

## **APHP Chairperson's Report 2019**

This report provides an overview of the work undertaken by the Executive Committee in the 2018/19 year.

We have once again been very ably assisted by Muneerah Karriem as APHP Secretary. Muneerah takes care of the day to day running of the Association and given the size of the membership this is now an essential role.

### **1. General**

This year, the ExCo has focussed on forwarding the aims and intentions of APHP's Vision and Mission Statement.

#### ***Vision***

*Excellence and ethics in the South African heritage profession.*

#### ***Mission***

*To develop and support South African heritage professionals to achieve excellence in their field through encouraging inclusivity, cooperation, upholding good ethics and maintaining excellent standards.*

### **2. Professionalisation**

#### **2.1 EAPASA**

EAPASA has begun its work as the official registration board for professional Environmental Assessment Practitioners and their ExCo has undertaken a national outreach program with the DEA to inform EAPs on their registration process.

APHP ExCo has requested the opportunity to present to the EAPASA ExCo to determine what steps APHP must still take in order to formalise the proposal that the registration of Professional Heritage Practitioners is undertaken by a special heritage sub-committee of EAPASA. There is currently broad consensus from various members of the EAPASA ExCo that EAPASA is an appropriate home for heritage practitioners as a type of manager of the environment.

To this end, APHP ExCo is in the process of reviewing the current accreditation process, as well as our code of conduct and constitution so that it becomes more in line with the process currently used by EAPASA.

#### **2.2 Membership**

One of the goals of this ExCo has been to expand membership beyond the borders of the Western Cape and to establish "chapters" of APHP across the country. To this end, we have been liaising with various professionals from Gauteng, Port Elizabeth and East London.

To this end, Mike Scurr and I met with a number of APHP members based in Gauteng on 29 November last year. Those members agreed to pursue the formal establishment of a Gauteng branch of APHP by hosting an event. Unfortunately, this event has not taken place prior to the AGM.

APHP ExCo has identified a number of other nodes in which to encourage members to form provincial chapters, including PE and KZN. It is hoped that the forthcoming ExCo will continue with this project.

### **2.3 Disciplinary processes**

Issues have been raised with the APHP regarding how members who contravene the Code of Ethics are disciplined. To this end, ExCo is investigating the disciplinary processes followed by other professional organisations such as EAPASA, SACAP and SACPLAN. Once this investigation is completed, APHP ExCo will draft a clear and procedurally fair disciplinary process to be circulated to membership for comment.

The investigation has not made much progress and will be continued by the next ExCo.

### **3. Accreditation**

The Revised Accreditation Guidelines were ratified at the 2018 AGM. Since then, APHP has welcomed several new members including five accredited members, two candidates and four associates. Our ranks have now swelled to 87 accredited members, 24 candidate members and seven associate members. We encourage and look forward to the candidate members working towards achieving full accreditation in the near future. We are pleased to note that membership in provinces other than the Western Cape has increased, with Gauteng and the Eastern Cape accounting for nearly 20% of accredited members.

### **4. APHP Engagement with Authorities**

#### **4.1 APHP and the CoCT**

APHP Meetings with CoCT EHRM were set in place with the intention to discuss a number of issues (refer to Aide de Memoire of 2 Nov 2018 with updates):-

Meeting were held as follows:

5 September 2017, 29 November 2017, 21 May 2018, 1 Nov 2018

Items discussed:-

- HPOZ's and CoCT competence;
- Current management challenges on both sides of the table:- for example the MPBL under Spluma with regard to certain clauses which define definite refusal and considerations re decision making. The zoning scheme is incorporated in the MPBL and thereby all decisions sit with LUM. HWC's Council decisions are intended to go back to CoCT LUM and this is not always the case;
- Members queries wrt apparent varied models regarding assessment /comment /processing of applications between district offices:- for example some office receive and process electronically and other work only with hard copies. Can the system be standardised as a universal electronic system?
- APHP can challenge inconsistencies in LUM Heritage management/ pre-consultation processes by bringing forward examples with factual information. Members are encouraged to do so. APHP can play a role in communicating these perceived inconsistencies between various departments to the CoCT.

Additional items:-

- Queries from some members were addressed to the APHP Exco with respect to the CoCT Bylaw amendments;
- CoCT's advert for the vacant post of Manager: Environmental & Heritage Management was circulated to APHP members.
- APHP Exco member attended the Bo-Kaap HPOZ Public Participation hearing – a comment of support in principal was placed on record.

