

STAA COMMITTEE MEETING 95

MINUTES

Monday 23rd January 2023

17.30-19.00 Zoom

Chair: Ali Moir

Minutes: David Harford

Attending:

Ali Moir (AM), Lisa Paul (LP), Vicki McLellan (VMcL), Ellie Douglas (ED), David Harford (DH)

Apologies:

Deborah McGill (DmCG), Lilian Kelly (LK), Dawn McFarlane (DmCF), Stuart Gow (SG)

1. **Approval of Previous Meeting**

Minutes of meeting 94 proposed by AM and seconded by LP

2. **Resignations and appointment of Committee members/directors**

SG has resigned as both Committee member+director. AM proposed LP as Chair and Director; seconded by DH. LP duly appointed and AM will notify Companies House accordingly.

3. **Committee roles**

AM remains as Treasurer. DmCG continues to be Secretary. Membership Secretary - ED to approach DmCF to confirm interest. VMcL appointed as Committee member.

4. **Systems**

Committee agreed that a second person should be appointed to provide contingency cover for DH. Various questions were raised by DH with a view to updating the website swiftly. DH to implement these changes ASAP, consulting with the Committee as required.

Committee supported enhancing the STAA website with a dark theme and suitable font (improving accessibility) and a possible FAQ page. STAA policies detailed on website to be updated by the Committee shortly.

5. **EATA – communication with STAA members, attendance at meeting**

Committee undertook to notify our membership of the STAA's involvement in the recent open letter to EATA and forthcoming online meeting. It was noted that the Committee would have preferred to consult our membership in advance, but the pace of events precluded this option. AM to email membership once final letter text received. LP to attend the EATA online meeting representing STAA.

6. **Spring Event – Eventbrite tickets/Zoom/Presenter communication/Mailchimp**

Presenter xxxx has supplied a blurb and may send an image file for STAA website and event publicity.

DH to update the STAA website, draw up an Eventbrite product (incl. Zoom link – NB past

delegates report better running online when using the Zoom link in Eventbrite) and set up matching Mailchimp shot.

ED to update the STAA Facebook page with all relevant details

7. **Summer Event**

Committee decided on Chapter House, St Ninian's Cathedral (Perth) as the Summer Event venue with xxxx already arranged as the paid guest presenter.

8. **2023 Conference**

Committee have booked the Apex Hotel Grassmarket, Edinburgh as the venue and the deposit has been paid. Some consideration of covid-related ventilation will be explored.

Committee discussed possible themes around rebuilding connections and belonging (LP - "The Subtle Art Of Conversation"?) with decision to be made in February meeting.

Idea mooted of possible plenary speech or workshop enquiring what the STAA community want from the organisation.

Committee to provide a slide for the Cumbrian TA Conference based on STAA website and publicity material. LP/DH will publicise the Conference while attending the Cumbrian TA Conference.

9. **Physis – meeting re: corporate membership/conference rates**

AM and ED will meet with Physis in March to clarify relationship between the STAA and Physis, renegotiate the terms of Physis' corporate membership and agree trainee discounts on the STAA Conference fee.

Committee felt it was important going forward that trainees were included and consulted in open communication between all parties on these matters.

10. **Treasurers Report**

AM presented a current snapshot of the STAA accounts. The present small loss will become a healthy profit once membership receipts are included following ED's input. There is a healthy balance in the bank account and no other significant issues to report.

11. **Membership**

ED reported there are 107 STAA members (58 Physis students/49 paid members) and that membership payments/EATA contributions will be finalised in the coming weeks by AM+ED.

Committee supported the idea of recruiting members from people who are not pursuing CTA qualification and, therefore, not required to maintain UKATA membership. This, with the aim of the STAA becoming a national TA organisation for those members.

12. **Date of Committee Meeting 96**

AM to circulate a Doodle Poll for a potential mid-February meeting, which LP will chair with AM's support as necessary.

13. **AOB**

None.