



1. **Present:** Elwyn Harlech-Jones (EHJ), Yasmin Mayat (YM), William Martinson (WM), Jonathan Stone (JS), Gavin McLachlan (GM), and Richard Hill.  
Secretary: Grace Martinson (GVM)

2. **Apologies:** David Gibbs (DG); Dorelle Sapere (DS)

3. **Opening and welcome**

WM noted apologies and welcomed all.

WM stated that GM asked that the items on the Agenda that affect him be discussed and then he will leave the meeting. Specifically item '7. Professionalisation' and the meeting with SAHRA and '12. Event for 2023, Virtual Symposium'.

4. **Appointment of Chairperson**

- WM mentioned that this point was never concluded or raised at the AGM and asked who would be prepared to step-up and take on the role of Chairman.
- EHJ suggested that WM become Chairperson as he currently holds the position of Vice-Chairman. WM stated that he is not able to take on the role of Chairman due to other commitments. GVM noted that as WM manages the bank account, there would not be a separation of roles and this would be unethical. WM suggested that when DG and DS are present at the next ExCo meeting, the point can be discussed. No final decision was made. There was no objection and the point was carried over.

5. **Approval of the minutes** of the previous meetings:

- 20 April 2023
- EHJ proposed, WM seconded.

6. **Matters arising** from the minutes of the previous meeting –  
Noted as per portfolios on the agenda.

7. **Professionalisation** (EHJ/GM/RH)

- RH reminded the ExCo that on the 11th of May (before the AGM) a letter from SAQA was received indicating that they had closed both the PHP application and the one for the Environmental Compliance Practitioners (ECP).



- After the AGM (on the 25th of May) a meeting was held with SAQA on the 1st of June, attended by RH and GM:
  - Dr Sithole mentioned to SAQA that EAPASA was expecting a back and forth (requesting further information where needed) with the two (2) applications rather than a closure. RH noted that as GM had said in his follow-up report, the essential reason for closing the application was that SAQA was only allowed a certain amount of time for processing applications and they took too long and they did not want to be non-compliant in terms of their own regulations.
  - SAQA's concern was that EAPASA was going outside of its regulations, that being the National Environmental Management Act. The question was around how EAPASA would legitimately be in the heritage space. The request to EAPASA was that they include information on this in the next application because both the application for the PHP designation and the application for the Environmental Compliance Practitioners need to be re-submitted.
  - RH explained that as a member of the Steering Committee that drove the Environmental Impact Assessment and Management Strategy (EIAMS) process over a period from 2010-2014, and final editor of the EIAMS report, that the Strategy (through the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment, DFFE) envisaged an overarching Council for Environmental Professionals under which there would be associations like EAPASA, and others for Social Impact Practitioners, and Heritage Impact Practitioners. That is the reason EAPASA is in the heritage space.
  - Dr Sithole confirmed that the Environmental Compliance Practitioner application is non-statutory, which raised concern from SAQA because EAPASA is a statutory professional body. He reported that SAHRA is developing regulations under the NHRA that would make the PHP designation different and a statutory one, which would mean that there would be a legal requirement for Heritage Practitioners to have that in order to practise.
  - SAQA stated that they would provide minutes of the meeting which have not been provided yet.
  - RH contacted Prof. Jan-Albert Wessels of UNISA because SAQA indicated that there is an issue regarding the Environmental Compliance Practitioners as it appears that there is not an indication of the underlying qualification requirements for that particular designation. There were no concerns in that regard for the PHP designation. Prof. Jan-Albert Wessels said he has had no



meeting with the compliance practitioner grouping yet, although SAQA said they would have it the following week.

