



ASSOCIACIÓ MUSEUS MARÍTIMS MEDITERRANI
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General Assembly Minutes

**Hotel Trias Conference Room, Palamós
4 October 2010**

Members present

Executive Committee: Dragana Lucija Ratkovic, President; Pietro Maniscalco, Vice President; Davide Gnola and Miquel Martí, Committee members; Lluïsa Prieto, Secretary/Treasurer.

Franca Acerenza; Lurdes Boix; Flavio Bonin; Antonio Espinosa; Cristina Espuga; Mariona Font; Anna Fuentes; Liam Gauci; Ali Isipek; Emmanuel Magro Conti; João Martins; Elvira Mata; Roger Marcet; Maura Silvagni; Michela Silvagni; Mercè Toldrà; Samuel Villeveille.

The meeting starts at 18.30h and the following points are discussed:

1. Executive Committee meeting: Going back to the objectives of the Association. A challenge for the future.

As agreed during the former General Assembly (GA), held at Rovigno, there is the purpose of going back to the objectives of the association; to make an effort to follow statutes; and to define clear aims and actions for the future. In addition there is a desire to involve more the members of the AMMM, to search for their complicity and proactive participation. As a starting action, this year the Executive Committee (EC) meeting was held before the GA. This is a space for common decision making of the EC members.

2. AMMM Secretary

2.1 New members

The Association has three new full members, as of year 2010:

- European Maritime Heritage
- Tea Mayhew, Maritime and History Museum of the Croatia Littoral Rijeka
- Lurdes Boix, Museu de l'Anxova i de la Sal

The number of members as of September 2010 is of 24 full members and 15 affiliate members.



2.2 Museums interested in becoming AMMM members

During the year, the following museums presented their requests to become full members of the Association. These were presented at the GA and members present gave their unanimous vote to these new members:

- Ali Isipek, Istanbul Naval Museum
- Anna Fuentes, Museu del Mar, Lloret de Mar. Catalan coast
- Antoni Roviras, Museu de la Mediterrània. Torroella de Montgrí. Catalan coast.

The Maritime Museum of Hydra is interested in becoming member. Pietro Maniscalco, who has the contact will make the follow up with the museum's director.

It is worth mentioning the value of cooperating across networks at different geographical levels. This year, three of the new AMMM members belong to the Catalan network of maritime museums, who in turn belong to a network of museums of the Costa Brava, a smaller territory within Catalonia.

2. Financial administration

Members' fee payments: The Secretary informs on the historical situation related to members not paying its member fee. The EC agrees that a letter will be sent to members in 2011, together with the fee letter, informing that in case of failure in payment of the AMMM fee, membership will be cancelled. Those who do not react to the letter will cease to be members.

Once more, information is given on the double bank commissions (two countries). The EC agrees that the payment fee letter will specify more clearly that members will cover the bank commissions of the payment. This way the associations' accounts will reflect a reduction in bank commissions.

The EC proposes to increase the fee of the Association as of 2011. The reason being is that the fee has never been increased since the AMMM constitution, back in 1999. If the AMMM has more income, it can help pay the travel and per diem of the AMMM Secretary whenever there are meetings. Roger Marcet says that the increase of income can be used to help occasionally members who organise an AMMM event. The Museu Marítim de Barcelona will cover the Secretary's costs for the travels.

The fees proposed and agreed unanimously by the members present are:

Full membership= 50 €

Associate membership= 30€

This new fee will be implemented as of January 2011.

3. AMMM Forum and Thematic Conference (new AMMM Workshop Day)

The Presidency and Secretary worked on a first draft of two protocols, one for the Thematic Conference and another for the Forum with the aim of defining clearly both events. Within the reflection of searching for members' complicity, the Forum and the Thematic conference protocols states the creation of a Programme



Committee (PC), -2 members chosen-, who will assist the organiser of the Forum, the President and the Secretary of AMMM. Rotation of members will be decided on a yearly basis. The tasks of the PC will be:

- To give support, orientate, and assess the organiser in matters related to content drafting, speakers invited proposals, and validation of the final version.

Two candidates are proposed for the Programme Committee of the Forum 2011: Pietro Maniscalco and Flavio Bonin. It is agreed that a working calendar for the preparation of the Forum should be submitted to members. Task: Secretary

3.1 Protocol for both events

The first draft of the two protocols presented to the EC determines which are the responsibilities of the organiser; what are the logistic minimums required to celebrate a satisfactory event; what is the fix calendar to follow, what is the role of the PC, etc. As soon as a validated draft is prepared, it will be sent to EC members for approval.

There was a discussion on whether the Thematic conference should be such or we should change it to a AMMM Workshop Day, giving the gathering more room for members to work on new projects and debate on internal subjects. The proposal was approved by unanimity.

3.2 Change of celebration date, starting as of 2011

There is a proposal to change the dates of the two annual events, the thematic conference and the forum. It is agreed that the new calendar, open to a two month period is as follows:

AMMM Forum= Between May and June

AMMM Workshop Day= Towards the end of September and beginning of October.

This change will no affect the presence and support of the Santa Eulàlia schooner (MMB) at the Forums, whenever mooring is possible.

3.3 Next Forum 2011: Pesaro

For year 2011, the Maritime Museum of Pesaro offers organise the Forum in the framework of the celebration of the International Summer School (ISS) held in the region. The idea is to celebrate it during the last week of May or the first of June. The last day of the ISS course there will be the Forum with experiences from the Mediterranean and the Atlantic. Students will have the chance to learn directly from museum professionals. The proposal is approved by the EC.

