

MINUTES OF THE EXCO MEETING FOCUSSING ON PROFESSIONALISATION HELD ON 27 JULY 2023 at 16h00 via Zoom Conference Call

- Present: Elwyn Harlech-Jones (EHJ), Yasmin Mayat (YM),
   Jonathan Stone (JS), Gavin McLachlan (GM), and Richard Hill (RH),
   David Gibbs (DG); Dorelle Sapere (DS), Secretary: Grace Martinson (GVM)
- 2. **Apologies**: William Martinson (WM)
- 3. Opening and welcome
  - JS noted apologies and welcomed all.
  - JS will act as Chairman for WM for this meeting. No objection from the Members present.
- 4. Appointment of Chairperson
  - This point will move over to the next meeting.
  - GVM mentioned that a Vice-Chairman also needs to be appointed.
- 5. **Approval of the minutes** of the previous meetings:
  - 22nd June 2023
  - David Gibbs proposed, YM seconded.
- 6. **Matters arising** from the minutes of the previous meeting Noted under portfolios on the agenda.
- 7. **Professionalisation** (EHJ/GM/RH)
  - RH had a meeting with EAPASA on the 5th July 2023 and reported back as follows:-
    - The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the SAQA refusal of the PHP application and their request that it be resubmitted; and what EAPASA and APHP need to do in order to resubmit.
    - SAQA has requested proof of consultation around professionalisation and Dr.
       Sithole's team has been asked to prepare a document that lists events where there was either a zoom or face-to-face meeting between EAPASA, AMAFA, ASAPA and/or SAHRA, and they have asked RH to do the same. RH prepared a draft spreadsheet that was sent on the 18th July 2023.
    - In addition to the proof of consultation, EAPASA is proposing that they arrange a meeting with SAHRA and ask RH to prepare a Powerpoint presentation that goes through the history of the development of the APHP's PHP designation with its



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- Core Competencies and its CPD policy. The meeting will be requested for early August 2023.
- For noting only, SAQA has an issue with the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) qualification standard being submitted by EAPASA as underpinning the Environmental Compliance Practitioner (ECP) designation as well. SAQA said that the EAP qualification standard can only be used for one, not two, designations.
- In the case of APHP, RH was advised by SAQA that there can be any number of different initial qualifications (e.g. architects, landscape architects, archaeologists) and this will be further clarified in the updated Powerpoint presentation.
- EAPASA asked RH to prepare the presentation, however Dr Sithole will do the presentation in full with the EAPASA logo. RH will send the draft to ExCo to read before finalising.
- The consultation with ASAPA (Archaeologists) is not problematic because last year's ExCo had a Zoom meeting with ASAPA (with Chairperson Prof. Sarah Wurz from Wits Univ and other board members) and there was no issue with regards to APHP. However Dr. Sithole said while there is not an issue at the top levels, there is some grassroots antagonism towards APHP among archaeologists he had spoken to. It is important therefore to have proof of consultation.
- RH noted that EAPASA is appointed by the government, by the Department of Forestry,
   Fisheries and the Environment under the National Environmental Management Act so they are a statutory body.
- RH stated that all professions may need to be consulted, but at this point SAQA is only asking for the ASAPA and SAHRA. To ensure the next application is as watertight as possible, it would be useful to construct a standard letter to send to other relevant professional bodies saying that SAQA wants proof of consultation and request that the profession send a letter to EAPASA lending support for the initiative, through EAPASA. This is to avoid a problem when SAQA runs the public participation period in the Government Gazette stating that they are registering the PHP designation and calling for comments.
- RH noted that there is a draft MOU between the voluntary association APHP and EAPASA which will be re-visited and re-tabled for signing so that APHP can continue as a voluntary association acting as an advocate for its member's interests.



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- ASAPA is a non-statutory body and thus is market-based and voluntary. Prior to SAHRA
  getting involved, the APHP designation would have been non-statutory. SAHRA wants
  to make this designation a Statutory process under the NHRA.
- RH noted that archaeologists cannot register with the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP) as they are registered under ASAPA. SAQA does not allow two Professional Bodies to register the same designation. Archaeology is not listed as a natural science and archaeologists can only register through ASAPA on a non-statutory basis.
- Chairman thanked RH for his input.
- RH requested approval from ExCo to prepare the powerpoint presentation for Dr Sithole,
   EAPASA required for the meeting with SAHRA. Proposed by GM, seconded by JS.

