
Meeting opened 3.15pm

Facilitator: Krzysztof Madetko

Seated at the front table from left to right: Magdalena Dudek, Monika Rosiewicz (present for the first part of the meeting), Ania Madetko, Krzysztof Madetko, Anna Schmidt, Kasia Schmidt.

People mentioned in the minutes and the abbreviations:

A Schmidt – Anna Schmidt, President Kukuleczka Polish Dance Group	HS – Halina Szunejko OAM, President 'Rada Polonii' (Polish Community Council of WA)
KM – Krzysztof Madetko, Facilitator	KT – Ksiadz Tomasz, 'Grupa Teatralna Scena 98'
KS – Kasia Schmidt, Artistic Director Kukuleczka Polish Dance Group	WP – Witold Pszczola, 'Glos Polonii' and Polish Ethnic School
MW – Marek Wojtasik, Vice President of Kukuleczka Polish Dance Group	UH – Urszula Hamera, Committee member of 'Zwiazek Polakow'
AM – Ania Madetko, Member of Kukuleczka	MD – Monika Dudek
AS – Ala Swiatek, Member of Kukuleczka Polish Dance Group	MJ-D – Maria Jasienska-Dudek
MK – Maria Kuczborska, Polish Australian Cultural Society	MG – Magda Galus
P.S – Pani Szczepaniak, 'Osrodek Katolicki'	AB – Andrzej Basinski, 'Kurier Zachodni'

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Agenda, Pol-Art Regulations, and Pol-Art Organisation Structure were distributed on the tables.

Item 1 – Welcome by Krzysztof Madetko (KM)

- KM advised he was invited by Anna Schmidt (A Schmidt) to be facilitator of the meeting, as he is neutral and not a member of any Perth Polish organisation.
- Apologies were not taken.
- Attendees were asked to write their name on an attendee list.

Action: *Kasia Schmidt to provide Magdalena Dudek with the list of attendees to be attached to the meeting minutes as an appendix.*

Item 2 – Meeting aims by Krzysztof Madetko (KM)

- KM described purpose of today's meeting: to inform all interested parties about Pol-Art, to nominate committee members and select the committee members.

Item 3 - Pol-Art history read by Kasia Schmidt (KS)

- KS shared information gathered from Pol-Art Sydney 2003 brochure and a Pol-Art website

Item 4 – Information about Pol-Art provided by Anna Schmidt (A Schmidt)

- A Schmidt: At the final meeting in Adelaide there were group leaders from 12 different dance groups around Australia. A Schmidt, Marek Wojtasik (MW) and KS attended to represent Kukuleczka, Perth.
- A Schmidt: Perth was nominated to host Pol-Art 2012 by dance group leaders pending the approval by the PCCA (Polish Communities Council of Australia – ‘Rada Naczelna’ – Canberra). A proposal / budget is to be submitted for consideration by the dance group leaders and the PCCA.
- A Schmidt: Gave history of how Perth was unsuccessful in being selected as the host city at the final group leader meeting in Hobart, the 2006 Pol-Art festival. Group leaders decided that the Perth Polish community were unprepared and did not have enough experienced people to run 2009 Pol-Art Festival and therefore were unsuccessful in their bid for Pol-Art 2009. A document prepared by Monika Dudek and Diana Dudek was given to the group leaders. The document’s intention was to raise awareness of Perth’s tourism attractions and performance and accommodation venues suitable for festival requirements.
- A Schmidt: Perth has been selected to host the next festival however final approval will need to be given by Rada Naczelna after the proposal/budget is passed submitted.
- A Schmidt: Before Pol-Art 2009 A Schmidt received a phone call from Ksiadz Slowik from Melbourne regarding the potential Perth bid for Pol-Art 2012. Melbourne was willing to forgo their turn to host the 2012 festival and allow Perth to host the festival.
- Question from community member: In the regulations, who determines the decision for the next Pol-Art location?
- A Schmidt: At the final meeting of Pol-Art Festival group leaders voted 11-yes 2-no to Perth hosting the next festival, but were requested to prepare a business plan/budget.
- Several community members asked questions regarding the following sections in the regulations:
 - **E. TIME AND LOCATION OF POL-ART**
 12. POL-ART festivals take place every third year in the various states of Australia, according to resolutions of the Congress of Delegates of the Polish Community Council of Australia (PCCA), and taking into consideration any motion made by the participants of the End-of-Festival meeting, usually organised at the conclusion of the immediate past POL-ART festival.
 - **F. POL-ART COMMITTEE**
 13. The Executive Committee of the PCCA appoints an appropriate member organisation, in the state where the festival is to take place, to select a POL-ART Preparation Committee of at least five persons.
 14. The Preparation Committee shall determine procedures for the selection of members of the POL-ART Committee, subject to approval of these procedures by the PCCA. Selection of members for the Festival Committee shall proceed according to the principals of fairness and natural justice.
 15. The Preparation Committee is to hold a public meeting for the purpose of informing the community that the Festival is to take place and to form a full POL-ART Committee with the participation of individual persons and community organisations.

