

Minutes of the 3d EURAPAG Board Meeting

28 June 2016, 8:00- 10:00 hours

Florence, Italy

Present:

Milko Sirakov, President

Gabriele Tridenti, Vice President

Paul Wood, President-Elect

Zana Bumbliene, Secretary General

Zuzanna Niznanska, Treasurer

Sarah Mourik, Trainees' Representative

Ivonne Bedei

Marios Liassides

Zoran Stankovic

In attendance:

Jan Horejsi, Honorary President

Mikael Horstmann, Webmaster

Apologies were not received from Efthimios Deligeoroglou

Introduction of (i) new Trainees' Representative and (ii) Webmaster

Sara Mourik and Mikael Horstmann were introduced and welcomed to the Board. Sarah explained that she was a fourth year trainee at Erasmus University, Rotterdam and hoped to establish links with trainees across Europe. It was anticipated that she would remain as a member of the Board for three years after which time she would enable a successor trainee from within Europe to replace her. She hoped to introduce an IFEPAG forum and develop a trainees section of the website for the next meeting in Vilnius.

Minutes of the last meeting

These were approved with minor amendments.

Website

Mika demonstrated the new look website and its accessibility via smart phones and tablets. The site held information more centrally with fewer tabs and less repetition. Input from member countries was to be encouraged with links and

feedback/recommendations. A new web browser was proposed. This required access to a bank account in Germany and it appeared that there was a desirability for the ownership of the domain to be the same as for the account for payment. The ease of such a transfer was discussed. Mika agreed to explore the relationship between the web host and its administration and try and arrange for the website to be registered independently under the banner of EURAPAG. This potentially could still be hosted from Bulgaria and paid for from Slovakia. Website details were to be sent and the old links that were no longer valid were to be edited. Details of previous meetings should be logged separately since this information was lost when the links became defunct. Gabriele was to provide the best version of the EURAPAG logo. The potential to link to Facebook was to be explored. Mika was given the green light to continue with his work and was thanked by the Board.

Financial Report

Zuzanna Niznanska reported that the EURAPAG account held 17020.37 euros. The Board agreed to again waive payment for Ukraine given the political situation in the country. There were three individual members (Maria Ines Soussa, Philippe Francoise and Ferdinand de Freitas) with whom there had been no contact since 2012. The Board had no contact details for these members whose individual memberships were struck out. The Board was pleased to learn that Moldova wished to join the Association. Members were to try and lobby new countries to join. It was agreed that the Webmaster's travel expenses would be met by the Association. A decision to refund the travel expenses to the Trainees' representative was deferred to the next meeting.

Report on EURAPAG 2017, Vilnius

Zana Bumbliene discussed the draft programme and requested suggestions from members of the Board. Some speakers would be asked to talk on more than one topic. She showed the Congress website and explained that registration had opened. Sponsorship was discussed. The registration fee for IFEPAG Fellows was to be 300 euros and for Trainees 200 euros. The Conference Hotel was to be the Radisson Blu. The social programme could include a hot air balloon trip. The formal black tie dinner was scheduled for the Palace of the Grand Duke of Lithuania. A session was planned in Russian. A Trainees' session was also planned. Speakers would not receive travel expenses.

Changes to Statutes

Changes to the Statutes relating to broadening the membership base and the abandonment of the 2000 euro fee for hosting the European Congress had previously been agreed by the Board and these are to be presented to the Assembly of Delegates in Vilnius. The wording of a third amendment to simplify Article 12 is yet to be agreed. Three suggestions have been circulated by Zuzanna Niznanska and the wording of the final alteration is to be agreed at the next Board meeting ahead of the Assembly of Delegates in Vilnius.

Jan Horejsi explained how Czech law had changed and that other changes to the Statutes were required. His proposals had been circulated to the Board prior to the meeting. In view of the legal requirements the Board agreed to proceed only with the necessary and required changes to the front page of the Statutes: (i) the Title altered to Act 89/2012 Coll, Civil Code and (ii) paragraph 3 in Article 2, so that the Association Register is now kept in the Municipal Court in Prague.

Numerous other proposed amendments by Jan Horejsi could not be discussed due to time constraints and shall be discussed at the next Board Meeting. In the meantime the Board agreed on the limited required changes to ensure ongoing legality of the Association and allow this to continue to be registered within the Czech Republic.

The following items were listed for discussion in the Agenda but were not discussed due to time constraints.

The Board agreed to convene a meeting in January to continue outstanding business in preparation for the EURAPAG Congress in Vilnius later in the year. Ivonne Bedei has kindly agreed to host this meeting in Frankfurt, Germany. Board members agreed to fund their own travel arrangements. It was agreed that the Board needed to meet at least every six months either in person or by link.

Report on EBCOG meeting, Torino (Ivonne Bedei)

Candidates for awards during Congress (Milko Sirakov)

EURAPAG clinical network opportunities (Paul Wood)

Future proofing of finances/ access to accounts (Paul Wood)

Any Other Business (Milko Sirakov)

By way of clarification Panos Christopoulos had been contacted by the President immediately after the previous Board meeting in Cyprus to advise him of developments in respect of the Trainees' representative and the Website. The Executive Board wished to place on record our thanks to Panos for all the work he has done for the Association over the years.

The meeting was then brought to a close.

Respectively submitted,

President Milko Sirakov

President-Elect Paul Wood

Secretary General Zana Bumbuliene