



Decision Minutes of District 13 Board meeting, Tuesday, 07 January 2020 Skypemeeting

Present: Dorte Olesen, Governor
Jane Bordal, Lieutenant governor
Ellen Skartvedt, Treasurer
Aase Schmidt, Area Director Area 01
Thóra Ákadóttir, Area Director Area 03
Elin Hetland Mong, Area Director 04
Berit Birkelund, Secretary

Rasa Birutiene, Area Director Area 02 did not participate

1. Approval of the agenda

Agenda approved with a proposal by Dorte to address agenda item 5 before item 4.

2. Final approval of minutes from last Board meeting (September 12)

Dorte sent the Draft minutes by email 29 September 2019.

Minutes approved.

3. Membership development - short overview and preparations for May discussion

Overall, there has been a decline in membership. District 13 currently has approx. 1000 members, this is around 93% of the number in May 2019, where it had grown a little since May 2018. In Denmark (Area 01), there is a decline in membership. The same goes for Iceland (Area 03). Fortunately, Norway (Area 04) can report greater optimism, with several clubs with new members in the pipeline. In Lithuania (Area 02), the number of members seems stable.

It is pointed out that the anniversary year has been demanding and that the need for an exceptionally high work effort may well have given a reduction in membership. A high level of ambition has meant that some members felt that the workload has become a little too much.

Jane emailed the newest report to all board members just after the meeting.

4. The 2019 District Conference Finances and evaluation

By email 30 October 2019, Dorte sent us all the conference report as submitted to ZI and the evaluation report based on 135 answers to our questionnaire.

A very positive account shows a relatively large profit. This is due both to the high number of participants and a good success with sponsorships.

Elin suggests that in the future it should be free for the clubs to have booths at the conference. Maybe some clubs choose not to have a booth because of the price and the small income does not match with the good activity we lose.

After a discussion, we decided to send roughly one third of the District Conference Surplus to Zonta International Foundation.

We retain the remaining amount to be used for specific purposes. A discussion of this resulted in several good ideas for use for, for example, projects for club revitalization support, financial support for new clubs, developing our social media presence, website modernization and use of IT-supported solutions for increased use of Skype meetings, video conferences etc.

We decided that specific task formulation should be done in connection with budget setting - for discussion and decision at the next board meeting.

Maybe we should formulate a set of rules that describe the practices and guidelines for granting financial support of the allocated funds?

The UN Committee Chair Hanne Friis has sent us a request for financial support for her participation in the CSO in Geneva.

We decided to support with a grant to cover her flight expenses.

On behalf of the members of the UN Committee, Astrid Grude Eikseth has sent us a request for financial support to the Zontians who came to Copenhagen one day ahead in order to run a half-day workshop.

We decided to support a reasonable amount to cover their extra expenses.

5. **Proposal from the Women in Technology Scholarship Committee to continue in 2020**

The Women in Technology Scholarship (WiT) Committee has a strong desire to continue the scholarship on a District 13 level in 2020 and has submitted a proposal for District Board decision. Dorte sent this to us via email 5 January 2020.

We agreed to repeat the project in 2020 at district level.

During the discussion, a proposal was made to split the price amount into 4 parts, so that a price can be distributed in each Area instead.

One argument for this could be the opportunity to engage the clubs and increase sense of responsibility for the project. It might be an incentive for clubs if they can look forward to a major event in connection with an awards ceremony.

Some indicated that it is also a good idea to have area-level awards, but in the end it was decided to keep the district-level award and not divide it into smaller parts.

Aase stated that Area 01 has already decided to repeat the Area Award in 2020.

Elin remarked that in Norway there is already a relatively high proportion of women in technology and that they do not see a current purpose for a national award.

Dorte will inform the District Women in Technology Committee that the District Board has agreed to give a District 13 Award in 2020, no matter what is decided in Chicago – so that the Committee can continue its work and not lose momentum.

6. **Next meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled to take place in Iceland - with arrival on Wednesday 30 April and return home on Sunday 3 May.

We agreed that the joint meeting should include a thematic discussion on membership development and club revitalization.

At the request of Aase, we decided that the incoming Vice AD Area 01 may attend the meeting instead of the incoming AD, who unfortunately is prevented from participating.