



ASSOCIACIÓ MUSEUS MARÍTIMS MEDITERRANI
Av. de les Drassanes s/n. 08001 Barcelona
T. 933 429 920 F. 933 187 876

General Assembly Meeting Minutes

Museo della Marineria, Pesaro Monday, 30th May 2011

Members present at the meeting:

The Executive Committee: Dragana Lucija Ratković, President; Pietro Maniscalco, Vice President; Maria Paola Profumo, Vice President; Miquel Martí, Committee member; Davide Gnola, Committee member; Elvira Mata, Honorary President; Lluïsa Prieto, Secretary/Treasurer.

Maritime Museums Members of the AMMM: Franca Acerenza, Sílvia Alemany, Serhan Aras, Pier Giovanni d'Ayala, Oğuz Aydemir, Lurdes Boix, Flavio Bonin, Ali Riza Isipek, Mariona Font, Anna Fuentes, Tea Mayhew, Tania Ors, Mercè Toldrà, and the members of the Executive Committee above mentioned representing their museums.

The President informs that the Executive Committee met twice on the 28th and 30th of May and that conclusions will be set forth during the General Assembly.

As the Turkish member has to leave, the order of the agenda is modified, discussing point 5 - *Istanbul Forum of 2012* in the first place. The meeting starts at 16.30h.

5. AMMM Forum: Istanbul Forum 2012

Ali Riza Isipek exposes his proposal to focus the AMMM Forum on ships of the Mediterranean. As discussed during last year's GA and further to the decision of creating a Working Group to develop a methodology to catalogue Mediterranean ships, this is a subject of common interest to most of the AMMM museums. Further to the discussion on how to structure the Forum, it is agreed to centre it as follows:

- Cataloguing traditional vessels and heritage ships (Criteria/methodology)
- Traditional vessels and heritage ships as museum objects
- Traditional vessels and heritage ships as containers of collective memory
- Museum friends: Involvement/complicity of cultural volunteering (this part is for those AMMM members who do not directly deal with traditional vessels).

It is decided that the Programme Committee members for the 2012 Forum is Dragana and Maria Paola.

The calendar proposed and agreed to celebrate next year's Forum is Monday 28th and Tuesday 29th May 2012.

5.1 Protocol after Pesaro experience.

The previous version of the protocol is approved. Members make no remarks regarding its content and after the Pesaro experience. Within further reflection, the President expresses her



wish to try to celebrate the GA meeting before the beginning of the Forum. This will be included in the Forum Protocol document.

Next, the agenda was followed in the original order.

1. AMMM Secretary

1.1 Museums who applied for membership

Two members applied for membership during the first semester of the year:

Museu d'Història de Sant Feliu de Guíxols, as full member. The Museum is also member of the network of maritime museums of the Catalan coast, so several members of the AMMM can highly recommend this new application. A section of the museum dedicates to maritime heritage and culture.

Joško Božanić applied for affiliate membership. Mr. Božanić, is chairman of *Ars Halieutica*, a Croatian non profit cultural institution aimed at fostering the maritime cultural heritage of the Croatian Adriatic coast, - particularly tangible heritage: vessels and other artefacts, and intangible heritage: polytechnic knowledge, arts, skills, literature of shipbuilders, fishermen, seamen etc.

Moreover, two new applications for affiliate membership were presented, that of Serhan Aras, who works for the Ministry of National Defense – Naval Forces Command and is responsible for naval and maritime museums relations. She is a naval construction engineer, has an MBA on Museology and Museum Education, and can read/write in Ottoman language. On the other hand, Oğuz Aydemir is an industrialist, graduate of Istanbul University Economics Faculty, post-graduate degree from Amsterdam University; President of TINA Turkish Foundation for Underwater Archaeology, Director at INA Institute of Nautical Archaeology at Texas A&M University, Honorary Advisor to the Ministry of Culture and a curator to the Cesme Museum on 1770 Cesme War.

All new members were accepted in the Association. What concerns procedures, the two affiliate members of Turkey will send the Secretary the corresponding inscription form and recommendation letter for the files of the Association.

2.2 Museum of Hydra

What concerns the enlargement of the Association's membership Pietro Maniscalco comments that Museum of Hydria is a State museum characterised for being very administrative. Conversations are on process, but gradually.

2.3 Update on the number of AMMM members

As of 8 June 2011, date in which these minutes are written, the total number of members is of 45, 17 affiliate members and 28 full members.

