Minutes of the London Comites meeting held on 25 May 2023 in "hybrid" format

A) in presence at the premises of the Italian Church of St. Peter located in 136 Clerkenwell Road, London EC1R 5DL;

B) remotely, with the possibility for Councilors to participate in real time viatelematic connection to the “Zoom” online platform, meeting no. 874 2122 8358.

The session opens at 6.15 pm.

The session is chaired by President Alessandro Gaglione and Chiara Cerovac acts as Secretary.

The Councilors participate in person:

1 Alessandro Gaglione

2 Mike Petretta

3 Luigi Bille’

4 Antonino Martorana

5 Nicola Del Basso

6 Francesca Doria

7 Germana Canzi

8 Anna Cambiaggi

9 Dimitri Scarlato

10 Livia Grasso

11 Rino Nola

12 Elio Alberti

13 Federico Lago

Connected Remotely are:

14 Chiara Cerovac

15 Vincenzo Loggia

16 Golam Tipu

Justified absence:

17 Elena Remigi

18 Luciano Rapa

Consul Francesco De Angelis and CGIE Councilor Giannino D'Angelo are connected via zoom.

The attendance sheet and a screenshot showing participation are attached to this report, as specified above.

The President notes and ensures that the quorum required by law is present and, therefore, declares the meeting validly constituted and capable of deciding on the following:

Agenda;

1. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.

2. Update of the President and Treasurer.

3. Change in the work commitment of the secretary Mr. Marco Pariotti.

4. Update on ongoing projects and proposed new projects:

- presentation of the study conducted by Dr. Antonsich on June 21st at 6 pm in the Consulate;

- update webinar on EUSS scheduled for May 31st;

- scientific workshops in Italian for children, proposed by the researcher and volunteer of Native Scientists, Annachiara Rosa;

- project of linguistic-cultural workshops for educators and parents, dedicated to Italian as a language of origin, proposed by Carmen Silvestri;

- workshops in Italian for children proposed by Cinzia Ciaramicoli and dedicated to the theme of the environment, eco-system and sustainability, to be implemented in a decentralized location.

5. Awareness campaign on the non-obligatory nature of any payment to take appointment at the Consulate.

6. Request for clarification on cases of refusal of passport issuance due to issues marginal and bureaucratic, otherwise quickly solvable.

7. Proposal relating to registration with AIRE and biometric fingerprinting.

8. Any other business.

Before moving on to the items on the agenda, Consul De Angelis updates the assembly about the latest activities from the Consulate. In particular, the project involving Comites and the volunteers in the creation of missions for issuing passports. Regarding points 6 and 7 on the agenda, the Consul De Angelis prefers not to express himself.

President A. Gaglione specifies that point 7 was asked to be inserted by councilor L.Rapa but, as he was not present this evening, it was decided to postpone the discussion during the next ordinary session. Point 6 will be clarified during the meeting by councilor E. Alberti.

1. The minutes of the previous meeting (16 March 2023) were unanimously approved.

2. The President updates the assembly on the passport mission scheduled for tomorrow. 6 appointments were made at the Comites headquarters in Brixton; Pietro Molle will be present together with Marco and a Consulate official. It's a small number of appointments, but as a first test the Consulate decided to confirm it anyway.

Regarding the Complitaly project, the President informs that the project is in the start-up phase and which had a slight delay due to the drafting of the contracts between the three Comites. The first payment installment will be made in the next few days so that the project can start.

Committee of Italians Abroad

Consular District of London

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Councilor G. Tipu asks to be able to make the procedure for making appointments to travel and renew the passport as easy as possible.

3. After an exhaustive report from the Treasurer, the President explains that due to the reduction of financing, it was proposed to the Executive the passage of the contract of the element of secretary (Marco Pariotti) from full-time to part-time, starting from 1 September

V. Loggia points out that, at present, Comites cannot maintain a full

Time secretary.

After a broad and exhaustive discussion, we proceed to the vote by show of hands, with the following result:

In favor: A. Gaglione, G.Tipu, F.Doria, C.Cerovac, N.Del Basso, T.Martorana, L.Grasso, E.Alberti, G.Canzi, A. Cambiaggi, D.Scarlato, V.Loggia, R. Nola, F.Lago.

Abstentions: L.Bille', M.Petretta.

Contrary: none.

The employment contract will therefore be converted into part-time starting from 1 September 2023.

4. For the next item on the agenda, the following take the floor:

A. Cambiaggi: Dr.'s project. Antonsich is ready and will be presented on June 21st at the Consulate. It is a public event open to all upon registration.

E. Remigi: the webinar on EUSS is ready and will be held on May 31st.

F. Doria: has 3 proposals for 2023:

a) series of workshops on multilingualism dedicated to parents;

b) proposal by Annachiara Rosa: scientific workshops to support migrant families in the UK, with the presence of Italian professionals;

c) Cinzia Ciaramicoli offers artistic activities for children dedicated to nature, in Italian and organized in decentralized locations.

The three projects above involve costs which, despite being minimal (as per communications sent to Comites), may be supported by Comites provided that there is the financial possibility.

After extensive and exhaustive discussion on the three projects above, we proceed with the vote (provided there is financial availability) by show of hands.

In favor: A.Gaglione, G.Tipu, F.Doria, C.Cerovac, N.Del Basso, T.Martorana, L.Grasso, E.Alberti, G.Canzi, A. Cambiaggi, D.Scarlato, V.Loggia, R. Nola, M.Petretta, F.Lago

Abstentions: L. Bille'

Contrary: none

5. At this point V. Loggia speaks and informs us that the system Prenot@mi does not work: there are never available appointments and for the Italian citizen it becomes frustrating and impossible to get an appointment to issue the identity cards and citizenship. He informs that there are agencies that take care of this for a fee, and make appointments for people, but it is important to reiterate that consular services remain free. Consul De Angelis reiterates that it is all explained on the Consulate website, and that the services are absolutely free but, if a person does not have time, then you can turn to these agencies that charge for their service.

6. At this point, Councilor E. Alberti speaks and addresses Consul De Angelis asking for clarification regarding the procedure that needs to be followed in the cases of refusal of the issuing the passport for bureaucratic issues: in particular, instead of sending back the entire question to the sender, Alberto asks if it would be easier to send an email to the direct address of interested party by informing them about it. There are many South Americans who are waiting for their passport to be released from 2021. Alberti asks if a maximum time limit can be established for when they will receive their passport. Consul De Angelis promises to have the Councilor Alberti a response as soon as possible.

7. It was decided not to discuss this point as the Councilor L. Rapa, who had proposed it, is absent

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8. Regarding any other matters:

Nadia Ostacchini has written a book for children in Italian and English, entitled “Porro”, which she would like to present in November at the premises of the Italian Church and asks to be able to have the free support from Comites. The assembly approves.

G.Tipu asks if there is a priority channel for family members of Italian citizens to make the request for a visa? Consul De Angelis will ask Consul Solinas who deals with this directly.

Councilor G. D'Angelo of the CGIE invites all the members of Comites to the Republic party at Keighley.

E. Alberti points out that the consular agent in Woking receives complaints on a daily basis regarding the fact that the Manchester Consulate is not responding to emails. G. D'Angelo is aware of the problem which, unfortunately, is due to a lack of personnel.

At this point the President, having exhausted the items on the agenda, declares the meeting closed at 7.50pm.