

MAP INFORMATION WORKING GROUP MEETING

MINUTES - Friday January 11, 2019, at AMSAA in Vancouver

Present:

Carlo Campodonico – Qmunity

Jenny Moss – MAP

Richard Belcham – inasmuch

Azadeh Tamjeedi – UNHCR

Farah Kotadia – AMSSA

Katherine Griffin – MOSAIC

Kiana Reyes – MOSAIC

(Bahar absent - apologies communicated by Farah)

Chair: Carl@ Campodonico – Qmunity

- Carl@ welcomed everyone and shared some updates: In Qmunity, due to reorganization and restructuring, Carl@ has more priorities and so he gave his apologies for not being as present as possible.
- Official welcome from Carl@ and thanks to AMSSA for hosting
- Update from Farah for AMSSA which is moving out to Burnaby
- Presentation of Melodie Honen-Delmar, new MAP assistant, and introduction of everyone
- Farah updated that her position at AMSSA has not been renewed, but her position in MAP would probably be replaced by Sabrina
- Azadeh mentioned that she was in Ottawa and was still helping MAP.
- Kiana Reyes (practicum student) from MOSAIC 'I belong' program introduced herself

1. Outline and Approval of Agenda

- ADD: update about Nimble group – Michael Davis (PR) – responding to media messaging

Approval of the Minutes of Nov 30th meeting

The Minutes were approved

2. Website update- Richard

- Carl@ feedback: likes the website and easy for ESL to navigate
- Jenny: Nasra and Christopher for SOS-ISS have been asked to provide good photos for the website, including any photos that depict MAP events. On the 24th there will be a photographer at MAP meeting. He will visit the Information working group (IWG) to take pictures, and housing group (HWG) as well. Any other collaborative event and photos from other group member will also be used. Suggestion of real photo of claimants with consent to be used for calls for action, and use of generic photos in other locations on site
- Katherine: caution against using claimant's photos.
- Jenny: can ask agencies for photos ensuring that the photos are not identifiable. The success stories will have made up names and more stock photos can be used instead.

- Richard: limited changes are possible due to the website template, as Katherine was asking if the content was modifiable or not.
- Richard: problem with templates. On the main page: if you don't click on "about", you might miss "about sub-titles" – otherwise it does not get to "event and contact us".
Menu adjustment for Patrick: main menu make 'about' only hover-able.
- Katherine: If there is a social media campaign: Facebook logo too small so Richard will try to make it bigger. Text feedback: change some spelling or wording but Jenny says that it needs to stay unified and can always be edited later on. Jenny and Richard said that if there is feedback for the wording of the website to please send it through emails – Patrick's job is more for coding and Jenny and Richard's task are more for editing.
- Azadeh: we can get inspiration from UNHCR's social media page and layout, and guidelines, as they are very efficient.
- Jenny: asked other group members to link with their Facebook page and share information. Creating a mutual sharing of social media content.
- Carl@: suggesting to keep working on it and to ensure that language is oriented to primary audiences as well as polished visuals
- Summary for Patrick notes: Menu adjustment and Facebook logo bigger. The MAP group suggested that once the visuals are done, his work contract will end there.
- Compensation for Richard input agreed.

3. **Event planning: program detailing and organization**

- Jenny: outlined decisions already taken about TED talk ideas, logistics and the date and venue.
- March 28, 2019: not a good idea because of MAP meeting / Spring Break
- Richard: suggestion about moving MAP meeting but too complicated and we do not want those people attracted to the event!
- Carl@ suggested other places, and selling auction for arts of refugees
- Richard: UFV (University of Fraser Valley) venue – meeting with them and collaboration with all departments guaranteed. Focus about Fraser Valley region as it is a good target group and possibly could move it to Surrey.

Discussion about the date:

- Thursday night 4th or 11th of April (avoiding Easter or spring break). 11th better. Alternatives: 25th
- Jenny: Zero budget for venues clarification
- Jenny's program proposal:
6:30 open for 7pm starting:
- refugee artists
- silent auction with music in the background (Fabricio?)
7pm: MC to be decided – welcome everyone – speech from mayor of Abbotsford and/or chancellor of UFV with opening remarks – (not long speeches)
One or two ted talks – 5 min and then round tables for discussions (need room for discussions)
participatory action – need mikes for feedback
7:35 Matthias' (VAST) theatre
8pm break: art sale, music, food – interlude- (kitchen and alcohol license needed) another ted talk and feedback.
9h ...
- Katherine: feedback: too long – suggested rounds tables instead with a Q&A after because otherwise it seems too conference style and needs to be more interactive – how many TED talks? Can we cut the theatre? Or people could be watching theatre and eating?
- Carl@: Ideas of one speaker behind screen brought back in order for the invisibility of claimants to be represented –
- 600 words max and 5 min max for speeches
- **New collaborative draft:**
 - 6-6:30 informal networking (food and drinks, silent action art display music)

