IAPB Executive Committee

8/9 March 2016 – Conference Call

Time - 20:00-21:00 London time
Venue - Conference Call
Attending - Chair: Bob McMullan
Member(s): Victoria Sheffield; Serge Resnikoff; Kathy Spahn; Jennifer Gersbeck;
In attendance: Peter Ackland; Alessandro Di Capua
Apologies: Adrian Poffley; Neil Murray; Joanna Conlon

Minutes

1. Minutes of last meeting & matters arising
The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Matters arising:
- P. Ackland listed the policies that were being developed for approval at the Board meeting in Bahrain –
  - Diversity: a legal review to ascertain compliance with all relevant regulations was being carried out by D. Goffi, IAPB HR Consultant. K. Spahn offered to share HKI’s policy on diversity.
  - Social media: this had been drafted by J. Conlon, based on Vision 2020 Australia’s example provided by J. Gersbeck, and currently being reviewed by D. Goffi.
  - Travel risk and security: this was being drafted by E. Tinsley.
  - Money laundering and terrorism: this was being developed as an addendum to the existing bribery and corruption policy.

He noted that the next priorities in terms of policies would be around data protection and information and communication technology.
P. Ackland also provided an update on discussions around make-up of the Audit Committee after terms will come to an end at 10GA; he noted that both P. Albano and C. Harper had expressed their willingness to serve another term, and that B. Doolan was also willing to cover an interim role in order to ensure a level of continuity.

He also noted that there had been conversations with three possible candidates for the position of Treasurer – more on this would be discussed under agenda item 2.1.

2. 2016 Elections

2.1. Officers

B. McMullan confirmed his desire to stand for re-election as President of IAPB, having assessed that the relocation from London to Canberra would not be an obstacle in carrying out his duties. The Committee welcomed the announcement.

The timeline for the nominations (2 May – 12 June) and election (by 10 July) for the posts of President and Vice President was approved.

The process for the appointment of Treasurer was then discussed, as the proposal being tabled was for this to be closer to a selected post approved by the Board and endorsed at the AGM, rather than a fully open nomination / election process, given the specific profile required for the role. The Committee agreed that the process was within the spirit of IAPB’s governing rules introduced in 2014, while at the same time enabling the sourcing of the right candidate for a role that A. Poffley had covered so well for the last decade.

2.2. Regional Chairs

The timeline for the nominations (10 March – 10 April) and election (by 1 May) of the Regional Chairs was approved.

2.3. Elected Trustees

The timeline for the nominations (11 July – 4 September) and election (by 2 October) of the Trustees elected from Group B and C members was approved.
The role descriptions for the positions of Officers and Regional Chairs were also reviewed and a number of suggestions were made to ensure more clarity and consistency across the roles. ACTION: A. Di Capua to update roles based on discussion.

3. **Board meeting schedule & agenda**
   
The Bahrain Board meeting schedule and agenda were approved with the only addition of an item updating on eye health financing by B. McMullan.

4. **10GA awards**
   
P. Ackland presented the proposals for the 10GA awards which had been developed with the aim to ensure alignment between this coveted recognitions with IAPB strategic priorities. The proposal aimed to reduce the number of awards, to ensure broad involvement through a membership-wide open nomination and to maintain strategic oversight by charging the Executive Committee with the final decision.

   Discussion ensued, particularly around the point whether more awards than the proposed one per region should be allowed. In particular:
   
   - The risk of excluding many talented professionals from opportunity to gain an award was noted;
   - Other IAPB recognitions such as Eye Health Leaders and Eye Health Heroes were noted as alternative avenues to recognise high-achievers;
   - The need to avoid long and impractical sessions of awards handovers at GAs was also flagged up.

   Ultimately, it was proposed that the EC would be in the best position to assess whether, out of the various nominations received, any one region in particular would warrant the conferral of two awards based on the exceptional nature of the nominations, hence the proposal should include such minimum level of flexibility.

   With the provision above the proposal for the 10GA awards were approved.

5. **AOB**
   
As there wasn’t any other business the meeting was declared closed.