

**Ffederasiwn Amgueddfeydd ac Oriolau Celf Cymru**  
**The Federation of Museums and Art Galleries of Wales**  
Charity Registration No. 1102270

**Committee Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> August 2006**  
**The Old Library, Cardiff**

**11.00am - 1.30pm**

1. Apologies

Jane Henderson, Chris Delaney, Frank Olding, Gail Sutton, Dafydd Roberts

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed as a true record

3. Matters arising

- Membership is slightly down on last year. The majority of committee members have not joined as individual members as required nor have they signed up their services. In addition the National Trust properties have not rejoined and there are some Local Authorities still to renew their subscription. The National Museum has not renewed – **Chris D to approach them**. The National Library did not join this year or last year. There has been an increase in conservators joining following the Conservation in Wales Conference. **Chris M to look at introducing a direct debit procedure to avoid the renewal problem on an annual basis.**
- Various articles have been received by Andrew, he will update the website
- CyMAL Quantifying Diversity - Susan was on the interview panel to appoint a consultant to carry out this study. Carolyn Carter of CJC has been appointed. A questionnaire will go out end of September/early October.
- Andrew will speak to Ceri Black about GEM, Cymru and as agreed at the last meeting.

4. President's Report

- No report

5. Editors Report

The next issue will appear in the autumn. **Any ideas for the theme of the next issue should be sent to Rachael A.** Ideas so far for articles were: Accreditation – feedback from those who have already gone through the scheme. A report on the Conservation Matters Day. An update on the Wales Development Officer, The launch of the Institute of Conservation, The National Museums' vision. New staff at Brecon, Caerphilly and Merthyr Tydfil.

Web - The website is receiving a good amount of hits. There is however very little discussion on the site at the moment.

#### 6. Correspondence

- § Charity Commission Return – details to be checked and accounts to be submitted.
- § Carol Whittaker, CyMAL has asked if anyone was going the MGM planning seminar in London on 20th Sept. No one at the meeting had received invitations or in fact were able to go in the event of an invitation.
- § Heather Perry had contacted the Federation to request their support for the launch of the Institute of Conservation on 12<sup>th</sup> September at the National Museum. Committee members would try and go if possible and it was agreed that Heather had done a great deal of publicity for the event.

#### 7. Wales Development Officer

John Marjoram has been appointed as Wales Development Officer. The terms of his contract are being agreed. He will be meeting with Helen Wilkinson of the Museums Association in September. Between now and then a list of organisations/people /priorities to meet will be compiled. He will be invited to the next Federation committee meeting.

#### 8. Proud Heritage

Andrew attended a meeting at the CyMAL offices with Jack Gilbert of Proud Heritage and a representative from Stonewall Cymru. They have two aims, to set up a Museum relating to gay, lesbian and bisexual issues, probably in London and to increase the visibility of LGB subjects in other museums across the UK. A questionnaire has been sent out but there was no response from Wales. Andrew will send it out again electronically through the federation email discussion group. Andrew spoke to Jack Gilbert who was surprised that both race and sexuality were not recorded in the documentation of collections. The quantifying diversity project does look at recording religion although not sexuality. Andrew did say that this was not something that was considered appropriate to record in collections documentation. CyMAL are supporting the collection of information by Proud Heritage.

#### 9. Cultural Tourism

Susan attended this meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> July.

- § It is proposed that there will be a publication for all built heritage cultural tourism sites in Wales funded by the Welsh Assembly Government.
- § Sites in North and West Wales are being sought as Cultural Gateways (Sites already agreed are The Old Library, Cardiff in the South East and the National Library in Mid Wales). Sites will be required to put in some financial input.

- § 'Achieving our Potential 2006-2013' has been published by the WAG. This refers to all WAG activities relating to Tourism. Copies can be obtained from Julie Russell at julie.russell@wales.gsi.gov.uk
- § The next meeting will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> September.

10. Smaller Museums/Museum Diversity sub-group

- No report

Access and Education sub-group

- No report

Stewardship sub-group

- 78 delegates attended the 'Conservation in Wales' seminar at St Fagan's on 15<sup>th</sup> June. The papers are currently being translated and will be published shortly. In addition to the usual audience of conservators it was well attended by archivists and curators. The speakers were very enthusiastic about getting involved at the next event. Some conservators have joined the Federation (and the sub group) as a result of this event. There will be a smaller conference in the winter at Cynon Valley Museum which will continue some of the themes from the summer conference. It will be necessary to look at how the event is funded, CyMAL funding has been extremely useful but it would be helpful to know funding was available at an earlier stage in order to secure key note speakers.

11. Events + Training

Six documentation training sessions will be run between now and March as a result of funding received from CyMAL for documentation in Wales. **Scott to check availability of venues.**

- An advanced training session in MODES was suggested. Grant aid from CyMAL could be explored in the next funding round.
- Seven people attended the ethnographic training day.
- A seminar on contemporary collecting will be held in Cardiff on 11<sup>th</sup> October. So far 30 people have expressed an interest. Anna Smith is looking for some speakers to talk specifically about projects in Wales. **Scott to suggest that Anna** asks people what they are doing relating to collections within living memory (i.e. the last 50 years), rather than using the term contemporary collecting, which people associate with being very modern. **Scott will also talk to Jane Henderson about someone doing something on Conservation and Contemporary collecting.** The seminar is being offered for free and it was agreed that only tea and coffee would be provided and delegates get their own lunch.
- **Chris M suggested that subgroups be given a budget. Chris M to talk to John Marjoram. Chris Ma and Scott to plan programme from April 2007.**

- Sue Mace (Executive Officer for CILIP Cymru) approached Andrew about the possibility of the museum sector becoming involved with their annual conference on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> May 2007. They suggested that on the 17<sup>th</sup> the morning is given over to a subject appropriate to museums, archives and libraries and then in the afternoon there were concurrent sessions relating to each of the sectors, which could be attended by members of the other sectors. The idea was agreed in principle. **Andrew to ask Sue when ideas for speakers need to be with her by.** This can be discussed at the next meeting or via email depending on the deadline. All the organisation would be done by CILIP. This would be another area to discuss with John Marjoram.

#### 12. AOB

- Bursaries to attend MA conference are available from CyMAL.
- The final MAGDA conference will be held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2006 at the V&A. Mary Ellis, CyMAL is speaking. MLA London has funding to continue much of the work of MAGDA.
- **Federation AGM – Date and venue to be decided.**

#### 13. Date and venue of next meeting **3<sup>rd</sup> October, Abergavenny Museum**