

Minutes

11th Board Meeting

Friday April 6th, 2001 at 19.00 CET

Vartov, Copenhagen

The following persons were present:

John Petersen, Chairperson

Lászlo Dani, Deputy Chairperson

Jesper Nielsen, Treasurer

Mjellma Mehmeti, Board member

Linda Jakobsone, Board member

1. Opening of the board meeting
2. Approving of the agenda and the last times minutes
3. Future of ACC (including EVS)
4. Domicile
5. The working camp in Frisia
6. The GA (proposals of board, statute-issues, elections etc.)
7. New and old projects/committees (Wales/Cornwall/New Year's Event/Constitution Initiative)
8. AWE Council Saturday and the Conference
9. TCC preparations
10. Accounts and budget (John and Jesper)
11. Proposal to Jesper
12. Disposal amounts policy
13. Local chapters policy
14. Policy on unity/diversity/culture issues (Cornwall example)
15. Process of Civil Society Consultation on Youth policy
16. AOB, Strasbourg, Bellagio

1. Opening of the meeting

John opens the meeting. Linda volunteers to be the secretary. John will chair the meeting.

2. Approving the agenda and the last minutes

An item on non face-to-face meetings suggested by Linda is added to the agenda.

The question on budget will be discussed before the issue of domicile.

Minutes of the last Board meeting are agreed upon.

3. Future of ACC (including EVS)

John informs that as Linda cannot do the European Voluntary Service, ACC Office has applied for Ruben Marcus to be the volunteer at the ACC Office. His work can start on July 1st. One of the tasks on Ruben should be to look for a successor.

Lászlo would like to look for a person who could do EVS after Ruben starting on January 1st, 2002.

John informs that in case Ruben does not pass his exams it will be necessary to find somebody else who could start EVS on September 1st, 2001.

Jesper emphasizes that it is very important to look at the possible volunteers critically.

John states that there should be a specific project for each volunteer. John also informs that there have been 2 suggestions following his letter in which he talked about the necessity to think critically about the future of ACC. Linda and Eva have suggested sharing the tasks of the ACC office among the board members. The other proposal was by Jesper to lower the ambitions of ACC. John has written a list of the most important tasks to be done at the office.

Mjellma suggested seeing which of the tasks have to be done directly from the office.

Lászlo is willing to do the work which is connected with maintaining the website and running it.

John emphasizes that most of the tasks we share take more time when to do them himself. Not everybody has been serious enough about the promises made.

Jesper adds that he does not have much time to share the tasks of the office.

Lászlo shares that as he is starting a new job, he has to be more concrete about the things he has to do for ACC. Lászlo also suggests that part of the office work could be done by somebody in Eastern Europe where the expenses and salaries are lower.

Linda volunteers to take over the task of "snail mail" when necessary.

John says that Lászlo could take over the website as soon as the new version is finished.

Jesper suggests that the task of working with the media could be taken over by the Board members as there are specific events happening. Jesper adds that the ambitions of the next GA could be lowered.

Linda adds that it is important to think about the motivation and involvement of volunteers and members of ACC.

4. Accounts and budget.

Accounts for 2001 and the budget for 2002 are approved.

5. Domicile

It is decided to move the ACC International Programme Office to Flensborgvej 48, A6 DK-6200 Aabenraa, Denmark.

6. Non-face-to-face meetings.

Linda suggests that in addition to the chat on Peoplesite, web-conferencing could be used. The advantages of that are that the board meetings could be extended as not everybody have to be on the chat at the same time. That can also provide more space and time for discussions, and be more effective for the decision-making. **Linda** will find out more about this and inform the Board members.

Lászlo suggests that in case chat on Peoplesite does not work there should be a back-up plan. **Lászlo** will also inquire on the possibilities to use voice-mail.

7. The working camp in Frisia

As Siebren could not join the Board meeting, this issue cannot be discussed, as there is not enough information.

John informs that Siebren's idea for the working camp is to work on a website for the Frisian Folk highschool in Terschelling, or in other words to link Frisia to Europe. Siebren has applied for money for the working camp.

Linda informs that part of the costs for the Latvian participants might be covered by the Embassy of the Netherlands in Latvia. **John** will inform Linda if there is such a need.

John informs that the dates of the working camp are August 26 – September 3. The answer from the Foundation where Siebren applied for the money will come on May 14.

6. The GA (proposals of board, statute-issues, elections etc.)

John has several proposals where the GA could take place, if it will not take place in Frisia:

- on Peoplesite,
- to have GA in December in Denmark.

Lászlo suggests having GA in Budapest, as it is a very accessible place for many ACC members.

It is decided to have GA in Terschelling. In case it is not possible, GA will take place in Budapest.

John informs that 15th of April is the deadline for the proposals for the GA. John reminds that **Siebren** promised in the last GA in Rite to work on clear voting

procedures. **John** will ask Siebren to prepare this procedure for the Board meeting in Budapest.

John also suggests changing the membership fee as it is very complicated procedure to send 10 EUR. John has 2 proposals:

- to pay 10 EUR as a membership fee for the first year and after that to send a postcard which will substitute the membership fee,
- to eliminate the membership fee for the people who find a new member of ACC

Linda suggests that the members still can be encouraged to have a suggested donation for the ACC.