What concerns year 2012 there is a proposal of Turkey. Ali Isipek agrees to organise it. This will be an opportunity to see the new Museum of Istanbul, following the works that end in 2010. All members agree to this proposal.



4.4 AMMM Workshop Day 2011 (*former Thematic conference*)

The former Thematic conference has now become a gathering where members meet to work together on their projects, leaving room for exchange, debate and new ideas. The two future locations where the AMMM Workshop Day are agreed to take place are:

October 2011: Arsenale di Palermo, Sicily

This workshop is aimed at working together; working in network; and exchanging experiences and knowledge.

October 2012: Museu de l'Anxova i de la Sal, l'Escala, Spain

The workshop will focus on gastronomy and other heritage (music, dance, vocabulary...).

4. Training for museum staff

There is a proposal to foster training within museums staff by means of good practice:

- A. The participation of curators, technicians at forums, workshops of the AMMM (to delegate on staff of the museum).
- B. To organise the exchange of technicians between two museums in order to collaborate in concrete projects, actions, activities, etc., and promote long life training. Previous steps that could be taken are:
 1. To analyse projects that are developed by museums (3 year term).
Methodology: a fill in the blank form could be used to have information on all museums (staff profile, activities developed, calendar....).
 2. Two museums with matching interests could plan a working scheme where they collaborate online on the tasks to be developed. The best would be to have a real exchange when the project is due.
All museums have loads of work to do on a daily basis, so this proposal does not intend to add work to staff. On the contrary it intends to improve staff skills by fostering know-how and exchange of experiences, working on a common project and always making the most of it (both professionals, not only one).

5. Temporary exhibition proposal *Stories of the Mediterranean*

There is a proposal to work on a common project all together. The idea is the temporary exhibition "Stories of the Mediterranean", created by the Museu de la Mediterrania de Torroella de Montgrí. The product is based on 6 stories with illustrations.

The product for the AMMM could be a temporary exhibition, where members work on the content (selection, summary of stories, translation). Stories or tales would be on the maritime subject. It could address children or youngsters.



As there is no budget to fund it, each member could use the material to produce his/her own exhibition. A budget is not prepared yet but the AMMM could maybe pay the illustrator. She is a quite accessible person and fees are not very high.

Other disciplines are involved –arts, language, writing- / it could focus on young people, rare visitors among maritime.... Other options: a publication of the AMMM.

Members present liked the proposal, so further information will be sent. The working group created for this project is: Lurdes Boix, Antoni Roviras, Elvira Mata, Davide Gnola.

6. Website

- Members are informed that the website texts were sent in July. However we do not know what is the progress of the work. Pierangelo Campodonico could not attend the forum. We await for his updating.
- Although the Secretary has some photos of the museums, these were not sent. It is better that Museums choose their photographic material. Members are requested to send photos + captions to illustrate the web of the AMMM.
- Since summer, the AMMM has a web dominion. The cost is of 32.10€, renewable annually. The name is: ammm-info.net

A new working group is created to make the follow up of the website: Alfons Garrido, Palamós and Maura Silvagni, Pesaro.

7. Other

- Liguria –Carta del mare: There is a proposal for museums of the association to adopt the initiative of Genoa. It's an individual museum action (local), but eventually it can become an added value for AMMM. If a number of museums develop good practice experiences in sensitising citizens and social actors (private and public entities) on the preservation of maritime heritage, we all make more force. It can also be a good tool for dissemination.
- The 20th of May: European Maritime Day is recalled. Last year the Secretary sent information on our museums activities related to the maritime subject. Museums are asked to think in this date when programming next year's activities.
- There is a proposal to make a joint declaration written by maritime museums to valorise maritime heritage at European level. The volunteers to work on the subject are: Flavio Bonin, Dragana Ratkovic, Elvira Mata, Miquel Martí, Ali Isipek.
- The initiative European Maritime Atlas is in progress. Our museums could be interested in participating in the project. EMH, member of the AMMM appears to be involved in it. Joao Martins will analyse the involvement and project.
- Pietro Maniscalco informs that next May 2011 there will be the launching of a new Museo della Pesca at Mazara del Vallo.



- It was mentioned that Seixal hosted the 7th Congress of European Maritime Heritage from the 23rd to the 25th September 2010. The event entitled “Are we able to hand over maritime heritage to future generations?” counted with the participation, among other speakers, of Georges Prud’homme, Olga López and Dragana Ratkovic. <http://www.european-maritime-heritage.org/>

Requests:

- Seixal requests to have a mailing list of all members of the AMMM. Task: Secretary.
- Proposal that members communicate via Skype (free chat and video call). The software can be downloaded online and is not too heavy. Dragana, Mussari and Lluïsa are already in skype and it is very useful. Here are our the skype contact names:
Dragana= Dragana Lucija Ratkovic
Antonio Mussari= museodelmare
Lluïsa= mmbxxx
- Ali Isipek proposes to publish a book in collaboration with museums on naval architecture of the Mediterranean. He is informed that the researcher Joseph Muscat has worked on this theme, although related to the area of Malta. Ali Isipek will send a proposal. This could be one of the initiatives that can be developed during next AMMM Workshop Day.

The meeting ends at 21.00h.

Lluisa Prieto
Secretary

Dragana Lucija Ratkovic
President