Sandy Bond and Kian Hwa Ting.

The meeting was chaired by PRRES President Greg Costello who opened by providing a brief introduction.

Item 1 – Apologies

Apologies were received from Anthony De Francesco and Garrick Small.

Item 2 – Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the 17 January 2011 meeting were deemed to be an accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Valerie Kupke
Seconded: Hera Antoniades
Carried.

Item 3 – Allocation of Board Member Roles

David Parker led a discussion on the assignment of board roles beginning with a suggestion that board members maintain their previous roles. David further suggested that the board does not renew Anthony De Francesco's co-option as Director of Sponsorship but urges him to maintain his involvement and interest in the society. Also, the board should forego appointing a Director of Membership this year.

Given that the PRRES Strategic Plan will need to be reviewed and then adopted in 2013, David suggested that President-elect Valerie Kupke relinquishes her role as Newsletter Co-ordinator to Sandy Bond who has held this role in the past.

Peter Rossini suggested that a separate Membership Manager position be created. This board member would be responsible for maintaining a current membership list that would also include information on past membership to identify which individuals should be solicited to renew their membership. When changes are made to the database, a copy of the updated file is to be forwarded to the webmaster. Clive Warren volunteered to serve as Membership Manager but this role was later passed on to Ming-Long Lee given Clive's large number of board roles.

Item 4 – Continuation of Discussions from Previous Board Meeting

4 (5) – Portfolio Report – Director of Sponsorship

Given that Anthony De Francesco, the Director of Sponsorship, did not attend the meeting this report was not given.

5 (3) – Conference Report – Postgraduate Colloquium Co-ordinator

Georgia Warren-Myers, the Postgraduate Colloquium Co-ordinator, advised the board that 17 PhD students presented at Sunday's event which was well-attended. There were two plenary sessions that the students found very helpful.

Georgia thanked Bob Hargreaves, David Parker and Terry Boyd for reviewing the PhD students' work for scholarship purposes.

8 (2) – Future conferences – Future Years (2013-2015)

David Parker advised the board that several PRRES members have indicated concern regarding the costs associated with travelling to the 2013 conference if it is held in Taiwan. The current airfare costs to Taipei from Sydney range between \$1700 and \$2400 AUD. Since this expense would place the conference beyond the reach of some Australian/New Zealand academics, it is important that a sensitivity analysis be conducted as part of the budgeting process for the Taiwan conference to understand how lower Australasian turnout would balance against higher numbers of Asian delegates.

Despite the higher costs several board members felt that it is vital that the conference venue be held away from Australia or New Zealand every five years or so since the PRRES conference identifies itself as an international event and consistently attracts delegates from the larger Pacific Rim region and beyond.

9 (1) – General Business – Industry Day

Greg Costello led a brief discussion on Industry Day. David Parker informed the board that the Executive Committee discussed this event at length. It was decided that there should be an amendment to the conference protocol to state that Industry Day should be a flexible concept that the conference organising committee runs to suit local conditions. The event is anticipated to be proportionate to the city with conference venues such as Sydney, Melbourne and Auckland featuring a large Industry Day. Organisers are encouraged to have an industry keynote speaker for the Tuesday or Wednesday of the conference. It will then be up to the conference organiser to decide whether the industry theme is continued beyond the keynote or not.

9 (6) – General Business – Website

Peter Rossini indicated that he intends not to seek re-election to the board and will transition away from the role of PRRES webmaster. He proposed that he continues managing the website until at least the end of the 2012 conference including the uploading of conference proceedings. In the interim Peter shall continue with the existing site and acquire more server space. He proposed a website subcommittee be formed to decide on a new website format and specific issues such as online features (e.g. membership fees payments). Although Peter is willing to advise members of the subcommittee, he feels it is best if he is not on the subcommittee itself. He proposed to run the existing site while a new one is being designed and tested with full implementation by the 2013 conference.

Peter will also draft a protocol explaining how the current website runs thereby allowing another person to assume the webmaster role if for some reason he is unable.

Greg Costello moved to establish a website subcommittee. Song Shi, Peddy Lai and Clive Warren volunteered with Clive leading the subcommittee. Peter suggested that the first course of action for the subcommittee is to research existing websites and identify desirable design and technical features. Deborah Levy expanded on this and suggested that board members should assist the subcommittee by providing specific recommendations as well as links to exceptional websites.

Lastly, Greg set a mid-year deadline for the website subcommittee to report back to the Executive Committee on the recommendations received and investigations undertaken.

Item 5 – Any Other Business

No other business was raised for discussion.

The meeting closed at 8:45 a.m.