Minutes from Pre Pol-Art Perth Meeting 7 February 2010

Held at Osrodek Katolicki (Polish Catholic Centre), 35 Eighth Avenue Maylands WA

- KM asked people to write their questions and hold them until the end of the meeting.
- MD: Stated the need to clarify the regulations to provide a solid foundation for discussions.
- P. Urszula Hamera (UH) (representing Zwiasek Polakow): Many people here have come from different organisations and have no idea about the Pol-Art committee rules and regulations. Requested to go through the regulations.
- Pol-art regulations were distributed to all attendees, as there were not enough copies on the tables.
- P. Halina Szunejko OAM (HS) - President of Rada Polonii WA: Read aloud her email correspondence with President of Rada Naczelna. Rada Naczelna held a meeting on Thursday 4 February 2010 in Canberra. The email advised that Rada Naczelna are to decide in June 2010 whether the proposal for Pol-Art is accepted. He wrote that Pol-Art Perth was discussed at this meeting and that the festival demands a lot of work and compromise between many groups and organisations.
- HS stated her understanding that this meeting today was the second meeting held in Perth this year regarding Pol-Art. HS stated the organisers must hold public meetings to inform the community.
- Community member: Stated the support of Rada Polonii WA is crucial to the success of running Pol-Art in Perth. Pol-Art Perth not confirmed, it's provisional, providing acceptance of a proposal to be submitted by the end of March 2010.
- HS: Informed that a preparatory public meeting is required to inform the Polish public of Pol-Art. Previous Pol-Arts in the Eastern States have position descriptions with selection criteria for approximately 23 voluntary positions. HS commented on the organisation structure provided, stating does not inform what duties are required of each position. Most organisations elect people to fill places, not by having a voting scheme, providing a fair and equitable selection process.
- Community member: In professional world people are required to submit applications which are judged by merit, objectively by a panel. This is the same process as per the regulations distributed at today's meeting.
- HS: Advised that Rada Polonii will support an application for 2015 so that Perth's Polish community have more time to prepare and the Polish youth have greater experience to contribute.
- KM: Thanked HS for her information. Stated that all in the room agree that those present have come here to try to organise a meeting to benefit the Polish community in Australia. As the meeting was not running per the agenda, KM asked why attendees were asking questions. KM stated he was here to be the neutral person and asked whether attendees were here to ask questions that had no answers or were they here to elect a committee.
- UH:Zwiasek Polakow received an invitation to discuss the organisation of Pol-Art, not to elect people for the positions.
- Response by A Schmidt to HS and previous comments made: HS mentioned there was an earlier meeting. This was for A Schmidt and Ksiadz Tomasz (KT) to meet, so that A Schmidt could inform KT of what took place at final group leader's meeting in Adelaide, to decide the date of today's meeting and settle any disputes and

discussions for future meetings. KT was not present at the final group leader's meeting in Adelaide as he had to return to Perth. As there was a misunderstanding, more people than expected attended and naturally a discussion regarding Pol-Art was held. It was not a meeting, more an informal get-together.

