



# Large Urban Parks Standing Committee Minutes

**When:** Thursday, 26 May 2016 7:00amEST

**Where:** Internet web conference (GoToMeeting)

**Attendees:** Richard Murray (Co-Chair), Chris Hardman, Lilia Haua,, Kim Ellis, Mark Camley, Patricia O'Donnell, Peter Verdyck, Hooshmand Alizadeh, Digby Whyte (CEO), Amanda O'Rourke (EO)

**Apologies:** Alberto Ipas, Anna Steidle, Cecilia Herzog, Cecil Konijnendijk, Chris Nolan Gil Penalosa Mark Camley, Margaret Gormley, Kenzo Oguchi, Ed Uhler

## Minutes:

1. Approval of agenda

Richard moved to approve the agenda.

**MOTION APPROVED by all**

2. Approval of previous minutes (3 March 2016)

Richard gave a brief overview of some of the items from the last minutes:

- Invitation to join working parties- has been posted on website and distributed to the network by Digby and Amanda
- Brochure has not been done so far

**ACTION:** Richard and Digby to work on brochure

- Calendar with events/meetings- hadn't progressed yet. Patricia suggested that it be a rolling calendar.

**ACTION:** Richard and Digby to work on a calendar

- Patricia moved to approve the minutes of 3 March. Seconded by Kim with a small correction to change his location from Melbourne to Sydney

**MOTION APPROVED by all**

3. Update on finding a new co-chair (substitute for Gil Penalosa)

Digby updated the group about the situation. Gil has decided to step down as Co-chair given time constraints and due to the fact that Richard is doing such a great job. Digby suggests he and Richard ask Jayne Miller to become either co-chair or deputy chair, in which case either of Margaret Gormley or Chris Hardman moves up to co-chair. There will be an executive meeting of the board of WUP in two weeks, at which the issue could be dealt with.

Peter moved that Digby and Richard to pursue this with Jayne Miller. Seconded by Patricia.

**MOTION APPROVED**

4. Report from work groups:

a. Good practice: Peter updated the group on a few items:

1. The creation of a Large Urban Park database which is to gather and provide basic information on large parks. A draft google document which includes survey questions has been created.

**ACTION:** Comments on the format should be sent to Peter no later than next Wednesday 1 June.

2. Good practices database- a structure has been decided. Includes 16 categories. will present early results at WUP Europe conference in Albi; financing first special topic with Zaragosa, Stockholm and Pittsburg contributing.

Digby mentioned there is some work being done to create a WUP Facebook page. It would be good to coordinate with this group. Jen Halliday is the Chair of the Membership/Partnership Committee and could be invited to the next Good Practice working group meeting.

**ACTION:** Peter to invite Jen to the next Good Practice meeting

b. Knowledge and Research: Patricia and Hooshmand updated the group on a few items:

- Patricia has been gathering documents and weblinks. Suggested one way of sharing could through a newsletter. Hooshmand mentioned approximately seven categories that he thought would be useful for organizing the research (e.g public health, city design, values, happiness research, urban climate etc.) and has found approximately 10 leading journals to highlight. They will work on finalizing categories.
- Digby suggested connecting with the WUP Knowledge and Standards Committee as they may have already done some work on this
- Patricia suggested creating a framework that linked with UN Sustainable Development Goals (3 pillars of economy, society and environment) and to also possibly link it with the list of good practices. Peter mentioned those categories are good for advocacy but not as practical for management practices.
- Amanda also suggested Knowledge and Research to take advantage of the GoToMeeting technology to be able to set up a meeting with additional members.

**ACTION:** Patricia will follow up with other members via GoToMeeting

c. Advocacy and Events: Chris updated the group on a few items:

- The group has had one meeting. They have discussed a number of topics including the creation of a Handbook that would give assistance to park managers on specific threats such as urbanization pressures, climate change, etc. (Henrik is taking the lead on this)

- Other ideas they are exploring: organizing participation in conferences and congresses such as Cape Town, Global City League competition (a competition similar to most livable cities that measure performance of large urban parks)
- Chris also asked if there was a Declaration associated with the Congress and that may be something they could work on.

**ACTION:** Digby will share with the group the abstracts that he has submitted for Cape Town

- Kim mentioned that he would be happy to join the Advocacy/Events working group.
- There was some discussion about the Albi conference. Peter will present the first results from the Good practice group. Alberto will also be presenting. Lilia, Richard and Patricia also said they could help contribute some case studies for Peter's workshop.
- There was some discussion about Habitat III. Discussion and input will be open again on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Patricia mentioned that the zero draft is strong on ecological cities but could benefit from some comments on parks and open spaces from WUP and beyond.

#### 5. WUP website for Large Urban Parks

- Some discussion on whether it should be open to members-only. Also discussed the idea of an online discussion forum (facebook or LinkedIn). Digby will look into creating members-only login but for now it is open as that made the website susceptible to hackers last time they had this.
- Results of the LUP questionnaire will be posted on website but not the financial aspect.
- Richard and Digby to post a calendar.
- Digby will update the webpage with updates from the Working groups.
- Patricia raised a concern about keeping network members engaged. Amanda sends them minutes after our meetings but what else can we do?

**ACTION:** Amanda will send a short snappy update in an email to members and encourage people to sign up for the working groups again.

- There should be additional benefits for those on the network. It could include webinars.

#### 6. Next meeting Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> August 7:30am EST.