

Minutes, Board Meeting nr. 2, September 2nd 2016, in Oslo, Norway. Meeting held in connection with the area meeting in area 4, Norway.

Present:

Ingibjörg Elíasdóttir (IE), governor
Dorte Olesen (DO), lieutenant governor
Lisbeth Løvenov (LL), area director area 1
Viduta Bačkierienė (VB), area director area 2
Lára G. Hansdóttir (LGH), area director area 3
Mari Ramsten Vangdal (MRV), area director area 4
Berit Birkelund (BB), treasurer
Helena G. Bjarnadóttir (HGB), secretary

Welcome: IE gives a warm welcome the boardmembers. The meeting is rather early in the calendar so there are not any reports to give on the work yet. The meeting will focus the work ahead.

Approval of the agenda: IE informs that a guest will come to the meeting, Astrid Grude Eikseth, Chair of the District UN Committee. She will inform the board about her work and the ZI UN Committee. *Agenda approved.*

Greetings from liaison to district 13: Lydia Chaillou, who has been appointed ZI liaison to district 13, sent her greetings to the board meeting and to the area meeting in area 4. She will attend the district meeting in Reykjavík in 2017 and help the board in any way she can.

District goals-approval of goals: IE asks if the board thinks there need to be any changes to the goals for the district the board discussed in Lithuania. Boardmembers agree that no changes are needed. Gov. emphasizes that we will have to remember the goals and keep them in mind, so that our work will be in accordance with the goals.

Discussion about what is going on and what will be going on, in light of the goals for District 13. Regarding goals on *service*: In area 1 they will discuss the projects at the upcoming area meeting later in September, but they have “Girl talk” and they are forming a group to communicate about the projects. In area 2 they have a project in each of the four clubs and they will meet in September to discuss further. In area 3 there are some projects for immigrant women, i.e. teaching them Icelandic. In area 4 projects will be discussed the following day at the area meeting.

Gov. stresses that all local projects have to focus on women and girls to be Zonta projects.

In Denmark there will be a big fundraising event in September. It was mentioned that the district, clubs, will have to remember to try to engage men in the work for advancing the status of women, sending e-mails and so on.

Regarding goals on *membership* DO thinks that we should focus on making the scholarships of Zonta known in schools.

About goals regarding *resources*: The board is responsible for the leadership training and membership knowledge. In Denmark they had a leadership training already. The board, AD's, should ask the club presidents what they need and discuss the goals. In Norway there is leadership training for the club presidents and they are sent away with homework which they don't do. Gov. mentioned that we have to be aware of that, not to ask for too much. IE wants us to be able to talk about donations, both club and individual donations, without being shy. Most clubs give 1/3 to ZI, as is expected, but not all of them. On the Norwegian website there is information about the donations of each club in Norway, which is very good. We could use Norway as an example and do the same in other countries. We have to repeat to our club members that this is 1/3 that we have to give to ZI foundation. In Lithuania they have had problems getting the club members to understand why the money has to go to ZI when they have so many problems in their own country. But at the convention in Nice there were good presentations of the projects and the AD, she stated, can explain better to the club members at home.

The board accepted the goals unanimously.

News from governor: In Nice it was accepted that the leadership committee will be a standing committee. They have divided the districts between them and our liaison is Jackie Gudmundsson. The committee sent a Power Point slideshow for Club Officer Training Project. Informative and should be easy to use. Each area can translate into their language, if that is what's needed. IE will send this to the board for AD's to use.

The 7th European Interdistrict Seminar in Vienna in February 2017 will focus on immigration and the changing situation of women in Europe. Among keynote speakers will be political experts on the subject. Gov. will take part in the seminar, some other board members might as well.

IE reminds the board of Convention in in Yokohama in 2018, and urges all board members to discuss that in the areas.

Finances:

Treasurer BB explains expences and the budget. There was some extra cost because of the website and some other unforeseen matters. There was profit from the district conference in Billund that 80.000 DK from that could be used to pay for the website.

Presentation and discussion on the budget for District 13: Treasurer controls this and contacts clubs if they have not paid the correct amount to the district. As of May 2016 members were 1047. There was an extra donation from the Selfoss club in Iceland when the club was disbanded, of 6.000 DK. Less funds were used for IE when Lt. Gov. than expected. There is 20.000 DK in the budget for the governor to go to district- and boardmeetings. There is an amount of money estimated to form new clubs. DO points out that this is in accordance with regulations from the membership committee board of ZI. In accordance with that IE talks about the club in Isafjordur in area 3, that has some problems and it would be good if we had some money put aside to retain, as well as form new clubs. It is suggested that they amount will be increased by moving 10.000 DK between items in the budget, so on the whole there is 16.000 DK in the budget for new clubs and clubs facing challenges. It is mentioned that in area 1 they two clubs are in the making, they could apply for this assistance.

The board agreed on this move between items in the budget unanimously.

Membership committee:

Lt.Gov. DO, membership committee chair, informs the board about the prospective work the committee. With her in the committee are: Inge-Lise Söbjerg, Chair of Area 01 Membership committee, ZC Köge, Hilde Heggelund ZC Oslo I, Guðríður Gyða Eyjólfsdóttir, ZC Akureyri, Ina Dagate ZC Vilnius. ZI Liaison for District 13 is Helena Karell ZC of Helsinki II (D 20)

There was a meeting in Nice which Dorte thought was very useful on membership for the incoming chairs conducted by the ZI membership committee.

