
MEETING MINUTES

Pacific Rim Real Estate Society Inc. (PRRES) Board of Directors Meeting

Date: 21st January 2018
Time: 3.07pm
Held at: Owen G. Glenn Building, University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand

Present:

Peddy Pi Ying Lai (President), Clive Warren (President-elect); Chyi Lin Lee (Executive Director), Christopher Heywood (Secretary), Yasmin Mohd Adnan, Bill Dimovski, Zhi Dong, Janet Ge, Neville Hurst, Braam Lowies, Brent Nahkies, Connie Susilawati, Ken Rayner, Muhammad Najib Razali Wejendra Reddy,

The meeting was chaired by PRRES President Peddy Pi Ying Lai

Item 1 – Apologies

Apologies were received from,

Douw Boshoff, David Parker, Jerry Liang, Michael Mak, Ming Long Lee, Hera Antoniadis (Past-President and Treasurer), Garrick Small

Item 2 –Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The following amendments are to be made to the previous minutes

Apologies – Correct the spelling of Janet Ge's surname

With that amendment the minutes of the meetings 15th and 16th January 2017 were deemed to be an accurate record of those meetings.

Moved: Clive Warren

Seconded: Yasmin Mohd Adnan

Carried.

Item 3 – Board Elections for Upcoming Year (Executive Director)

Item 3 (1) Nominations

3 nominations have been received for 2 Australian positions and an election may need to be held. It is desirable that the Board reap the benefit of 3 interested members. Clive Warren will discuss the possibility of one of the candidates being coopted onto the board instead of standing for election.

Action: Clive Warren

1 nomination has been received for the NZ position and so an election will not be required.

1 nomination has been received for the Non-regional position so an election will not be required.

Chyi Lin Lee has ballot papers prepared should it be necessary. Following discussion in past years, the order on the ballot paper has been determined alphabetically and as chance has it first names or surnames makes no difference to the order.

Item 4 – Matters Arising From Minutes of Previous Meeting

Item 4(1) Conference subcommittee report

Minutes of 2 meetings held since the last Board meetings were circulated to members for their information.

Key points to take from those minutes:

A more compact (2 day) format was examined and it was possible to organise a 2 day conference for about 70 papers (similar to 2017's numbers) however it was thought that this would not necessarily meet the needs of participant's seeking a slightly longer conference.

The survey at the last conference did not suggest any real appetite for change to the format.

The fit of the PhD Colloquium was examined. It has been decided by the Melbourne organisers to fold the PhD into the main conference as a separate and distinct theme. Exact details are to be resolved with the PhD colloquium's organisers but the general thrust and intention of the colloquium is to be maintained.

The possibility of using poster sessions was discussed later in the meeting as a way of developing the early PhD candidates.

The demarcation of different sessions should be clearer. It was noted that Auckland appeared to have done a very good job in that aspect of organisation.

Stronger connection with API via Professional Development Points. Neville Hurst has discussed this with the API and they are keen to build the relationship.

Overall, the conclusion was to refine what we have rather than reinvention.

Item 5 – Portfolio Reports

Item 5 (1) President's report

President Peddy thanked all Board members that have helped her in her role. She had prepared certificates of appreciation which were distributed to those present. Arrangements will be made to get the certificates to those that were apologies.

Thanks to Deborah Levy, Jeremy Gabe and Zhi Dong for their efforts in organising the 2018 conference. There are 113 attendees this year from 17 countries which is as many for quite some time. There seems to be more Europeans this year. It was noted that Peddy promoted the PRRES Conference at ERES and other sister conferences last year which may have boosted numbers this year. This level of attendance was encouraging for future years.

The 2020 conference needs to be discussed further

Chyi Lin Lee has been selected as the President-elect for the next 2 years to be President from 2020 – 2022. Neville Hurst is to be appointed as the Executive Director following Chyi Lin taking up this role.

Peddy has worked at making PRRES a warm and welcoming society during her term as President. Membership was noted to have increased this year.

Action:

Chyi Lin Lee has been selected as the President-elect for the next 2 years to be President from 2020 – 2022. Neville Hurst is to be appointed as the Executive Director following Chyi Lin taking up this role.

Item 5 (2) Executive Director

Executive Director's report was circulated (copy attached). Key points included:

- An increase in sponsorship this year attributable to efforts by President Peddy Lai (for PRRES), Deborah Levy (for the conference) and Hera Antoniadis (for PRRES).
- Future Working sub-committee has met (report above).
- The draft Strategic Plan was circulated. This is to be discussed on Monday.
- Databases sub-committee in response to last year's AGM investigated the possibility of PRRES subscribing to databases on behalf of PRRES members. Costs to do this look high. Approx. \$25,000 in at least one instance and it is unclear which databases might be most useful.

Action:

Report databases results back to the AGM.

Item 5 (3) Treasurer

The Treasurer is an apology. The report is to be carried over until Monday's meeting.

Action:

Report at Monday's meeting

Item 5 (4) Public Officer

The Public Officer is an apology. The report is to be carried over until Monday's meeting.

