

Australian Regolith Geoscientists Association (ARGA)

Committee meeting

4.00 pm AEST Tuesday August 11th 2015

Phone conference

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

The meeting was opened at 4.10 pm AEST.

Apologies received from Nathan Reid, Jon Clarke, John Keeling, Carmen Krapf, and Martin Smith.

Present: Vanessa Wong, Ian Roach, Matilda Thomas, Steph McLennan, Margi Sweeney, and David Gray.

2. Adoption of minutes of previous meeting (May 5th 2015)

Amendment to the Minutes was to correct the subtitle from 'agenda' to 'minutes'. No other amendments were proposed.

Vanessa Wong moved that the minutes were accepted, David Gray seconded.

3. Matters arising from Minutes not dealt with elsewhere

The CRC LEME website now has a link to the current ARGA website, thanks to Nathan Reid for arranging this with CSIRO IT who host the archived CRC LEME website.

Action items to follow up are Steph McLennan to communicate with Ian Roach about additions to the Future of Regolith discussion document and send it to the committee for final approval before circulating to the membership, and contacting Graham Heinson at the University of Adelaide about the CRC LEME regolith science scholarship.

4. Correspondence

New member: Nerida Peljo (Geoscience Australia)

Ian Roach has approved new facebook group members.

5. Finances

Treasurer absent from meeting but emailed accounts to Secretary before meeting, as below:

ARGA Statement of Accounts 10 August 2015

Account Balance as at 10 August 2015

Westpac Community Solutions Cash Reserve	\$25,202.05
Westpac Deposit Bearing Interest	\$ 4,724.83
TOTAL	\$29,926.88

Bills Paid	Nil
Interest	\$93.96

John Keeling

Hon. Treasurer

ARGA

10 August 2015

6. Conference planning

Matilda Thomas reported on the progress of conference planning.

The deposit to Thredbo (conference venue) still needs to be paid (\$1000).

The timing of the Kosciuszko Craft Beer Festival seems to still be unconfirmed (either the weekend before or weekend after the conference) but could be a good draw-card for geologists. Matilda to confirm dates with Thredbo.

Flyers advertising conference have gone out.

First circular – ‘expressions of interest’ – no costs listed because they have not been confirmed yet but we need to get people thinking about the conference and abstracts.

Steph McLennan and Ian Roach to work on circular and send out to membership ASAP.

Once costs have been established we will send out registration forms, costs, and the Future of Regolith discussion document.

Sponsorship – Richard Blewett has indicated Geoscience Australia will provide a modest contribution.

David Gray to talk to Ryan Noble at CSIRO about sponsorship.

Geological Surveys could also be approached.

Individual invitations for the conference to be sent to all state geological surveys.

An interest group (Applied Alpine Ecology) would be a good group to include in the conference but they have been unresponsive to contact so far.

Australian Journal of Earth Sciences has been approached about a special issue (Vanessa Wong and Matilda Thomas to be editors). Papers would be submitted after the conference.

There was discussion about the abstract volume – it was decided to self-publish the abstract volume again because publishing in TAG via the Geological Society of Australia could involve a pay-wall.

7. Website

Publications from the Centre for Regolith Studies have been uploaded to the website.

Ian Roach happy to keep updating website. The wordpress option discussed at the last meeting could lead to spam and has a similar capability to our current facebook group.

8. 'Future of Regolith' discussion paper and UNCOVER

It was raised that the document needs to be re-visited in light of the release of the AMIRA Roadmap for Mineral Exploration Under Cover (UNCOVER).

Steph McLennan to circulate to committee by end of week.

Robbie Rowe, Tim Munday, and Rob Hough were raised as good contacts for making UNCOVER aware of the work of researchers in ARGA.

9. Other business

a. Update from GSSA (via Secretary)

Carmen Krampf sent an update of regolith-related activities at the Geological Survey of South Australia to the Secretary before the meeting, as below:

“Paul Morris (GSWA), Malcolm Sheard (GSSA) and I will offer a 1 day regolith mapping short course combined with viewing some world class regolith specimens as part of the AESC 2016. GSSA (Malcolm and I) have also put together a stand out SA regolith sample collection which we are planning to make available online as an atlas down the track.”

The prospect of including ARGA advertising material in the course material was raised, there would be a cost associated with this because the Australian Earth Science Convention is run by the Geological Society of Australia.

10. Close of meeting

The meeting was closed at 5 pm AEST.