2.3.1 Membership duties

The Secretary informs that, as formerly agreed, in February a letter was sent to all members reminding them on their duty to pay the AMMM fees and informing that in case of not fulfilling their duties during this year 2011, they would cease to be members. The EC decides to wait until the end of the year and asks the Secretary to send in July a second personalised reminder. In the beginning of 2012 the Secretary will prepare a list of the members that did not react to the letter. This will be analysed and decided upon, particularly in some cases such



as funding members that are no longer active in the AMMM. The EC will personally contact them. Following this procedure, the EC will submit the list to the GA members for vote.

2.4 Statutes

The EC proposes to update the statutes as they have never been revised. Society changes, legislation changes, and adaptations might be needed. As examples of possible amendments, there is the change of the EC membership: a new figure of Vice president; the need for analysing the definition of affiliate and full member, etc. With regards to the doubts arisen on the way in which statute amendments must be submitted, once checked with the regional government, it is plausible and it does not imply big changes.

The EC members agree to individually work on the statutes and send comments on this first reading to the Secretary. A working group will deal with this issue during the Workshop Day at Palermo, next autumn. Please note that the official statutes are in Spanish, so all other versions (Italian, English, French, Catalan) are non-official.

3 Financial administration: Settlement of accounts

The settlement of accounts of the Association covering the period 4 October 2010 – 16 May 2011 is of 2.946,23 €, as specified in the Financial Year sheet given to all members and filed in the AMMM archives. Members present approve the accounts.

4 AMMM Workshop Day

4.1 Workshop Day Protocol

The President and Secretary finished the protocol document and presents it to the EC. During the EC meeting the document is shaped in regards to the content structure of the WD with the purpose of creating a model to follow. Conclusions will be included in the protocol document and sent to GA members.

4.2 Workshop Day 2012

Reminder: During the GA of Palamós it was agreed that the Workshop Day to be held in 2012 would be organised by L'Escala, Spain.

4.3 AMMM Workshop Day 2011 – Palermo, Sicily

As agreed last year, this event will take place in Palermo. Pietro Maniscalco proposes to centre the gathering in Cataloguing ships of the Mediterranean. He states that in Italy they urge to develop this theme and that it would be interesting to deal with the methodology needed to cataloguing ships. As final lecture of this gathering, he suggests a presentation of a published book: "Inventory of Mediterranean boats of Sicily". It is decided that a Working group will focus on this issue and will start working right away on this, in order to prepare further discussion during the Palermo Workshop Day. The coordinator of this WG is Davide Gnola. Pietro Maniscalco and Samuel Villevieille or Miquel Martí will also form the group.

It is also agreed that members can search for local experts who can contribute in an altruistic way to the work developed within the WG.

On the other hand a discussion starts on the need to find out the criteria necessary so that a vessel becomes declared maritime heritage.

The structure of the WD at Palermo is summarised as follows:



- Simultaneous Working Groups on the themes selected
- Exchange of information at the end – reporting and future actions
- Public lecture (end of the day)

4.3.1 Calendar

The date in which the Workshop Day will take place is Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th of October 2011.

4.4 Working Groups conclusions

The present minutes are written respecting the order of discussion. However, dialogue on Working Groups themes arose all through the meeting (newly created and existing ones), so I intend to skip order for a moment and list here the WGs themes that will form part of the Workshop Day event.

WGs will plan and work on concrete themes from today and up to the date of the Workshop Day at Palermo, where further discussion and work will be carried out. Please see Task Table for WG participants. The list of WG themes is:

- a) WG Methodology for Cataloguing
- b) WG Intangible Maritime Heritage
 - b.1) WG Tales of the Mediterranean Exhibition
- c) WG Website
- d) WG Statutes

Working procedures should be as follows:

- o WG are formed by a coordinator and a team work. They will prepare the material needed to develop the project.
- o Coordinators will lead the process of the work to be developed by the WG: to prepare material and indications to follow, to interact with the team, calendar, bring together conclusions of progress, to prepare the agenda of the WG tasks to carry out during the Workshop Day, etc.
- o The team work will follow the coordinators suggestions and will report to him on the evolution of their tasks.
- o The coordinator will copy the Secretary and the President on the progress of their work.
- o Important: WGs will work on the progress of their projects. The rest of the members not included in a WG will be invited to participate with their expertise during the Workshop Day or later in date, according to the progress of the project. Therefore, it is important that previous to the date of the WD, coordinators disseminate their progress and working demands to the Secretary (1 month earlier), who will then inform all members.

6 Temporary exhibition proposal Tales of the Mediterranean project

Elvira Mata presented her proposal based on a selection of tales from different Mediterranean countries. She comments that there was little participation from the working group. Her power point proposal includes information on:



Tales

They should be short; homogeneous one with another; decision on modern or traditional tales; without copyright; original language and translations.

Illustrations

The proposal suggests to have a single illustrator for all tales (eg. Delphine Labedan <http://delphinelabedan.blogspot.com/> or another illustrator).

