



European Small Islands Federation

Board Meeting, No.22: 16 December 2019 9.00am Dublin time via Zoom

Participants:

Camille Dressler	Scottish Island federation
John Walsh	COE/Irish Federation
Sten-Åke Persson	National Association for the Swedish Archipelago
Anetté Johansson	National Association for the Swedish Archipelago
Pia Prost	National Association of Finnish Islands
Kristian Packalén	Åland
Dorthe Winther	Danish Small Islands Association
Lise Thilleman Sørensen	Danish Small Islands Association

Attending:

Host & Secretary:

Rhoda Twombly	Irish Islands Federation
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Apologies:

Denis Bredin	AIP/France
Riina Kaljulaid	AEI (Estonia)

1. Minutes, Agenda and Matters Arising

John Walsh opened the meeting as Chairperson. The minutes of 20 August were approved as was the agenda for this meeting. There were no matters arising.

2. Finance

Sweden has paid its contribution to the AGM costs: will also contribute to any shortfall.

Only €2,500 balance going into 2020. It is imperative that ESIN looks for new funding. Proposed that the Board look into the Europe for Citizens program: **ACTION:** look at <https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/citizenship-programme>

Sten-Åke reported that he had invoiced all participants for the train tickets used for the AGM. Unfortunately, no one had received their invoice so these will be resent.

The Budget for 2020 had been discussed at the AGM: Rhoda will resend it with the next minutes.

ACTION: More discussion needed on the budget.

3. Review of Action Points & Conferences

1. Working Groups: These need to be set up as soon as possible with a report coming back to the Board. **ACTION:** Working groups as agreed will be sent with the minutes.

A discussion followed on the structure of the working groups (see e-mail from Rhoda 16/12/19):

- Each group to have a manager and leader
- Each group should make up its own work template
- There must be a Board member in each group and he/she should be Group Leader
- Members can be appointed by EOI (Expression of Interest) and Board discussion and approval: expert members may join later
- The Board of ESIN must at all times be apprised of the work of the Group and be in control of final decisions

ACTION: John will complete the terms of reference and send to each Group for further work. Further expertise will then be sought. This was **agreed**.

2. Letter to MEPs: emphasising that Islands must be considered in all policy decisions: A few members have sent the letter to their MEPs encouraging them to keep the Islands in mind. **ACTION:** Update the letter using the Croatian Presidency as the back-drop. This should be done by the Policy Group.
3. European Rural Parliament meeting in Spain: discussion on ESIN workshop on Smart Villages/Smart Islands: Progress report (Camille & John) ESIN participated in the ERP meeting in Spain. Camille noted that she felt there should have been more mention of Islands in the ERP Declaration. There was a lot of coverage of Smart Villages and Camille has signed up for the Thematic group meeting on Smart Villages in January.
 - The opinion was expressed that the ERP needs to become more political and targeted in its aims. **ACTION:** each member to look at Smart Village programs in their own country.
 - Note that there is €10 mill to be spent on this project: **ACTION:** John to add this to the Policy Group: Looking into Smart Villages program and funding.
4. Plastics and Waste: Lise to prepare a survey on Google docs analytical. CD to send Lise questions.
5. SEARICA group: Noted that 5 Irish MEPs have joined the SEARICA group. **ACTION:** Members to contact their MEPs to encourage them to join.
6. Energy Report: held over. (Mairtin OMealoid joined meeting) Mairtin noted that Islands have been added to the Green Deal document.
7. John attended 4th Greening the Islands national conference, organized in collaboration with CPMR (Conference Peripheral Maritime Regions) Islands Commission, Palermo October 15th. He noted that the representatives on Greening were keenly interested in the information given on work on the Islands. He also felt it very important to meet and mix with the members of CPMR and the other attending groups. **ACTION:** Report on the meeting is due out 15 January: to be put on ESIN website.

4. **AOB**

- Website: post article on Irish Islands Consultation: request for blogs from members
- GDPR: ESIN data (contacts, etc) not to be sent out without Board approval
- Board meetings to be attended only by Board members

6. Calendar

Invitation to Smart Villages : Invitation to 10th Thematic Group Meeting on 'Smart Villages', Brussels,
22 Jan 2020 9am https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/10th-thematic-group-meeting-smart-villages_en