### 8. Transformation - DS

- DS reported that she has had a conversation with the "naysayers" to understand the criticism of APHP and transformation.
  - It appears to be about control of work or the perception that the work is being controlled by a small group of professionals rather than about a colour issue.
  - The perception is that there is a 'boys club' controlling access to work in the Western Cape.
  - One of the women interviewed is not interested in engaging with APHP any further as they have sent many emails already; and are unwilling to engage in how APHP can change.
  - They are not interested in being part of APHP (as a Voluntary Association) but are interested in professionalisation if it is not through APHP.
- DS confirms that feedback will be given to that group when the new Chairperson is elected. On the assumption that professionalisation is not via APHP, what could the possibilities be of APHP providing a different role that would be more open and inclusive. Possibly our membership would not need to be limited to those holding an Honours degree but to young professionals in many other fields.
- There were also conversations about ICOMOS and what APHP's link could be with ICOMOS in terms of intangible heritage..
- JS queried what range of individuals were interviewed and their range of expertise. DS stated that some were planners and some environmental practitioners that had issues about being excluded from doing certain HIA because of their qualifications. Further dialogue needs to be had with for example practitioners in KZN. JS noted that there are



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- always going to be degrees of inclusion and exclusion based on the professional's area of expertise.
- GM noted that the advantage of being registered as PHP through SAQA, is that nobody including the disaffected people in the Western Cape are able to say that a professional is not entitled to call themselves a Heritage Practitioner. Your experience has gone through a Committee that has been setup by EAPASA and SAQA. In the medium to long run the advantage will be that the client body will come to realise that the people who are properly registered through this process probably have more competency than anybody else and that is the advantage. It is however still voluntary.
- RH stated that with SAHRA's current intervention, the PHP designation will no longer be voluntary, as they are proposing to generate Regulations under Section 38.2 of the NHRA. It is not going to be voluntary anymore. There is going to be a control from a central position of who can do this work both as officials in Heritage Authorities and as consultants submitting applications to Government Agencies. What SAHRA will do is take forward the preparatory and foundational work done by APHP (Core Competencies and other policies developed and submitted to SAQA). The intention of EAPASA's proposed meeting with SAHRA is to table all the documents so that SAHRA will have the opportunity (through a few iterations) to state what they agree with. This is so that SAHRA is onboard once the professionalisation goes through to SAQA.

#### 9. Finances - WM

- GVM presented:
  - As at 26th July 2023, bank balance R 82 139.55
  - o Accounts receivable: R 30 645.00
  - Revenue invoiced out: R 79 000.00, R 12 000, R 2800.00 and of that R 30 645.00 has not been paid to date.
  - o In suspense there is R 1 700.00 with no reference to allocate to invoice.
  - o Revenue received in advance is a member who has paid for the next financial year.
  - Retained earnings is diminishing to R 45 70.95
  - Bank fees R 110.00
  - o Professionalisation R 7 800.00
  - Secretarial R 13 984.00
  - Telephone + Internet R 3270 for Zoom annual subscription
  - Invoice from auditors Marais & Smith R 3197.00. R 2780.00 budgeted as they quoted excl VAT.



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## 10. **Membership - JS**

- No new membership applications were received.
- GVM presented the spreadsheet showing membership categories and numbers.
- GVM noted that there are 3 databases being run that need to be updated manually and a better solution needs to be found. Google Contacts may be an option but needs testing. The website could be used as a central database, which needs to be discussed with Nicholas Wiltshire.
- JS asks the ExCo whether there are categories that may be important for the database,
   JM suggests location.
- GVM mentioned that there was a request for a list of all the Architects in the Western Cape which could not be quickly supplied.
- GVM pointed out that the spreadsheet works out the percentage of SACAP registered members, which unfortunately is less than 50% at this point in time.
- GM noted that if such a high percentage of APHP members are SACAP registered, he asked RH to send a letter to them, as discussed above in Professionalisation point 7.

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

- JS reports that he had been facilitating a strategic session with the Gauteng Provincial Heritage Authority and did mention that APHP would like to open communication with them. The matter was not discussed further.
- JS is currently drawing up the report on that process and will keep that point in and see
  what the feedback is. We should all be keeping lines of communication open with our
  regional Heritage Authorities.
- DG noted that in August there is the next meeting of the Council of Western Cape and he will deliver a report on the work of the Committees that he is involved with for that. If anyone would like DG to follow up on any contacts in other Provinces, so that anything currently done by DG in Western Cape can be replicated with other Provinces.
- DG represented APHP informally at the Western Cape Property Development Forum Conference recently.

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

 GM noted that Bruce Eitzen has agreed to present at the symposium, on concerns regarding Cultural Heritage Landscapes. Dr Simon Makuvaza currently doing work on Great Zimbabwe has confirmed he will present at the Symposium. Graham Jacobs will present, specifically about his overseas experience. GM requested that each presenter



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produce a brief CV and a title of their presentation so that a programme can be produced.

- GM noted that DS indicated that she has a contact that she will ask about a presentation and is awaiting feedback. The presentation is on traditional townships in the Port Elizabeth area. An alternative would be Kathy Dumbrell.
- JS requested that GVM contact DS for the information and copy the email to ExCo.

## 13. Any other business

- SACAP GVM stated that the APHP falls short of 50% plus one in order to register for CPD points.
- Bruce Eitzen's talk could be paid for by offsetting his APHP membership fees. Supported by JS and GM.
- JS notes that Nicholas Wiltshire and WM are discussing the option of extending the regions that APHP members work in.

## 14. Date of next meeting:

Thursday 24th August 2023 @ 16h00.

### 15. Closure

The meeting closed at 17h15.

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