It is suggested that we use a different illustrator for each tale (according to countries).

Comments:

- a “country/local” illustrator can better attract public (same culture)
- if each tale has its own illustrations, homogeneity is endangered
- it is already difficult to work on a common project from distance. To agree on illustrations to 5/7 tales is not easy.
- To commission one illustrator the whole project is less expensive than to 5/7 separate illustrators.

Exhibition museography

- Common exhibition: panels (same design, same image) with the same tales and 4/5 illustrations for each tale.
- Scenography (setting) for one chosen tale (not common)
- Each museum produces his/her material
- Suggestion to launch at Christmas 2012

Budget (based on the Museu de la Mediterrània – Torroella costs)

- 4/5 illustrations x 7 tales cost around 6200€
- The exhibition proposal costs around 1200€

Museums would share the costs of the common design (panels) and illustrations.

Activities related to the exhibit

- Puppets; tale reading; theatre; virtual software

Dissemination

Webs, social networks; etc.

Davide Gnola suggested during the EC meeting that the exhibition should not be the first aim. He says that we should do research on tales, compile as much material as possible and then choose a tale per country to illustrate the exhibition and disseminate this heritage. In the long term, the results of this research would serve other actions/activities, be it collectively or individually.

On the other hand Elvira Mata comments that different Mediterranean countries share a common tale, adapted to their culture (eg. *Cola pesce*). Pier Giovanni d’Ayala says that he has worked in this subject and will do further research on common tales.

The Working Groups *Tales of the Mediterranean* and *Intangible Maritime Heritage* are closely related. Following the above mentioned comments of members, it is decided that both can interact and interrelate together to attain the best of results.

It is agreed that Elvira Mata will continue with her task and will write a project proposal with all its pillars including the proposition for all the questions above mentioned. The proposal will be further worked within the team from now to the Palermo date, where the working group will elaborate the project further.



7. Website project

The President expresses her gratitude for the work developed by ETT Solutions and is very thankful to Maria Paola for having helped the AMMM in creating a website, a project which has been delayed for many years.

In the beginning of this year the Genovese computer company created the website. It was ready online for the Forum date, thanks to the dedication of ETT Solutions, Anna Dentoni, Alfons Garrido and the Secretary.

Opinions met when commenting that once visualising it, it was too static (in line with an institutional web) and there was no room for dynamism, hence visibility of museums and/or AMMM's activities.

In addition, the working group is aware that the service ETT Solutions offered, ends once the web is created. To ask for future assistance is out of thought.

To comply with a website of today, a Control Management System (CMS) is needed:

- To include our activities (forum...), documents, photos; to amend –particularly when dealing with 4 languages–, new members, ceased members...
- To make it more dynamic: museums can individually add their news (double diffusion), to add meta-tags, to step by step applying changes according to changing times.

Steps to take:

- To create a free or open source CMS, managed by 1/2 AMMM administrators
- To transfer the web to the CMS

A Working Group will be created to analyse options and work on improvements from now on and during the WD at Palermo.

Moreover, the web hosting was enlarged and the process of linking the web to social networks was initiated (linked in, flickr, facebook in progress).

8. Intangible heritage proposal

Pier Giovanni d'Ayala (Insula) explains that he checked the 2003 UNESCO Convention related to intangible heritage and confirms that only two or three relate to maritime heritage. Pier Giovanni follows this issue closely as Insula is one of the assessing committees designated by UNESCO. His proposal is that AMMM members should make an effort to change this fact and that we should create a task force to select those maritime intangible elements that should be included in the Convention.

Members agree to this proposal and it is decided that Pier Giovanni coordinates this Working Group. This group will establish the criteria needed / methodology so that a list of intangible maritime heritage can be adopted by the Convention. To further work on this project, he suggests to look for funding.

The group decided to collaborate with Pier Giovanni is formed by: Anna Fuentes, Lurdes Boix, and Maria Lucia de Nicolò.

9. Marseille Port project

The *Fondation du patrimoine maritime et fluvial* asked the President to disseminate the **Concours International Mémoire des Ports de Méditerranée** project to the members of the AMMM. The Secretary will send it by email to all members.



10. Other

Elvira proposes to create another working group focused on salines, as many Mediterranean maritime museums deal with this heritage. Pesaro, one of the museums who have salines, does not at first second the proposal and other comments relate to the number of workshops created at present and the amount of work that this implies.

The meeting ends at 18.30h.

Barcelona, 15 June 2011

Lluisa Prieto
Secretary

Dragana Lucija Ratkovic
President

Annex 1: Table of Tasks and Working Groups (June 2011)