- Community member asks: Can we argue these rules or regulations?
- KS response: These are Rada Naczelną's rules.
- KM: We were sure that we would get Pol-Art 3 years ago with Pani Marysia (Jasienska-Dudek) and Monika Dudek running Kukuleczka. [Correction: '3 years ago' refers to the 2006/2007 Pol-Art in Hobart, however MJ-D and MD discontinued leadership of Kukuleczka at the start of 2004.]
- Community member: We have the chance of being able to hold an incredible event. Can we please unite and stop questioning these rules/regulations, keep our opinions to ourselves and simply work together?
- KM: Thanked the community member and moved to the nominations.

ITEM 5 – Selection of the Committee

- KM: Stated that A Schmidt is nominating herself for the role of Vice President. Stated KS would mention some of A Schmidt's experience and history to support her nomination.
- KS: (summarised) A Schmidt has been president of Kukuleczka for six years. Organised numerous events in Polish community and fundraising, 'zabawas', debutante ball and took the dance group to the 2006 Pol-Art in Hobart, 2009 Pol-Art in Adelaide, and overseas to Malaysia and Taiwan.
- MJ-D: Stated she has contributed to the Polish community for many years as leader of Kukuleczka, worked on the 'Rada Polonii' committee and as President of the Parents Committee at Polish Ethnic School, later a teacher at the school. Asked whether the front table had read the rules and regulations. MJ-D stated her understanding was that persons at the front table were not following the Pol-Art rules/regulations. MJ-D stated that Rada Naczelną is to choose a member organisation, which in WA is Rada Polonii and Rada Polonii should select five people to select the Pol-Art committee. MJ-D stated that going through the selection process as suggested was stepping away from the Pol-Art statutes and regulations.
- MW: Stated he was at the last group leader meeting. Stated that the Vice President has to be someone who has been a group leader, attended the last two group leader meetings, attended a minimum of two Pol-Arts and must be known to the Polish community.
- KS repeated MW's words in English.
- MD: That was not in the regulations we have here.
- A Schmidt: Pan Munk (President Adelaide Pol-Art) said that Pol-Art is passed onto A Schmidt. Further explanation of what happened at the group leader meeting.
- MD: Asked whether attendees at today's meeting would be voting for the five person committee, or the Pol-Art committee?
- KM responded: The Pol-Art committee.