The board has adopted the goal that we will have 5% increase in membership. Dorte asks the AD's if they have that also in their goals and some have and other areas will adopt it. We have also adopted the goal of gaining at least one new club. Again the AD's are asked if they have the same goal. In area 3 the focus will be on retaining the clubs that already exist because there have been/are problems with some, even though other clubs are very vibrant. In area 1, two new clubs are forming. In area 3 they have the same goal. In the club in Mariampole, area 2, they are hopeful about that goal with a new club president there.

ZIMP wants all DMCs to encourage Club presidents to have an active membership committee. Do clubs have that in the district? In some clubs in Denmark and in some clubs the club board has that task also. The board should call for information from clubs and encourage them to form a specific membership committee. ZIMC has asked the CMC to:

- Have DMC members assigned as liaisons to clubs.
- Liaisons work with their clubs' membership chairmen to set goals and address any concerns.
- DMC members to be in regular contact with their clubs.

How does this fit with the work in the area boards and committees? There is an active MC in Denmark. In some areas the AD's have gone to help recruiting clubs but this committee could help with that task. In Iceland, area 3, former gov. Ragnheiður Hansdóttir has taken the initiative to help the club in Isafjordur and is organizing the work for that. It is not a formal committee but maybe this could be the start for a area membership committee. The Icelandic AD is involved in this work. DO informed about the recruitment strategies endorsed by the ZIMC, i.e. to use media and district websites.

Some discussion about E-clubs. In Denmark they are looking into forming one. Board members express mixed views about the idea of e-clubs. DO informed the board about the retainment strategies the ZIMC encourages and also about the membership tools available. Discussion about if it is realistic to have club membership with a joint set of tools and reasonably similar agendas in all clubs by 2017? 2018? Should all areas have membership committees or could someone on the area board take the responsibility? Some discussion about these questions. General view that the board should come with suggestions and encourage use of the tools, but need to realize that there are different ways that membership committees/those responsible for the membership matters work best.

DO said that mainly PH students apply for the prizes/scholarships from Zonta. They get informed about the work of Zonta and some of them have become zontians. If that is introduced better in the universities, then more people get to know about zonta, students and staff.

Information from AD's

Area 4, Norway: Almost every club active, have set goal for 5% membership increase and are very focused on membership. There will be a leadership meeting early next year, where that issue will be discussed.

Area 2, Lithuania: One club especially activ. Some facing problems. AD and a few other members went to convention in Nice. Gained much better understanding of ZI and ZI projects. They give support for girls living in poverty to reduce social exclusion and have long-term effect.

Area 3, Iceland: Unfortunately lost one club earlier this year. Some clubs are very activ and some clubs have problems recruiting because of old age. Especially one club facing difficalities now, a task force is working with that club.

Area 1, Denmark: In general the clubs are in pretty good shape, though at least one having problems recruiting new members. AD going to visit the the new clubs that are coming and they will have a charter in June. Will talk about goals of ZI and D-13 in her visits to clubs.

D-13 website: BB

Treasurer BB has been involved in the work on the new website. She talked about the web, the work, challenges and successes. Showed the board the web, structure and content. She informed that guidelines would be sent out on how to use the web. Everyone happy with the web site. Discussion on writing some editorial guidelines, *IE and BB will look into that.*

Visit from the chair of D-13 UN committee, Astrid Grude Eikseth (AGE).

AGE introduced herself and then she informed the board about the work she has been doing; gathering information, writing newsletters and the communication, especially with the chair of the ZI UN Committee, Leslie Wright. The board appreciated that AGE could come and discuss the connection between Zonta and the UN and inform the board about the work. Discussions on how to expand the knowledge about Zonta and the UN and make members more interested and active in the work, connected to the UN. AGE stressed that the club presidents need to have the information because it needs to be at the club level. Otherwise nothing will happen, AGE said. IE points out that the fact that Zonta and UN work together should attract people to join Zonta, so maybe we could lift that up (marketing). She thanks AGE for her input.

Other district committees:

We now have chairs for all committees except the Advocacy Committee. IE asks if we have ideas and then send it to her. Xenia Nedergaard has accepted the role of PR/IT Committee Chair. We need more information from HQ about the role of the PR committee. Discussion about the appointment of the district Centennial Committee, gov. will send an e-mail and ask for suggestions. The committee shall be in place before the end of the year.

District bylaws and reimbursement guidelines, area guidelines.

District bylaws need to be updated according to changes made in Nice. IE will contact the Chair of the Bylaws and Resolution Committee to help with that. IE and BB will review the reimbursement guidelines that were adopted in Billund before the next board meeting.

IE and VB will work on the bylaws for area 2 before the next meeting of the board. Need to make sure they are in accordance with the ZI bylaws. LGH said that the bylaws for area 3 will be reviewed during this biennium.

District conference 2017

District Conference Committee has started working. IE suggests that this conference will follow the same procedure as the ones that have been held before. Discussion on having a few workshops at the conference. LL said that maybe by having an area meeting in connection with the district conference would attract more zontians. IE will keep the board posted on the preparations. The venue will be Hilton Hotel Nordica in Reykjavik

Next boardmeeting.

3-5. of March 2017 in Copenhagen. IE and BB will start preparations.

Governor thanked everybody for a good and productive meeting. Meeting adjourned at 15:30.

Helena Guðlaug Bjarnadóttir, secretary.

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