



Minutes of the 17th Annual General Meeting of the International Association held at 1900 on Thursday 15th September 2011 in the Stanford Room at the Seminaris Campus Hotel Berlin, Science & Conference Centre, Takustraße 39, 14195 Berlin, Germany.

1. In Attendance

Inge Niedek, Bill Giles, Gerald Fleming, Panos Giannopoulos, Claire Martin, John Teather

2. Apologies for absence and notification of postal votes.

Apologies were received from Daniel Corbett, Tomas Molina, Mauricio Saldivar, Paul Gross

3. Minutes of the 16th Annual General meeting (attached)

Agreed as a true record. Proposed by Claire Martin and seconded by Bill Giles

4. Any matters arising.

There were no matters arising

5. Report from the retiring Chairman, Claire Martin.

Well, we have managed to survive yet another year! As I write these notes we are heading towards the end of another year, which gives me some time to reflect on our past as well as to look forward to the future.

We remain active on many fronts and for a society with a relatively small membership I believe our accomplishments are, at times, more reflective of a much larger organization. I feel we aim high although this does, quite often, impose quite a strain on those who are active at the core of our association.

One of our core concerns has been with the frequency of our membership publication "Up Front". Since our last meeting there are now 3 more on line – two from 2009 and one from 2010 – and we will have our Fall 2011 issue out shortly. We have maintained at least one publication a year – a far cry from our initial hope of a quarterly magazine – but well within our budget constraints, and the quality of the material we publish is superb.

We have received some feedback in regards to the somewhat contentious climate change content that has been put in some of the more recent publications. As a result we have returned to our "roots" and our latest "Up Front" focuses almost solely on the theme of daily TV weathercasts and broadcast meteorology.

Turning to other matters, I must take this chance to once again thank our secretary John Teather for his tireless commitment to the IABM, and "Up Front". I believe it would not be an exaggeration to say

that we would simply not have a membership magazine without him. It is professional, packed with content, slick looking and a wonderful reflection of who and what we are. Once again I encourage all our members to help John out by sending him material whenever possible for publication.

Looking at wider issues – I am thrilled with the expansion of the IABM with the inclusion of the LAABM (our Latin American organization), as well as the ongoing work of our African and Asian groups.

Finally let me touch on two matters that we have addressed in the past but I will make no apology for revisiting – membership numbers and our desire to hold the 2nd World Weather Conference. Despite the inclusion of our umbrella groups, our membership numbers remain stubbornly small. I believe it is up to us all to make sure that the IABM is relevant to our members, worth the membership fee and hence desirable for new members. Also, we have struggled with financial concerns now for some years and as a result the ability to hold a 2nd conference has eluded us – we cannot let this goal die.

Let me finish by thanking the committee members who continue to work so tirelessly for the organization. All of us have very demanding jobs, and the time and effort voluntarily awarded to the IABM, literally, keeps our organization alive.

The IABM is a valuable asset to the meteorological broadcast community. Here's to continued growth in the upcoming year.

Adaption of the report was proposed by Inge Niedek and seconded by Panos Giannopoulos

6. Report from the retiring Honorary Secretary, John Teather.

Our lack of funding and the problems of getting the members of the committee together for meetings, continues to challenge us. The last meeting of the committee was at the last AGM last year. Despite many attempts there was no opportunity to meet during the year. Although there is constant communication through email – it is face to face meetings that really produce results. Claire Martin has worked tirelessly to try to get us together, but with her living and working in Canada the opportunity has not arisen. We are grateful to other organisations such as 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. Following this AGM, the new committee will be able to have several meetings, which are so very valuable.

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 three 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 2010-11 season. The first will be published following this AGM. Also I have expressed my willingness to continue as Editor.

Adaption of the report was proposed by Claire Martin and seconded by Bill Giles

7. Report from Treasurer, Gerald Fleming.

Adaption of the report was proposed by John Teather and seconded by Inge Niedek.

8. Election of Directors. The following persons were elected:

Chairman	Inge Niedek
Vice Chairman	Claire Martin
Secretary	Bill Giles
Treasurer	Gerald Fleming
Membership	Tomas Molina
Publications	John Teather
Ordinary Directors	Paul Gross Panos Giannopoulos Dieter Walch

The election of the nine directors was proposed by Claire Marin and seconded by Gerald Fleming

9. Election of Co-opted Officers. The following persons were formally elected by the members of the board at their subsequent meeting :

African Representative	Steve Nyarkotey Quao
Asia Representative	Yoshikazu Idesako
South American Representative	Mauricio N. Saldivar V
Australasia Representative	Daniel Corbett

8. Resolutions.

There were no previously notified resolutions.

9. Any other business.

There was a vote of thanks to Claire Martin for all her work as Chairman during the previous 3 years during a difficult time.