#### **4.2 APHP and HWC**

A meeting was held with HWC on the 25 January 2019. Minutes have been circulated to members.

#### **4.3 APHP comment re: Provincial Heritage Bill**

Comment was put forward by the APHP on the proposed Provincial Heritage Bill (refer to summary of comments – UR and LvR) and letter by JL to Ms Meyer at HWC Nov 2018.

## **5. Events and Activities**

### **5.1 Social Media**

ExCo created a Facebook page comprising of information (not opinionated) and heritage related events to facilitate easy and efficient interaction with membership which will share information regarding legal cases, conferences and potentially tender information/work opportunities. This platform is currently only open to APHP members and is a great platform for furthering knowledge and keeping abreast of current heritage events and activities. We encourage more members to join and take part in sharing and discussion. The more members we have on there, the more engaging and diverse the content will be.

### **5.2 APHP Website**

ExCo is in the process of revising the APHP website to make it more intuitive and easy to navigate for non-members. It is envisioned that the web page will be the 'shop front' for people to find out about APHP and that the associated social media platforms such as Facebook will be the main go-to for members to communicate and find out about members' events etc. The Facebook platform will be accessible for members through a link on the web page.

### **5.3 APHP Logo**

ExCo have, after last year's AGM agreement, followed the process of updating the logo. This process has now been completed, with continued assistance from members who indicated their interest. The new APHP logo will be on the new web page and Facebook page as well as on all new correspondence from APHP.

With this process complete, we encourage the incoming ExCo to continue the direction of promotion and awareness raising of APHP nationally to diversify and broaden its membership. The tools of pamphlets and infographics which were considered by the outgoing ExCo could be further developed to assist in this.

### **5.4 2018 AGM**

At our 2018 AGM in May, Joanne Duggan gave an interesting and inspiring presentation on the work she did for the exhibition at the new West Coast Fossil Park Information Centre.

### **5.4 End of year function**

Our end of year function in 2018 again took the familiar form of a Pecha Kucha with some entertaining and engaging topics and presentations. Thank you to everyone who took part and attended.

### **5.5 Conference 2019**

In early April 2019, APHP hosted a successful conference on Reconnecting Heritage at the District 6 Museum. Approximately 60 to 65 people attended the three day event, with many presenting on their work in the heritage sector. The conference included key note addresses from Prof Shahid Vawda of UCT's African Studies Department, and Zahira Asmal of The City Agency.

In addition, a number of presentations were made by non-APHP members which provided a fresh and different voice to discussions about the Conference subject.

The goal of the conference was to use lessons learned to assist APHP with the development of a position paper on how to address issues of social significance as part of best practices approaches in

the heritage sector. This position paper remains in draft for the next ExCo to continue to develop. Emmylou and I intend to communicate the outcomes of this conference to colleagues at the ASAPA Conference in Kimberley in July 2019.

I would like to thank the Conference Organising Committee - Liana Jensen, Quahnita Samie, Naomi Roux and Emmylou Bailey. I would like to especially thank Emmylou for her tremendous assistance in pulling the event together.

## **6. Plans for the future**

As discussed at the last AGM, we are very happy to announce the launch of APHP's new logo and website - [www.aphp.org.za](http://www.aphp.org.za). The website has been redesigned to be more engaging and attractive, and a lot of the unused functionality has been done away with. We hope that the new Exco will make the most of this revitalisation to continue to promote APHP across South Africa.

A number of projects of the ExCo remain ongoing such as the process of pursuing professionalisation with EAPASA and the establishment of formal provincial chapters of APHP throughout South Africa.

We hope that the new Exco will build on the success of the 2019 conference to make the APHP conference a regular event on the heritage calendar of South Africa.

In addition, we hope that the new Exco will continue to build relationships with additional stakeholders in the heritage sector in order to pursue our mission of developing and supporting South African heritage professionals to achieve excellence in their field through encouraging inclusivity, cooperation, upholding good ethics and maintaining excellent standards.

## **Closing**

I would like to extend my tremendous gratitude to the outgoing ExCo for being a great team. Melanie, Louise, Ursula, Mike, Emmylou and Stefan - and especially Muneerah for her admin support. I am very proud of the amount of work we have accomplished during our term and I would like to extend my best wishes to the incoming ExCo.

Jenna Lavin

06/05/2019