It is decided that the membership fee is 10 EUR for the first year and a postcard for the next years as well as the members will be encouraged to pay a suggested donation of 10 EUR a year.

John suggests having a special ACC postcard.

John, Lászlo and Mjellma will participate in the next elections of the Board. It is decided to encourage Ruben to be the substitute.

7. New and old projects/committees (Wales/Cornwall/New Year's Event/Constitution Initiative)

Jesper informs about the project by Richard Talbot. He is planning to organize a 4-week course in Cornish – British – European context on language issues in the global world. He plans to invite 60 – 65 participants. Project is supported by several NGOs across Europe. The course will take place in July 2002, 3 weeks in Cornwall and 1 week in Cardiff.

John informs that:

- Eva's project was postponed due to the fact that she is busy with her studies. It will take place during the Christmas holidays 2002
- Martha's project is also postponed
- Jette's project is also postponed
- TCC is on its way
- There is still no confirmation on financing for the project in Macedonia
- European Charter Community College will not be held in the Scandinavian School in Brussels
- Schools for Europe CC / New Year's Event will take place in Hojskolen Ostersoen, Aabenraa. The idea behind the project is to work on a European folk high school act/law.
- Constitution initiative is a new project, which came out of the letter to the Danish Minister of Education about the folk high school format in the European context. The issue can be seen in the political context of the Danish presidency. This initiative was combined with ideas of a Danish pro-EU NGO "New Europe". The

project is to gather 1000 young people to write a draft of the European Constitution. ACC could provide 2 people for each folk high school to coordinate the event. If this project will be supported that might be implemented instead of the New Year's Event.

- There is also an idea of "New Europe" about an IT project for a Portal where global issues could be discussed. AWE could be the first user of this network.

Linda informs that ACC-Latvia is working on promoting the folk high school idea in Latvia. John will find out more about this in April, when he will be in Latvia.

Lászlo informs that during the visit to the Danish workers Union a week before he suggested a common project with Rumania on development issues in the field of adult education. His suggestion will be discussed in a week's time.

John informs that Nana has proposed to have GA in Georgia as well as Kerttu has an idea about the course in all three Baltic countries.

8. AWE Council meeting on Saturday and the Conference
Mjellma volunteers to be on election for the AWE Council.

9. TCC preparations

John informs that there is a working meeting planned in May to prepare workshops organized by ACC.

Lászlo informs that he will be present in TCC at least for the first week.

Further discussions of this issue are postponed.

10. Proposal to Jesper

John informs about Siebren's suggestion to Jesper and Hojskolen Ostersoer to invite ACC to the Minority courses in the future as it happened last year.

Jesper answers that John will be invited to have a lecture on ACC during the Minority Course. A bigger involvement of ACC (possibly 2 day event) is being planned for 2002.

12. Disposal amounts policy

John informs that there is a need for a general procedure on how to transfer money to the members or organizations working on the ACC projects.

Jesper suggests to ask the Council of Europe and other donor-institutions on the procedure they could suggest.

Lászlo emphasizes the need for a legal contract for each specific case.

Mjellma will inquire about this to the Council of Europe.

13. Local chapters policy

John informed that ACC Latvia has elected a board where is no ACC Board member represented.

It is decided that the ACC- Latvia committee consists of the ACC- Latvia board and Linda. It is suggested that **Linda** has to work more closely with ACC- Latvia.

14. Policy on unity/diversity/culture issues (Cornwall example)

Mjellma suggests that each project proposal has to be carefully revisited by the ACC representative on the committee as well as by the whole ACC Board.

John adds that the principle question for supporting any project is whether it speaks to any common European need or interest, but a reason for rejecting is also, if it contradicts with the basic ideology of ACC, that common problems should be solved in common.

Jesper agrees that any project has to be discussed in the Board.

Lászlo adds that it is important to participate in the discussions during the development phase of the project.

John suggests that ACC should support projects that see the need for common solutions to the common problems.

15. Process of Civil Society Consultation on Youth policy

John informs that ACC has sent a proposal on creating European community colleges to the Council of Europe. In this proposal the example of the support by the Danish Ministry of Education to the Minority Course 2001 was mentioned. There was a consultation about these issues in Sweden. **John** will ask Conchi if she knows what has been the development following this proposal.

16. Strasbourg

Lászlo informs that in October there was a seminar in Strasbourg on life-long learning and citizenship in Strasbourg where Lászlo, John and Conchi took part. ACC was presented to the participants of the seminar.

John proposes to discuss the issue of European Youth Forum and its possible support to the European community colleges in the next Board meeting (when Conchi is present).

17. Bellagio

Mjellma informs that ACC has proposed to have a seminar "Common Education is Peace Education" to the Rockefeller Fund. The idea is to invite 25 public opinion formers (journalists, politicians, NGO activists and scientists) to discuss

this common European issue. The even will take place in Bellagio for 3 days in spring, 2002.

John adds that travels were not included in the proposal.

Mjellma suggests asking UNESCO for additional funding.

18. AOB

Lászlo informs about his very own wedding project on August 19!

The meeting is closed.