



European Small Islands Federation

Board Meeting, No.24: 17 Feb 2020 9.00am Dublin time via Zoom

Participants:

John Walsh	COE/Irish Federation
Camille Dressler	Scottish Island federation
Anetté Johansson	National Association for the Swedish Archipelago
Denis Bredin	AIP/France
Riina Kaljulaid	AEI (Estonia)
Sten-Åke Persson	National Association for the Swedish Archipelago
Lise Thilleman Sørensen	Danish Small Islands Association
Kristian Packalén	Åland

Attending:

Host & Secretary:

Rhoda Twombly	Irish Islands Federation
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Apologies:

Pia Prost	National Association of Finnish Islands
Dorthe Winther	Danish Small Islands Association

1. Minutes, Agenda and Matters Arising

John Walsh opened the meeting. The minutes of 20 Jan 2020 were approved as was the agenda for this meeting Pro: Camille Second: Kristian. SEARICA to be discussed in AOB

2. Finance


- Annette will send out Membership invoices. FEDARENE has been paid the €750 fee leaving €2,428.14 in the ESIN account.
- **ACTION:** RT to send Annette signed copy of AGM Minutes as well as John's contact information.
- If all members pay there will be a gain of €2,750. Annette to send 2019 and 2020 invoices to those unpaid.
- Need to achieve the 2020 budget of €2,750 plus existing €2,428.14 to allow for the AGM in Brussels
- **ACTION:** AGM Budget needs to be defined: AGM working group to meet ASAP to research prices, etc.
- Tentative cost per attendee €400.
- **ACTION:** Denis B to research getting the same conference room. AGREED: to aim for the same general set-up as the last Brussels AGM
- **PROPOSED:** Maximum of 500euro from ESIN for the 2020 AGM AGREED.

- PROPOSED: A separate funding for ESIN member(s) to attend outside meetings as pre-agreed by the Board – a sum of 2,000euro from budget. AGREED.

3. Review of Action Points & Conferences

1. John is writing to Italy concerning their membership with regard to payments and participation. There has been no response from Denis Baric: Annette will send Croatia the 2020 invoice. **ACTION:** JW and RT to write letter.
2. Working Groups: The Terms of Reference have been completed. Each group is to meet and send forms back in to the Board. **ACTION:** Put Working Group information in DropBox.
Plastics & Waste: It was suggested that Blue Growth program, which includes plastics & waste, is more important and should have its own working group. **ACTION:** Camille to send info on Blue Growth to all to enable a decision.
3. Europe for Citizens: Research how difficult it is to apply for funding especially as it has been suggested that the program will change at the beginning of 2021. **ACTION:** JW to email Pia to see will she speak with Kim: Lise and Dorte to also discuss with Kim if there is the opportunity.
4. Letter to MEPs: **ACTION:** To be put into Strategy Group. All to look over letter and send suggestions in to CD.
5. Island Tax Structures: Existing tax benefits on EU Islands?
 - Denmark: free ferry for residents, reduced cargo rates
 - Scotland: incentives for employing on Islands remotely
 - PROPOSED: Useful to compile any legislation relevant to Islands: re positive discrimination – also loss of allowances over the years. **ACTION:** Policy/ strategy group to look at tax structures, etc. Lise to set up questionnaire on Google analytics; CD to add Rural questionnaire.

4. Chair Update

- John to send on report on Smart Villages: it is important for each member to know their local Smart Village actions.
- More work needed on Smart Islands: John to write to Tonino Picula before end of Croatian Presidency
- Meeting with Irish MEP Billy Kelleher: very positive; keen to see a doc on ESIN needs and suggested solutions. **ACTION:** Policy group to work on list of needs and solutions for MEPs. Also, Denis B to speak with Giuseppe Sciacca re Smart Islands work in CPMR.
- Meeting at the Secretariat: JW&CD: could be an extension to Secretariat in June which may be permanent. NESOI: 60x€50,000 grants available in October for energy projects.
- Youth rep? Proposed: a short film from each Federation by youth expressing their views on Climate Change AGREED: Add to the questionnaire - questions on Youth involvement and interest
- Advisory Board of Secretariat: John to attend 25 March in Brussels, expenses paid by Secretariat.
 -  Very little, if anything, from the Secretariat or NESOI for the small Islands. No answer to questioning of whether the small Islands can be included

- ✚ Message to bring to Advisory: Small Islands have serious funding difficulties so almost impossible for them to even write an energy plan. Without funding and technical help they will not progress to clean energy.
- ✚ **ACTION**: Note to lobby for ELENA funding to include a section for small Island funding

4. **AOB**

- NEXT MEETING: 23 March 2020, 9am Irish time
- Rhoda to include updated budget with minutes

6. **Calendar**

25 March: Steering meeting Clean Energy Secretariat Brussels (John)

29-30 April 2020: CPMR AGM, Azores (John)

17 June 2020 Marseille : meeting on Island groupings on an international level (CD)