



## The European Small Islands Federation

Board meeting 08.01.2013, 14.00 GMT, on Skype

### MINUTES

#### Participants:

Camille Dressler	Scottish Island federation
Sandy Brunton	Scottish Island federation
Anetté Johansson	National Association for the Swedish Archipelago
Rhoda Twombly	Irish Island Association
Pia Prost	National Association of Finish Islands
Christian Pleijel	Företagsam Skärgård
Lise Thillemann Sørensen	Association of Danish Small Islands

Host and Secretary for the meeting was Denmark

#### Agenda

1. Opening
2. Approval of minutes from board meeting Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 2012
3. Treasury report by Anetté
4. ESIN working group 174: Report from meeting Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>. Short summary of “the plan”
5. SMILEGOV “Enhancing effective implementation of sustainable energy action plans in European islands through reinforcement of smart multilevel governance”: Status.
6. AGM 2013, Aaland: Discussion of proposed programme (attached).
7. Other issues
8. Meeting calendar  
Winter/spring 2013. SKYPE meetings.
  - **February 7<sup>th</sup> at 14.00 GMT**
  - **March 7<sup>th</sup> at 14.00 GMT**

## Minutes

1. The meeting was opened by Camille Dressler, who wished everyone a happy new year
2. Minutes from board meeting Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 2012 was approved.

3. Treasure report, Anetté Johansson.

The invoice from AIP will be paid, and that will settle the affairs with AIP.

Invoices for 2013 will be sent out end of January to all members of ESIN.

4. ESIN working group 174: Report from meeting Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>.

(See the minutes from Dec 13<sup>th</sup> attached to the last board meeting minutes from Dec 10<sup>th</sup>). At the moment we are awaiting the result of John Walsh's contacts with the Irish officials and politicians regarding a meeting between them and ESIN regarding island issues.

The board discussed possible issues for the upcoming meetings. It was stressed that ESIN needs to focus on our aims, and for this should make a list of examples: Each ESIN member (through their board member) should bring forward examples of what is not working for the small islands. Also a "positive" list of examples of special island rules in one nation will act as inspiration to other member nations of ESIN

A few examples were presented.

**ACTION POINT:** Please take note of the request in the attached file to send examples to the secretariat. The examples will be collected, listed and distributed to all board members. They will also act as a tool for the ESIN working group to formulate focused aims of ESIN to be presented and communicated in political forums.

**Note deadline is Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> 2013.**

State aid rules and the need for these to be changed for rural areas were discussed, and is an issue ESIN must work on.

Similar issues are

- the wish to raise *de minimis* for island farmers
- the fact that micro farming needs special attention.
- Agri-isle project

Mountain areas are Explicitly identified as a category in the framework of CAP and rural development, and we should work for a similar recognition for islands.

Christian pointed out that the ESPON study is treating this topic. Read more here:

[http://www.espon.eu/main/Menu\\_Projects/Menu\\_TargetedAnalyses/EUROISLANDS.html](http://www.espon.eu/main/Menu_Projects/Menu_TargetedAnalyses/EUROISLANDS.html)

5. SMILEGOV "Enhancing effective implementation of sustainable energy action plans in European islands through reinforcement of smart multilevel governance"

See attached summary by Camille. Also read more on *the Pact of islands* here:

<http://www.islepact.eu>

ESINs aim should be to get as many island communities to join the energy plan.

The project is a way for islands across Europe to become more sustainable From an energy point of view, and achieve the EU goal of 20% carbon reduction by 2020 Islands maybe geographically handicapped, but this is a way of making an example of what islands can do – And raise ESIN's profile.

The project will strengthen our bonds with other islands -and enable us to work better.

We need to clarify the following:

- The bank guarantee issues.
- The Financial model** has to be described in detail and clarified before we can work any further. (Anette and Christian and Camille will ask Alexis about the funding/financial model.)
- What is happening with the Pact-of-isles regarding the covenant of Mayors?

6. AGM 2013, Aaland: Discussion of proposed programme.

It was proposed – and agreed upon – to change the programme so that the AGM day will be put forward to the Tuesday (instead of the Thursday). This will allow for discussions among the delegates of the issues that will be decided on the AGM during the rest of the time.

It was discussed to add some extra time, ½-1 day, on the second day for additional ESIN work time, for the board or working groups within ESIN following the AGM decisions. I t was proposed that some of the island study visits could be optional, maybe on the Friday.

Also there should be a board meeting before and after the actual AGM.

Christian will make a 2<sup>nd</sup> draft before Feb 7<sup>th</sup>.

7. Other issues

Nothing further.

8. Meeting calendar

Winter/spring 2013. SKYPE meetings.

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LS 14/Jan/2013