Minutes from Pre Pol-Art Perth Meeting 7 February 2010

Held at Osrodek Katolicki (Polish Catholic Centre), 35 Eighth Avenue Maylands WA

- Pan Witold Pszczola (WP) to the front table: Stated his opinion that A Schmidt was not in a position to hold this meeting. Requested paperwork to show that she has been given this role to hold this meeting as private conversations do not hold.
- Pani Ala Swiatek (AS): Asked a question to the room – Who has been at a Pol-Art? (Show of hands). She stated that we owe thanks to Kukuleczka and Scena that we have a Pol-Art because Perth was represented at the festival. Stated her view that some people were at the meeting to criticise well-intentioned efforts. Stated that the groups (Kukuleczka and Scena) were asking for help to organise this festival. Stated that the community was not ready but the next few years were available to prepare this festival. Stated that the groups were asking for people who want to help to remain (at this meeting) because they don't want to fight but work together so that the best committee is chosen to produce the best result.
- Pani Szczepaniak (P.S) (representing Osrodek Katolicki): Has been at Pol-Art twice and has seen how much work is required to hold one concert or theatre production. Three years ago she didn't think the community (including youth in Scena) was ready but now maybe they are ready. The organisers of Pol-Art have always been people actively involved in the community. The young ones (Perth youth) are grown up now, young professionals, and are ready to hold this festival and the rest of us should be helping them to take charge. Older Polonia should support and assist them. This time what is needed is unity. Constitutions should be followed.
- Pani Maria Kuczborska (MK) (representing Polish Australian Cultural Society): The Polish Australian Cultural Society was invited to the first meeting. The group does not take sides. She would like to participate with the 'fine arts' because of her experience in this field. She apologised to the committee and stated that without people's opinions or arguments heard, the meeting today could make little progress. She was shocked that Pani Halina Szunejko OAM didn't get invited to this meeting today and was almost not allowed to speak. Ksiadz Slowik does not hold as much authority as Pani Szunejko in Perth as we know Pani Szunejko, not Ksiadz Slowik. MK recommended the selection of five people to form a preparatory committee to choose the people for the Pol-Art positions. She requested 'wspolpraca' (working together). Stated that the front table should follow the regulations so that later on people would not question the method of the festival's organisation.
- AS: Stated that everyone keeps asking who gave the next Pol-Art to who and requested attendees to move on to other points.
- Suggestion is made to restart meeting to choose five people to run this meeting.
- MJ-D: Stated that in the regulations, it states that Rada Naczelna delegates to Rada Polonii to choose five people for preparatory committee meeting to select the final Pol-Art organising committee.
- A Schmidt read an email from Pan Munk, President of Adelaide Pol-Art: Mentions how it has run in the past. From email "Rada Naczelna potwierdza nastepnych organisatorow Pol-Artu". Mr Munk stated in the email that each artform is of equal importance regardless of revenue, performers or people.
- Pan Andrzej Basinski (representing Kurier Zachodni): Stated that people were reading fragments of letters that suited them best and asked to move forward with discussions.
- MD: Stated she has come here to help with this Polish festival. She has been Artistic Director of Kukuleczka, and been to five Pol-Art festivals as performer, Artistic

Director and audience member. She has an arts management degree which means she has training and experience in organising festivals and working in arts organisations. She states that there is much fundraising to do. Grants available have reduced due to the current economy. Sponsors are withdrawing from many non-profit businesses due to lack of funds. The committee needs to be working with Government, both Labor and Liberal Ministers. Young people in the room have the drive and energy to organise the festival and need the older people for their wisdom and experience. Everyone needs to work together as everyone wants to show off Perth to the other groups. Need a proper plan to do this – business plan, marketing plan, public relations plans. She stated in her opinion people can't nominate for the marketing role to look after posters without understanding what is involved with marketing. Stated the need for experienced and qualified people in certain positions – accountant, marketing and public relations degrees. Stated the need to approach the organisation of the festival with a level of seriousness. She was concerned that there may not be the level of expertise needed in the room. Stated that the Perth community would look silly if plans fell apart in three years time. Stated there was a lot of arguing about the regulations and asked to follow the rules as they've provided the foundations for success in the past. She stated good foundations and a formal application process where the right person with the right skills is selected for each role were needed.

- Ania Madetko (AM): Asked Monika where to send letters to Government
- MD: Stated the need to meet with Premier, Opposition Leader, Ministers that have arts or multicultural portfolios, Shadow Ministers, and local members of Government. She suggested following the regulations because there was a lot of money and responsibility involved.
- UH: Stated her support to follow the regulamin.
- Magda Galus (youth): Stated that all present in the room were not here to argue but to work together. She was worried that there are only 2 – 2 ½ years left until the 2012 festival. She told of her experience organizing World Hypnotism Day in Perth on 4 January 2010. The problem was the committee thought \$400 would be enough and asked her to do this three weeks before Christmas. This was not enough time or money. Point of her story is that sponsors are needed which takes time to secure and the youth are not ready yet and the community should aim to host the festival in 2015. She said we needed more time and to do it once and properly.
- KM: Stated it's not up to the Perth Polish community to delay the Pol-Art for another three years as we may not get another opportunity.
- Magdalena Dudek: Asked what was more important: to organise Pol-Art properly, or do a "half-arsed" job?
- MJ-D: Stated that people in government still haven't heard about Pol-Art. Perth community needs time to lobby them. Kukuleczka youth have grown up but maybe still are not professionally experienced. Stated that Rada Polonii is supporting Pol-Art in 2015 and maybe attendees should listen to them.
- A Schmidt: Asked to hear Ksiadz Tomasz's (KT) opinion as leader of Scena.
- KT: Stated that if Perth were to do Pol-Art, it should be done now (2012) as he didn't know if Scena would exist by 2015. He believed that holding the festival in three years time (2012) was the only option. He stated that no one here is ready or knows

