



Large Urban Parks Standing Committee Minutes

When: Thursday, 4 August 2016 7:30amEST

Where: Internet web conference (GoToMeeting)

Attendees: Richard Murray (Co-Chair), Chris Hardman, Alberto Ipas, Lilia Haula, Kim Ellis, Peter Verdyck, Hooshmand Alizadeh, Anna Steidle, Margaret Gormley Digby Whyte (CEO), Amanda O'Rourke (EO)

Minutes:

1. Approval of agenda

Richard moved to approve the agenda.

MOTION APPROVED by all

2. Approval of previous minutes (26 May 2016)

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

- LUP Brochure- Richard is working on it so it can be given out in Cape Town.
- Calendar with events/meetings- Digby distributed it to the group (attached with agenda)
- Anna asked to include the meeting for the Europe Region to happen the 18th Augst.
- Richard moved to approve the minutes of 26 May.

MOTION APPROVED by all

3. Roundtable

Richard asked the group if they were getting what they wanted out of the LUP committee. He asked if there was anything else (not covered by existing work groups) that people would like to get involved with.

- Margaret commented that working groups are going well and suggested we should focus on that.
- Peter agreed that we should keep focus on the topics of working groups.
- No other comments from the rest of the group.

4. Co-Chair

Richard recommended Margaret (Gormley) as the new co-chair for the LUP Committee. Margaret accepted the nomination, saying she was happy to support the committee where needed.

Richard moved to have Margaret as Co-Chair, Chris seconded. Alberto and Lilia also voiced their support.

MOTION approved

5. Updates from work groups:

Good practice: (Peter)

1- LUP database

- questionnaire has been launched on website- currently have 15 submissions need at least 30-50 for Albi conference.

Response for 15 parks from 13 countries (Rivierenhof, Chapultepec Park, Parc de Parilly, Domaine de Lacroix-Laval, Parque del Agua (Zaragoza-Spain), The Presidio of San Francisco, Dandenong Ranges National Park, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, PARC de la TETE d'OR, Ramat Hanadiv, Lysterfield Park, Hattori Ryokuchi Park, Birkenhead Park, Hagley Park, Christchurch Botanic Gardens, Bosque de Chapultepec)

-Peter asked that people **please fill out the questionnaire** and send it along to colleagues. Margaret, Chris, and Alberto committed to sending it out to their networks. Kim asked that Peter re-send the link and he will do the same.

2- Albi workshop

- The workshop (Alberto and Peter) starts with a lecture of about 5 to 10 minutes. Will talk about the Good Practices Workgroup and its aims and the first results of the questionnaire. Will include some slides of different parks and explaining their financing and management. Examples of the Parque del Agua in Zaragoza (Spain), Chapultepec park in Mexico, Pittsburg, Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, De Schorre (Belgium) where the organisation of Tomorrowland paid for some spectacular infrastructure.

- Peter and Alberto are still designing the structure of the workshop, their idea is to start a discussion about different ways of financing. All ideas are welcome- contact Peter and Alberto.

3- Q&A (a forum for people involved in LUP to ask questions to one another)

- Peter mentioned that the WUP Executive has approved moving to Facebook as its use and reach is way beyond any other platform. So it is an opportunity to add on a members-only interactive area.

- Richard had previously proposed to make a searchable discussion forum. The WUP website is written in Joomla and this program has a free application for discussion forums: Werner Marinus (who works with Peter) will work on this with Digby and Jenn Halliday (the young professional chairing the Membership and Partnerships Committee) who has offered to develop a WUP Facebook site and administer it, including weekly WUP posts, for the first three months integrated with LinkedIn and Twitter social media.

- Peter mentioned that if we go ahead with this we will need someone to manage the forum. Not a lot of time but still will need someone dedicated to take it on.

Knowledge and Research: (Hooshmand) updated the group on a few items:

- 4 categories have been created to manage citations- Economy, Environment, Society, Culture and possibly a fifth (Public Health). This will include list of articles, journals and books that have been collected. The group aims to finalize the categories this month
- Richard asked Hooshmand if the group also considered including references to research institutions that do work on LUP. Hooshmand said that yes they are including this as well.
- Margaret mentioned how linking to the Universities could save work and Anna mentioned that many landscape and forestry schools and faculties are currently shifting more focus and research on large parks and cities.

Advocacy and Events: (Richard)

Habitat III- Richard has not yet received an answer from Habitat about a side event in Quito.

Outline of Large Parks Red List- Henrik is working on a booklet that identifies key threats (red list) for LUP- possibly a draft ready for Cape Town.

Cape Town- Chris is working on the Declaration, 12 speakers from WUP will be present so there is good representation.

6. Network Support and Engagement

Website

- Richard asked Digby if we have the functionality to add pages for each work group. Digby said yes.
- Amanda mentioned she has been thinking of a new structure for the LUP webpage and can send to Richard, Margaret and Digby for comment.

WUP Facebook

- Will be launched August 15th
- Anna suggested that there should be a separate facebook page for only Large Urban Parks as there is too much information for all of world urban parks.
- Digby said that eventually as the membership grows this would be ideal but at this time they have decided they want to build up the WUP Facebook group first. Digby will connect Anna with the Memberships and Partnership Committee so that she can provide her input and experience.

Executive Officer- Amanda will be supporting WUP in other capacities possibly soon and will likely have to move out of the EO role. Richard and Digby would ideally like someone to provide similar support to this committee in the future. If any members know someone who would be willing to volunteer should please connect with Richard.

Network- unfinished questions about how to engage the network more. Currently they can join work groups and they receive monthly updates. What else? This is something Richard, Margaret and Digby can think about more and present ideas back to the group at next meeting.

7. Next meeting Thursday 13th October 7:30am EST.