- 6:30- MC (setting boundaries), welcome, introducing speakers; local mayor
 - 6:45: 1st speaker (5min) people's story or experience
 - {Issue about personal information – put parameters – questions about their journey but need to make sure that Q&A is informative but not invasive and not academic either. MAP members can prepare questions.
 - Important for mc to put boundaries and center the event on altruism and other values instead of RC process focus. Stay positive event.
 - Carl@: Discretionary decision important, and need not over generalize, and avoid hurting people. Carl@ suggesting that we have a volunteer lawyer who can answer immigration-related questions that may be sensitive to speakers. Carl@ mentioned that there isn't a good chance for RC's to get status within Canada, and people need to be cautious about myth and that we need person of authority to clarify that.
 - Jenny: "Starting Over" theme: what does it mean? We need a warm & fuzzy feelings event with inspiring story of claimant who had to start over and that have a great position today.
 - Farah suggestion: Panel idea of speakers can be useful and avoids singling out the speakers and reduces vulnerability to the audience.
 - Richard has one speaker already he can contact.
 - MC presenting in between speakers and tell quick stories about them (4-5 speaker)
 - 7:20: Panel through Q&A
 - 7:45: books, arts, networking, MAP staff/members with stickers of expertise ('ask me about ...'field of expertise) and food, drinks, silent auction
 - 8: closing remarks
- Carl@ suggesting that we need to market the auction artwork before the event so audience are aware of what is to be sold.
 - Need to find these speakers: Richard has one: need 4 more!
 - Jenny coordinating this event with the help of Farah and Kiana
 - Jenny announcement: Please be present for the next MAP meeting on Jan 24th: Richard will give the report from IWG and will say that we are looking for speakers
 - MC: what kind of person do we want: MAP co-chair? Suggestion of a media person or UFV employee but should not be too academic. Mentioned Trinity Western University, but exclusionary practice as it is anchored in religious values.
 - Starting over: theme – values of compassion and altruism - Implicit
 - Katherine asks if we should mention that it is about refugee claimants in the MC speech or in the speakers' only? Jenny says it is more about the focus on speakers' lives: and that we need refugee claimants who have really good job, for instance small business owner.
 - Farah will be reaching out to Florence and Fiona
 - Richard's speaker touching and good for introduction, and goes first
 - Richard: we should focus about Claimant's journey: if you are starting over what are the challenges you could face (people, culture, jokes...)
 - **Scheduling next meeting**, Friday every 2 weeks – good for everyone (except for Carl@ as there is an internal reorganization in Qmunity. But Katherine and Richard can chair, and MAP members need to be tasked with other specific jobs for the event. (Sara has responsibility for arranging the catering, and marketing for the event could be helped by UFV)
 - **Immediate Main Tasks**: find who could be MC, and speakers and where event will be held.
 - Katherine quoted Azadeh who mentioned in another meeting that speakers should be refugee claimants who have protection and Permanent Residency to avoid being challenged (Katherine reminded us)

Updates and closing remarks

- Michael Davis (on the board at Rainbow Refugee) – has created a Nimble response group – choose to be strategic about the elections but MAP is not about political motives but MAP is interested

about the toolkit the group will develop as well as media training – Bahar and Jenny attend the meetings.

- City of Vancouver wants to link MAP with Studio City project. The project is to bring students from diverse universities and have them create projects to help refugees, like marketing.
- Bard on the Beach – Afghan retelling of Romeo and Juliet. Possibility of linking with the Afghan community via MAP. Jenny will update after a meeting with the ED.
- For World Refugee Day, the Vancouver library welcomes MAP in a collaborative capacity (Emily is our contact at VPL) Decision was made in January and more details will be decided later. Reserved: promenade and everything on the lower floor is booked for MAP if we want to show a film etc. There is more capacity on the 9th floor if we want more space - and it is all free.
- **Next meeting February 1st. – at Qmunity.**