- SAQA made a request to EAPASA that they provide a letter of support from SAHRA (South African Heritage Resources Agency) and ASAPA (Association for Southern African Professional Archaeologists) in support of the application for the PHP designation.
- RH proposed preparing a memo listing all the instances where APHP has engaged with SAHRA and ASAPA from the 2015 APHP conference on professionalisation to the present with the engagements with SAHRA and the Zoom meeting last year with ASAPA. This memo could then be sent to EAPASA which would strengthen their response when added to the two letters they will be providing.
- GM reported that RH's report back provided comprehensive insight into the meeting and it seems to be for a purely bureaucratic reason that the application was rejected. GM queries why SAQA wanted a letter specifically from ASAPA as opposed to all other heritage related professions such as architects, engineers, town planners etc. More letters may be required from various other institutions. SAQA were welcoming of APHP through EAPASA submitting the application and just wanted this additional information.
- EHJ queried where SAHRA fits into this process and whether SAHRA would be the Registration Authority for PHPs.
- RH responded that in gazetting the impending regulations under the NHRA requiring professional registration of PHPs, SAHRA needs to identify and appoint a Registration Authority for PHPs under the Act. For example, in 2016 the DFFE as a government department appointed EAPASA in regulations promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act as the Registration Authority for Environmental Assessment Practitioners. Because the DFFE is not recognised as a Professional Body by SAQA, they are not able to roll out a professional designation. SAHRA similarly needs to appoint a Registration Authority under the NHRA, which Registration Authority would then need to apply for recognition by SAQA as a Professional Body. EAPASA would like SAHRA to appoint them as the Registration Authority under the NHRA as they are already a Professional Body recognised by SAQA, thus providing a two fold basis to act (1) as statutory Registration Authority for the PHP designation, appointed by SAHRA and (2) as a SAQA recognised Professional Body.
- As an EAPASA Board member for 9 years, RH noted that if SAHRA decides to form and appoint another association as the Registration Authority for PHPs, this association



would then need to initiate the complicated and lengthy process of developing a constitution, structures and processes (which took EAPASA five years from 2012 to 2016) and apply for recognition as a Professional Body to SAQA (which took EAPASA 3 years from December 2016 to October 2019). SAHRA would save many years in appointing EAPASA as Registration Authority for PHPs, thus achieving a considerably shorter timeline for implementation.]

- RH noted that within the letter from SAQA received by Dr Sithole of EAPASA it is stated in the headline “Registration of the same professional designation by more than one recognised professional body” and under that heading “The same professional designation cannot be registered by more than one recognised professional body”. SAHRA is not a recognised professional body but ASAPA is. RH indicated he would need to find out if ASAPA is a non-statutory professional body, meaning there is no legal underpinning that archaeologists have to be registered; and find out if archaeologists can also register with SACNASP (South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions). Both SACNASP and ASAPA cannot both have a designation for Archaeologist as this would not be allowed by SAQA.
- Given that there are many other professional bodies involved in the heritage space, it will be useful to draft a letter to Dr Sithole, pointing out that SAQA is requesting a letter from SAHRA and ASAPA, but need to be made aware that there are other statutory professional bodies who have professionals involved in the heritage space and get them to state in writing that they have no intention to register the PHP designation and EAPASA would be taking that responsibility on, if SAHRA sees fit to delegate that responsibility to EAPASA.
- WM asked RH if he will be able to proceed with this process. RH confirmed that he will continue.

## 8. **Transformation - DS**

- DS submitted an apology.

## 9. **Finances - WM**

- Invoices for annual membership have been issued:  
Professional R78,000.00  
Candidate R 12,000.00  
Associate R 2,880.00  
Of that total, R 36,400.00 paid to date; R 57,282.00 still receivable; R1000.00 revenue from



application.

Bank balance R 61,726.62 as at 21 June 2023.

- The Chairman reports that when receiving invoices, for example from RH and GVM for payment, he would previously forward it to GM for authorisation. The last invoices were sent to JS for his approval (as GM is no longer the Chairman) and suggest that until a Chairman has been appointed he continues using JS for approval.
- JS accepts the request.
- WM thanks Dr Richard Hill that he agreed to continue working at his current rate.