Action:

Report at Monday's meeting

Item 5 (5) Director Membership

Up until approximately July there were 70 members.

Since July, 26 members have joined – mostly students. Among the 26 were previous, longstanding members, whose membership was non-current, rejoining to access the conference Early Bird registration.

A question for consideration is how to encourage our work colleagues to join who are not members?

Item 5 (6) Director Awards

All awards have been finalised except for the PhD presenter award. Braam will liaise with Michael Mak on Monday to finalise this.

Hera Antoniades has the PRPRJ award to finalise preparation of the certificate.

We need to liaise with Deborah Levy for the running order for the conference dinner to know when the award presentations are occurring.

It was raised that perhaps the Early Career Researcher title or criterion for award needs review and possible revision to more clearly capture recent awarding practice.

The PhD Presenter award would also benefit from development of a rubric to assist in evaluating presenters. A sub-committee (Braam, Connie and Janet) is to be formed to develop such a rubric.

Action:

Sub-committee to be formed.

Item 5 (7) Webmaster

Soft copy of the report has been circulated (copy attached).

Key highlights include:

- Approximately 250,000 visits to the site.
- Among the highest download has been the conference paper template.

We need to find a way of maintaining the site in future because it needs PC-based software and the current Webmaster will be going exclusively Mac-based from early February. Options include appointing a new Webmaster or purchasing a low cost PC for this purpose.

Action:

Clive Warren to explore options.

Item 5 (8) Historian

No report was received because the Historian was an apology to the meeting.

Item 5 (9) PRPRJ Editor

The Editor was an apology but forwarded a report to the Executive Director for tabling (copy attached).

Notable features include:

- A significant drop in submissions this year (approx. 2/3 of 2016's rate)
- A significant drop in the acceptance rate.

The 3 issues were also achieved in 2017 and an active follow up of papers from 2017 Conference occurred.

Item 5 (10) Newsletter editor

The Newsletter editor has experienced challenges in extracting information from contacts at the various universities. The delays experienced in issuing the newsletter are attributable to late receipt of this information.

A question was raised as to whether there were more effective ways to communicate with members – Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn. Given the (in)frequency of issue news

A question was raised as to whether we could include other information into the Newsletter such as summaries of industry reports that might be of interest to members.

Action:

Brainstorming session to be held at Monday's meeting.

Item 6 – Conference Reports

Item 6(1) Program Chair

Program Chair is currently at the PhD Colloquium at Waiheke Island, Carry over this report to Monday's meeting.

Item 6 (2) Refereed papers co-ordinator report

30 papers were received for refereeing. 24 were accepted as refereed papers. 6 were rejected as refereed papers.

Zhi has had discussions about a Conference special issue in *PRPRJ*. There are some issues with finding a common thread that may impede this.

Item 6 (3) Estate Master report

9 nominations were received. 3 of these have proceeded to competition.

Part of the difference can be attributed to when in the year relative to when property development was taught in many places. Students were reluctant to re-engage after completion of teaching. To address this, the competition is looking to engage earlier in the year – perhaps starting in Semester 1 to better align with teaching and for entries to close before Christmas.

Brent Nahkies is still in discussions with Tim from Estate Master about general arrangements which are new this year. Also, the matter of Estate Master's continuity after their acquisition by Altus Group is to be discussed with them.

Item 7 Other business

Item 7 (1) PRRS Awards and Post-Graduate scholarships

Braam Lowies raised, further to the Award Director's report above, whether it was useful to review all existing awards to see if they were still meeting the needs of the Society.

Such a review could include:

- The award itself;
- Criteria for award; and
- Rubrics for selection of awardees.

An example of an award that has had challenges in recent years is the Corporate Achievement Award. We have, essentially, exhausted the pool of corporates as awardees who are active engaged with PRRS on an ongoing basis that may render them eligible for an award.

A sub-committee to be formed to review this. The sub-committee mentioned above (Item 5(6)) is to be expanded with Clive Warren.

Action:

Sub-committee of Braam Lowies, Connie Susilawati, Janet Ge, and Clive Warren to be formed to discuss the awards.

Item 7 (2) PRRES Life Fellowship and retired membership

Deleted from the agenda as not relevant any more.

Item 7 (3) NSW Regulatory Compliance

Because Hera Antoniadis is an apology this is to be carried over to Monday's meeting.

Item 7 (4) Database subscription

See Executive Director's report (Item 5 (2) above)

Item 7 (5) Any other business

Ken Raynor has received a letter from an experienced professional practitioner Don Gilbert regarding a lack of recognition of his work in retail lease valuation.

Ken is to reply thanking him for the correspondence and encouraging Don to submit his work to reputable journals for review.

Action:

Ken Raynor to respond.

Clive Warren raised the issue of possible perceptions of attributions of gender bias to PRRES with the conduct of a women's meeting. Promulgation of an exclusively single gender event may reflect poorly on the Society. It is understood that men are also welcome. Clive is to discuss the issue with Deborah Levy and ask her to announce a general invitation rather than an exclusive single gender one.

Action:

Clive Warren

The meeting closed at 5.05.pm