

# **MINUTES OF THE VSA AGM 2015 09.12.2015**

*South African Standard Time used*

**Please have a look at our presentation for detailed information:**

<http://www.awarenet.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/VSA-AGM-2015.pdf>

and Kim's stats in prezi.

## **1. Welcome and excused (11:00 am)**

Chairperson Dr. Anna Wertlen welcomes all participants:

- Larissa Willy (VSA)
- McVay Boko (VSA)
- Terri-Lynn Penney (VSA)
- Richard Strickland (VSA + eKhaya ICT)
- Kim Niemann (VSA)

Excused were:

- Antje Hering
- Amanda McPhail
- Jan Baekelandt
- Ronald Wertlen.

Anna introduces the reasons for having this AGM and the formal laws underlying.

## **2. Reports**

### **2.1. VSA**

#### *2.1.1 Finance*

There is an increase in income through donations and membership fees.

#### *2.1.3 Team*

Lukas Scharnberg finished his year. His blog post is linked in the presentation.

Kim and Larissa are the new volunteers. Kim will leave VSA at the end of the year.

McVay is the new intern of the VSA.

#### *2.1.4 Events*

The VSA presented at SciFest for a last time and will not take part anymore in the future except as a visitor or part of an awarenet science project.

Instead, an international pilot project is anticipated for the first term in 2016.

Terri participated in the Southern African weltwärts Network Conference in Cape Town and discussed future plans and strategies with other SAGE Net. partners.

#### *2.1.5 awarenet stats*

Kim presents the new stats of the awarenet programme and platform used in 2015.

Good Shepherd SS, CM Velleem HPS and the Joza Youth Hub are using the cloud-version of awarenet, whereas other schools are using a local/mobile server for training.

### *2.1.6 Projects and events*

- Peace Poems (display of posters on Peace Day)
- Science Project (presentation at SciFest)
- Madiba Fashion Project (Fashion Show and #GivingTuesday)
- Health and Fitness Project (Health and Fitness Day on Youth Day)

### *2.1.7 Videos*

- Peace Song Music Video 2014 (awarenet video project in 2015)
- Video about Peace Day and the Food Giving 2015

### *2.1.8 JYH*

The VSA moved into the JYH in 2014 and employed McVay Boko as a technical support intern. The JYH makes it possible for the VSA to have access to a professional computer lab.

### *2.1.9 New website*

awarenet.org was relaunched and provides better information about the organisation now.

### *2.1.10 Marketing*

*A new betterplace project was established.*

*Anna is optimistic to reach the funding goal this year, just like the years before.*

### *2.1.11 VSA Partnerships*

There are three partnerships for the Peace Song project:

- Rhodes Department of Music and Musicology: recording
- AppiAppelt Animations: video editing
- Sonic Art Studio: training of learners

A partnership agreement with Rhodes and Sonic Art Studio was signed. The VSA will try to set up the project again in 2016.

Three partnerships for the curriculum development:

- TU Dresden** and VSA are currently working on a curriculum for awarenet use in schools.
- Rotary Club of Pirna** sponsors accreditation of VSA and training course.
- The teacher training will take place in the **Joza Youth Hub**.

A promising candidate for teacher training position was found.

### *2.1.12 years overview*

2014: Attract new members, donors and users by means of marketing movies. Equipment was funded and delivered. Movie partnership with SAGE Net and Rhodes Dep of Journalism and Media Studies was planned but didn't work out for several reasons.

2015: VSA volunteers made new videos instead.

2016: More movie are planned for the future about the impact of the awarenet programme and to attract funding.

2014: Fundraising activities for accreditation and teacher training.

2015: Funding for SETA accreditation was granted and seems to be a great perspective. awareness curriculum development started.

2016: Further development and accreditation of VSA and training course.

2014: Moved into the Hub.

2015: Established professional working environment for learner training.

2016: Teacher training will be piloted and perhaps established in the JYH, aiming long-term sustainability of the VSA

## **2.2 eKhaya ICT news**

eKhaya ICT concentrated on a single customer this year. This is a new strategy and seems to be good for the stability of the company.

Richard Strickland will have to leave SA in April.

eKhaya ICT can not be the main sponsor of the VSA anymore. The VSA will have to look for new ways of funding in 2017. 2016 is covered by savings and donations.

## **3. Miscellaneous**

McVay Boko asks what the team thinks about the date of the JYH fete (06.02.2016).

The team discusses if the date for the fete is too early. Dr. Anna Wertlen agrees that a JYH fete is a great event for attracting new volunteers and learners and is a good start for 2016.

The preparation for the fete is running.

## **4. Thanks and Good Bye (12:15 pm)**

Dr. Anna Wertlen closes the meeting.