

## Minutes of SMMP Meeting Ste Marie aux Mines, 24 June 2016

Meeting opened 1.45 pm. Chair Penny Williamson

Present: Nicolas Meisser, Musée cantonal de Géologie, Lausanne (Switzerland); Cristiano Ferraris, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris; Alan Hart, Gemmological Association of Great Britain; Alessandro Guastoni, University of Padova, Italy; Jean-Claude Boulliard, Université Pierre et Marie Curie; Michael Rumsey, The Natural History Museum (London, UK); Gian Carlo Parodi, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris; Penny Williamson, University of Wollongong, Australia; Ivan Losada and Luis Rodrigues Terente, Museum of Geology University of Oviedo (Spain), Eloïse Gaillou, Museum Mines ParisTech; Federico Pezzotta, Natural History Museum of Milan, Italy; Raquel Alonso-Perez, the Mineralogical and Geological Museum of Harvard, USA; Dmitri Belakovskii, Fersman Mineralogical Museum (Moscow, Russia); Farida Maouche, Museum Mines ParisTech; plus Simon Philippo, Musée National d'histoire Naturelle de Luxembourg; Thomas Bellicam (St Marie aux Mines Mineral & Gem), Ludmila Cheshko, Michael Leybov and Anna Scherbina (Mineralogical Almanac).



Penny Williamson noted that SMMP has expanded from a North American group to a truly international professional organization of curators of all nationalities and languages. "I wanted this meeting at St Marie aux Mines so that European (and British) curators could meet one another, network and feel more comfortable communicating with each other. When I approached the Ste Marie aux Mines Show Committee to have a meeting, they were very enthusiastic and have been totally supportive, giving us a place, time and refreshments, with advertising and free entry, for which we are very appreciative."

Meeting: short, followed by a group photograph and mingling before the Symposium, which starts at 3 pm.

1. Welcome to the first SMMP meeting for St Marie. If it is a success, we will hold one every year, just like in Tucson and Denver.
2. Introduction, sign attendance sheet, for inclusion in minutes to be published on website.
3. Explain SMMP website, list server and membership
4. Jean-Claude Boulliard new books on mineral identification and care.
5. Any business (short).

- Ludmila Cheshko informed the membership of the newest Mineralogical Almanac publication, "Saranovskoe Deposit".
- Federico Pezzota mentioned the IMA's intention of renewing possibilities of M&M8 for 2017. He mentioned that it must be in September and organized by a museum, not a Mineral Show. It was pointed out that September is not a good time because of the beginning of University classes and the Denver show, so not to specify September. He also said that the Chinese were intending joining SMMP. Penny noted that they had been in touch with her, they had been informed of the process of joining and forming a subset of SMMP as SMMP Asia, like SMMP Europe, but still none had joined SMMP and that they were wanting to form a competing organization, which we did not agree with. In the discussion, Penny suggested M&M8 in conjunction with Ste Marie aux Mines Show June/July 2017 with either the French or Italian curators organizing it, either prior to or post Ste Marie. Raquel suggested Paris. Left to curators to form a committee to come up with a proposal. Penny also asked if SMMP could have more input and Federico agreed and asked that she email SMMP interest in the near future. PLW to do so.
- Dmitri informed the meeting of the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fersman Museum 22-25 November 2016.
- Eloïse mentioned the Prestige Exhibit which is organized by Sainte-Marie. Every year this temporary exhibit shows off hundreds of minerals mostly from European Museums and some from private collections, in a dedicated and secured area within the Mineral Show in Sainte-Marie. The theme is different each year (this year: "Origin: wines and stones"; next year, it will probably be something around "Volcanoes").
- Jean-Claude Boulliard informed the meeting that at the end of the 1960s, the Université Pierre et Marie Curie (UPMC) and the Sorbonne University split up. The collection of minerals was then not the Sorbonne collection anymore but the UPMC collection (Pierre et Marie Curie collection), up to this year. In 2017, Universities of UPMC and Sorbonne will be together again, so now, officially the Sorbonne mineral collection can have its title back!!

6. Meeting closed 2.10 pm

7. Refreshments, supplied by Mineral & Gem Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines.