



Minutes of the 18th Annual General Meeting of the International Association held at 1200 noon on Wednesday 22nd August 2012 in the Berkely Room - Park Plaza Hotel and Towers, Arlington Street, Boston, MA 3912, USA.

1. Apologies for absence, and notification of postal votes.

In attendance: Claire Martin, Natasha Ramsahai, Andrew Peer, Charles Ray, Judith Soh, John Sauder, Matt Zafino, Robert Beeke, Jay Trobec.

Apologies from: Alan Sealls, John Morales, Jim Jagers, Paul Gross.

2. Minutes of the 17th Annual General meeting (attached)

Agreed as a true record. Proposed by Claire Martin and seconded by Jay Trobec.

3. Any matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

4. To receive a report from the Chair.

AUGUST 22ND, 2012

Dear Colleagues,

This year the Chairman, Inge Niedek and I are attempting to share some of the IABM workload by instigating a co-sharing type "Chair" role. As such, we have co-written the following as a joint Chairman's report.

Over the past couple of years it has become apparent that the raison d'être of the IABM is gradually morphing from one of helping to guide National Meteorological Services with weather dissemination, to an organization where our members themselves are requesting guidance in the form of workshops and training sessions. Originally the idea of an international organization to represent the views of those involved in the international industry of broadcast meteorology was first suggested at the International Weatherman's Festival held in the Paris district of Issy-Les-Moulineaux in 1993. Since then we have actively and successfully lobbied groups such as EUMETSAT to deliver satellite imagery for free, we have participated in expert teams and broadcast-related task forces around the world, and we have even reached consultative status with the WMO, keeping the concerns of weather presenters and broadcast meteorologists always to the forefront of their discussions. We have a lot to be proud of.

But we are starting to lose our shine from within our own membership. Fee-paying folks are starting to fall away from our ranks, and if we continue to allow this to happen we will literally cease to exist.

We have to become more relevant to our member, more useful, more engaging. We would therefore like to go out on a limb here, and literally beg our members to stick with us, and furthermore tell us what you would like from us. We are your voice with the WMO – a powerful yet wasted position, if we don't take advantage of it.

Inge Niedek
Claire Martin

Adoption of the report was proposed by Natasha Ramsahai and seconded by John Sauder.

5. To receive a report from the Honorary Secretary, Bill Giles.

Our lack of funding and the problems of getting the members of the committee together for meetings, continues to challenge us. We were able to get a few of the committee members together during the FIM conference in Geneva in March. From this meeting we were able to develop a new mission statement to provide a fresh set of guiding principles for the committee:

To represent the worldwide broadcast meteorology community

To collaboratively work with WMO through our Observer Status, and with other appropriate organisations including SMF/FIM, AMS, EMS and NMHSs, to support and promote the profession of Broadcast Meteorology

To support and encourage members in the improved delivery of weather and climate services to the public, especially those from developing countries

To promote, encourage and organise conferences and other opportunities for members to network and engage in Continuing Professional Development

To actively encourage members to maintain the highest professional standards through promoting appropriate initiatives and mechanisms

To encourage members to contribute to disaster risk reduction through the provision of timely and accurate weather forecasts and warnings to the public

To actively support and develop regional sub-groups to enhance the focus on national and regional weather broadcast issues.

Despite many attempts there were no other opportunities to meet during the year. Although there is constant communication through email – it is face to face meetings that really produce results. Recently we have started to have monthly video conferences using Skype. This has proved to be very useful despite technical problems, and the plan is to continue using this method. We are grateful to other organisations such as AMS, EMS and FIM for allowing us to hold our AGMs during their annual event. Without this cooperation, we would find it impossible to even manage an annual meeting.

Our ambition of holding the 2nd World Conference on Broadcast Meteorology still remains beyond our grasp. The current poor world financial situation means that funding for this type of event has got even harder to find. But members can be assured that your committee has not lost its determination to pursue this aim with all vigour.

We produced two editions of UP FRONT in the last year and I am very grateful to all those who provided or suggested articles. The feedback from members continues to demonstrate that they are a valuable means of involving people in our mission to raise awareness of the profession. We plan to produce three editions in the 2012-13 season. The first will be published following this AGM. I am also grateful to John Teather for continuing as Editor.

Adoption of the report was proposed by Matt Zafino and seconded by Judith Soh.

6. To receive a report from Treasurer, Gerald Fleming.

Adoption of the report was proposed by Robert Beeke and seconded by Andrew Peer.

7. Election of Directors and Officers. The following persons have been nominated:

Chairman	<i>Inge Niedek</i>
Vice Chairman	<i>Claire Martin</i>
Secretary	<i>Bill Giles</i>
Treasurer	<i>Gerald Fleming</i>
Membership	<i>Tomas Molina</i>
Publications	<i>John Teather</i>
Ordinary Directors	<i>Paul Gross Panos Giannopoulos Dieter Walch</i>
African Representative	<i>Steve Nyarkotey Quao</i>
Asia Representative	<i>Yoshikazu Idesako</i>
South American Representative	<i>Mauricio N. Saldivar v</i>
Australasia Representative	<i>Daniel Corbet</i>

The election of the directors and representatives was proposed by Claire Martin and seconded by Jay Trobec.

8. Resolutions.

There were no previously notified resolutions.

9. Any other business.

None.