what will happen to the youth, whether they will move away. They get married, the women have children and are not able to help.

- MD: Objected to the previous statement stating it was discriminatory. She stated whether a woman decides to have children has no bearing on whether they can help out with the festival. She said that whether the festival is in five or ten years time, she would be here in Perth and willing to help, even with a baby on her lap.
- KT: Apologised for any offense caused and didn't mean to offend. Said his opinion that with time, people tend to leave.
- KM: Called for a ten-minute break.

During the break members of organisations held discussions. After the break approximately two-thirds of the attendees returned.

- KM: Stated there were some informal discussions held during break. Some people suggested a vote on whether Perth should aim for the 2012 or 2015 festival. Suggested to hold a vote on whether to hold the festival in 2012 or 2015.
- MD: Asked how the voting would work as some people had left. She asked how they planned to make it a fair vote as there were more Scena and Kukuleczka members present than representatives from other organisations and the voting power was unequal.
- WP (representing Glos Polonii and Polish Ethnic School): Stated he was not voting as he may vote opposite to his organisation's views.
- A Schmidt: Stated that invitations were sent out to all Polish organisations. Everyone at the meeting had a right to vote.
- Representative from Kolo Siberakow: Stated she didn't know there was going to be voting. She was not given voting rights on behalf of their organisation. Will not vote.
- Basia Szczepaniak: Stated people had left without knowing that we were going to vote.
- P. Szczepaniak: Stated that voting for whether to hold the festival in 2012 or 2015 was unnecessary. Asked if it was possible to select the five person committee who will select the Pol-Art committee, at this meeting.
- KS: Stated she was at the group leader meeting. The President of the Adelaide Pol-Art had the authority to pass on the reins to the next host city. A Schmidt was selected to do this by him.
- MJ-D: Stated that A Schmidt wasn't given personal authority to do this. She said she had heard from a number of people that at the first meeting A Schmidt nominated herself as Vice President and stated there was no need to vote. MJ-D did not agree with this process. MJ-D stated the role should go to the most capable person for the job. A Schmidt wasn't selected by the group leaders at the festival to be Vice President. MJ-D stated it is the WA Polonia organisations that should choose who is in this position.
- KM: Asked MJ-D who would have run Pol-Art three years ago. He then stated he would bet his arms and legs that it would be MJ-D.