#### 10. **Membership - JS**

- A few more applications have been received and the Membership Committee are following the guidelines; applications are being circulated to the Membership Committee, however not all committee members respond, but if at least 5 respond, this is deemed enough to take a decision.
- After approval by members, the information is submitted to GVM who submits the necessary letters to the new members.
- JS requests the completion of the membership spreadsheet showing the breakdown of the various memberships into the various professions, e.g. landscape architects as well as the professional bodies they belong to: GVM to finalise the spreadsheet containing this information.
- JS notes that applications should be done electronically and be populated to the database immediately.
- WM asked that if possible, the Membership Committee's names be listed and a brief summary of the number of applications, in a similar fashion to the way the finances are presented at ExCo meetings.
- WM thanked JS for his update.
- RH agrees that this breakdown of professions will be of assistance and will help with the re-submission of the application to EAPASA.
- WM asked if GVM could send out the draft list.

#### 11. **Liaising with Heritage Authorities and Related Bodies – DG**

- DG submitted an apology.
- JS reported that he facilitated a Provincial Heritage Resources Authority of Gauteng strategic session. Whilst it was not the forum to present our position, JS did raise the point that they as a heritage authority need to connect and liaise with organisations like APHP and any other organisations to open channels of communication.



- WM noted that this needs to be a point at the next meeting.

## 12. **Event for 2023 - Virtual Symposium, October 2023**

GM reports that did send an email to all regarding the event.

- GM emailed Dr Simon Makuva from Zimbabwe, he is the African representative of ICOMOS and the author of a number of academic papers, which include the Motobo, Khami Ruins, and Cecil Rhodes' grave. He's connected to the National University of Science and Technology (NUST) in Bulawayo. APHP will pay R1000 honorarium for his talk. He will likely do a presentation on The Great Zimbabwe National Monument.
- GM noted that Graham Jacobs did not receive the email so contact was made telephonically. This may be a problem in terms of managing zoom, if he is to do a presentation.
- GM received an email from Bruce Eitzen (who was an APHP professional member but is unable to pay the fee at the moment), and he would like to do a presentation on culture and heritage landscapes. Bruce has agreed to present.
- GM still plans to contact Prof. Bert Olivier to do a presentation, but is holding this option for now.
- GM noted that DS indicated that she has a contact that she will ask about a presentation and is awaiting feedback.
- GM noted that the new Chairman will be required to make a welcome presentation at the symposium and should prepare for that. An MC (the chair or alternative person) is also required to do the necessary introductions and manage discussions and time allocations during the symposium.
- A few points for during the symposium:-
  - Instructions provided to presenters - do they do a PowerPoint presentation, zoom presentation, do we ask for pre-recording (especially in the case of connecting to Zimbabwe).
  - A 4th speaker needs to be found.
  - Another Committee member to assist GM with the arrangements - perhaps EHJ?
  - WM thanks Gavin for this update
  - EHJ accepts to assist Gavin with the symposium.
- RH noted that some presenters could provide a pre-recorded PowerPoint presentation emailed beforehand to circumvent technical issues.
- RH mentioned that he attended the APHP Professionalisation Conference in 2015 and still has some of the PowerPoint presentations given at the conference (he spoke as



representative of EAPASA together with Marlene Laros). Given that professionalisation has been the focus of APHP, perhaps one of those presenters from 2015 could be invited to speak again. GM requests that RH forward the contact information of those speakers.

- GM noted that Stephen Townsend indicated that a face-to-face conference would be important for cohesiveness and further discussions around professionalisation and GM agrees that going forward an in person conference is needed.

13. **Any other business**

- SACAP - GVM stated that the application and documents were uploaded to the SACAP website however on submission, no proof was provided by the platform. Nita Schmidlin has been emailed.

14. **Date of next meeting:**

Thursday 20th July 2023 @ 14h00.

15. **Closure**

The meeting closed at 15h10.