Advisory Board report – (M. Conley) at the General Assembly of the WFPHA

Melbourne, April the 3rd 2017

- M. Moore: Thank you to Margaret Conley for being here today, and thank you for all her work she did.
- M. Conley: representing the advisory board of the WFPHA. Thank you to Ulrich and Eleonora who have provided support over the past year to the advisory board.

“Thank you for the opportunity to speak today on behalf of the WFPHA advisory board. With the guidance of Ulrich Laaser, and with support of Eleonora De Cata, we have met by teleconference when possible and plan to do so again mid-year.

Advisory board members are a resource for the council and the Federation, and we seek to work within Article VI of the by-laws, in the supportive role envisaged by those by-laws.

The advisory board would benefit greatly from some direction from this council as to the expectation of council of its advisory board.

In the past year, we have provided comment on the Global Charter for the Public’s Health, and some of our members have commenced putting together a history of the World Federation of Public Health Associations.

In 2016, the advisory board planned for its members to collect programs and case studies on public health interventions, with special reference to sustainable development goal 3 and related SDG’s. Subsequently, the council advised the board not to proceed with this collection. For many board members, this advice seemed like wasted opportunity for us to add value to the global work of the Federation.

Some advisory board members have suggested that the board have an ambassador function similar to that of ASPHER, and have also suggested that as people with extensive public health experience and contacts, a case study collection activity would be feasible.

In conclusion, I am convinced that the work structure between Governing council and advisory board must be built on mutual trust and respect. The advisory board is an asset, not a competitor. With a classification of the boards role by council, the board can – over time – develop its rich potential.”