- MD: Stated that it wouldn't be MJ-D, it would be A Schmidt. She was President of Kukuleczka at the time.
- KM: Moved on to choose five people to be in the Preparation Committee. Asked attendees to put forward their nominations.
 - Nomination of Anna Schmidt – **accepted**
 - Nomination of Ksiadz Tomasz – declined
 - Nomination of Halina Szunejko OAM – declined
 - Nomination of Maria Kuczborska – declined
 - Nomination of Monika Dudek – not in the room at the time.
 - Nomination of Ania Niedzwiadek – **accepted**
 - Nomination of Witold Pszczola – declined
 - Nomination of Maria Jasienska-Dudek – declined
 - Nomination of Joanna Wydmanska – **accepted**
 - Nomination of Kasia Schmidt – **accepted**
 - Nomination of Andrzej Basinki – declined
 - Nomination of Marek Wojtasik – **accepted**
- MJ-D: Challenged the selection process. Stated that Rada Polonii is supposed to choose these five people.
- Marcelina Wydmanska: Asked why did we just go against the regulamin?
- Joanna Wydmanski (JW): Stated she did not want to be part of a committee selected illegally. Asked HS how Rada Polonii would choose the five people and the process taken.
- HS: Stated she did not want to stand against anyone. Stated that a preparatory committee had been chosen at this meeting. HS suggested that letters are sent to all Polish organisations to inform that such a committee has been chosen. She wished the committee members good luck.
- Pani Janina Psuj (representing Polish Ethnic School): Stated that maybe the Adelaide Pol-Art President thought that Kukuleczka was a member organisation of Rada Polonii, hence they passed this festival on via Pani Schmidt.
- A Schmidt: Stated that groups don't need to be a member of Rada Polonii to organise this meeting.
- MK: Stated that a better way to have started this meeting would be for the people here to nominate and choose a meeting facilitator and minute takers. Restated that she wants to help out with Pol-Art and wants to follow the regulations.
- HS: Stated that her role as President of Rada Polonii is to represent the entire local Polish community and she promotes all organisations, whether they are under the Rada Polonii umbrella or not. She hands out community profile information to Ministers and government departments whenever possible.

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- P.S: Asked how would Rada choose the five people as everyone wants to know.
- HS: Said she didn't know how Rada would choose.
- UH: Requested that it be noted in the minutes that the Polish organisations, Polska Szkola, Zwiasek Sybirakow, Zwiasek Polakow (others were listed), did not participate in any votes in today's meeting.
- A Schmidt: Stated that Rada Naczelna is the highest point of acceptance. Pol-Art was voted in by 12 organisations. A Schmidt stated the need to fulfill the request to prepare the proposal. Stated that she and MW had to fight for this Pol-Art at the group leader meeting.
- HS: Restated her suggestion to send a letter to all Perth's Polish organisations. The Pol-Art festival needs the support of Polish organisations in Perth and Rada Polonii. Final acceptance is required by Rada Naczelna.

Lots of discussion. Majority of people started standing up to leave.

- Magdalena Dudek requested clarification of a comment made by A Schmidt at the end of the meeting that was heard by Magdalena Dudek and Izabella Wojtasik, stating that A Schmidt would call Rada Naczelna to resign from Pol-Art being hosted by Perth. The comment was retracted by A Schmidt and A Schmidt stated she would send letters of notification to Polish community organisations regarding the selection of the five-person preparation committee.

Meeting close 17.40.

MEETING SUMMARY

The majority of individuals in the Perth Polish community and local Polish organisations stated their support for Perth to host Pol-Art and would like to work together to produce the best result possible. Most discussion centred on how the Perth Pol-Art Organising Committee should be chosen, whether or not to select the committee in line with Rada Naczelna's (PCCA) regulations.

The other main issue raised was whether Perth should enter a submission for Pol-Art in 2012, or whether the Perth Polish community would be better prepared to host in 2015.

In the latter part of the meeting, five people were selected (nominated by people present at the meeting), to form the Pol-Art Preparation Committee. This committee is to determine the procedures for the recruitment and selection of members of the Pol-Art Organising Committee, subject to approval of these procedures by Rada Naczelna (PCCA), as per the Pol-Art regulations.

Minutes taken by Magdalena Dudek with assistance from Kasia Wojtasik, Izabella Wojtasik and Monika Rosiewicz. These minutes were taken in good faith and aim to be an accurate reflection of discussions at the meeting. If persons quoted in these minutes consider there to be inconsistencies in the comments attributed to them, please send an email to mag_dagma@hotmail.com BY MONDAY 22 MARCH 2010 where comments and requests will be considered and if found to be inaccurate, will be recorded as an appendix and distributed in due course.