

## **EOC Board Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at the SFO Office, 17 Quai de la Seine, 75019, Paris, France**

Present: G Diana, V Dumont, C Hammer, C Hermans (Minute Taker), J Hermans, R Jenny, D Lafarge, J Larsen (EOCCE President), A Matikka & F-J Richardt. Guest: C Dupont

1. **Welcome:** EOC Board Members and Guest were welcomed by Mr Jenny.

2. **Apologies:** None

### **3. Minutes of the Board Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019 Estepona, Spain & Matters Arising**

The Minutes of the Board Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019, Estepona, Spain were unanimously approved. It was agreed that the wording in Item 15 Exchange of Articles should remain “one member per country” and not as Mr van Winkel suggested “one member per language area”. Mr Jenny thanked Dr Hermans for taking the Minutes.

### **4. Financial Report**

Mr Matikka tabled the spreadsheet of Membership Fees. Mr Matikka confirmed that Österreichische Orchideengesellschaft had resigned in 2018 and that the Wiener Orchideengesellschaft had now resigned in 2019. It was agreed not to chase up any outstanding membership fees. In addition the Svenska Orkidésällskapet resigned in 2019, it was agreed that Mr Jenny would write to the individual Swedish Orchid Societies suggested by Mr Larsen inviting them to become members of the EOC.

Mr Lafarge agreed to contact the Association France-Orchidées (AFO), Fédération Française des Amateurs d'Orchidées (FFAO) and Société Nationale d'Horticulture de France (SNHF) regarding their outstanding fees.

It was agreed that Mr Matikka would send a reminder to Norsk Orkidéforening (NOK) and contact Clube dos Orquidofilos de Portugal (COP).

It was agreed that as there had been no contact with the Latvian Orchid Society (LOEADA) and the Orchid Planet Society (Russia) for two years their membership would cease from January 2020.

It was agreed that there would be an AGM Agenda item informing delegates of a change of invoice date from spring of the current year to the last quarter of the previous year. In future all invoices would be sent out Oct.-Dec. for the next year's membership fee.

Mr Jenny confirmed that Mrs Borg's name had been removed from the EOC account by Post Finance on 26/3/2019.

Mr Matikka reported that the fees for a PayPal account were high and therefore it was agreed not to open one. Mr Jenny thanked Mr Matikka for his work.

### **5. Members**

Mr Jenny reported that there was no delegate from the Swiss Orchid Foundation although their fees were paid. Mr Jenny confirmed that Società Felsinea di Orchidofilia's membership would be confirmed at the next AGM. Dr Hermans reported that the Hardy Orchid Society of the UK would be applying to become a member.

### **6. Report Results EOCCE Paris 2018**

Mr Lafarge tabled a report on the EOCCE Paris 2018 which will be available to the organisers of future EOCCEs. The deficit from the EOCCE was shared by the three orchid societies so was manageable. Overall it was a positive experience for the societies working together, especially the SFO and FFAO who will now have a joint journal L'Orchidophile.

## **7. Status EOCCE 2021 Copenhagen**

Mr Larsen confirmed that there was now a small Organising Committee in place and an Events Manager has been appointed. Show: Mr Larsen reported that both exhibitor space and registration were live on the website <https://eocce2021.dk/en/>. Invitations to Exhibitors and advertising were due to be sent soon. Newsletters were planned for Registrants and Exhibitors.

Sponsorship is being actively sought. Mr Larsen confirmed that he will bring a sponsorship proposal for the EOC to consider at the next AGM.

Advertising: a Facebook group is planned. An Editors Forum will be held. Lectures: H Pedersen may be organising the lecture programme subject to his bid being accepted by the Organising Committee. Posters: plenty of space will be available. Judging: Trainee Judges will be able to use the one day registration. Social: The Gala Dinner will now be at the Copenhagen Admiral Hotel.

## **8. Status EOCCE 2024 Dresden**

Mr Richardt reported that Dresden will be applying to host the 2026 WOC during the 2020 Taiwan WOC. The organisers were due to sign a contract with Exhibition Dresden in 2020 to last until 2026 and Exhibition Dresden would arrange advertising for all the shows. For 2020 they have 45 confirmed exhibitors and plan to invite an additional two European orchid societies to exhibit in subsequent years. It was also hoped to increase the sales area by 25%.

## **9. Logo Competition**

Mr Jenny confirmed that he had written permission from the designer of the new logo Mr Roux to use his design. It was unanimously agreed to use the shaded green/yellow/brown version.

## **10. Next Board & AGM Meetings Spring 2020 (Rome)**

Mr Diana confirmed that next Board and AGM meetings would be held at the Rome Botanical Garden <https://web.uniroma1.it/ortobotanico/en> on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2020. Provisional times: Board Meeting afternoon of 17<sup>th</sup> (time to be confirmed) and AGM at 11.30 (tbc) on 18<sup>th</sup>.

An orchid show will be held in Monte Portazio Catone (Villa Mondragone, Via Frascati, 51, 00078) from 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> April. Transport will be available between the two sites and the journey takes an hour. Mr Diana agreed to send further information soon to be circulated by Mr Jenny.

## **11. Board Meeting Fall 2020 (Copenhagen)**

Mr Larsen proposed that the Board visited both the Exhibition Centre (if possible) and the nursery of Hans Christiansen during their visit, suggested dates Friday 13<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November (tbc).

## **12. Change in Statutes**

It was agreed to amend Article 8 by adding “The Directors and Secretary General have to be Delegates of a Member Organisation of the EOC.” It was agreed not to make this a condition for Co-opted Members. Mr Jenny agreed to circulate the wording to Board Members before it was put to the next AGM.

### **13. Judging**

Following a wide ranging discussion about issues arising from judging it was agreed that a small working group would be set up. It would be led by Mr Lafarge and the aim would be to decide a system to accredit the Judging Organisations in Europe and agree standards. Board members were asked to suggest suitable people to Mr Lafarge.

### **14. EOC Website**

Mr Hammer confirmed that following changes in Data Protection Laws all the judging lists had been removed from the website. Mr Hammer commented on the lack of information for the website especially about shows. A suggestion was made that journal editors could share their information on shows. Mr Hammer agreed to contact the Editors group via Mr van Winkel. Mr Hammer agreed to amend the wording on the web site under Members to Board Members and to upload the new DOG Judging Rules.

Mr Hammer gave notice that he wanted to hand over responsibility for the website in 3 years time.

### **15. CITES Madeira**

It was agreed that Mr Jenny would inform Mr Spinola that the EOC Board could not help him with the CITES difficulties in Madeira.

### **16. Facebook page**

It was unanimously decided not to have an EOC Facebook page due to the practicalities being too great. Mr Jenny would thank Mr Klein for his suggestion.

### **17. Fake e-mail**

Mr Jenny confirmed that his e-mail address had been harvested from the EOC website.

### **18. AOB**

Mr Matikka suggested that there was a Chairman/President of Orchid Societies' Meeting at the EOCCE, possible topics could be 'How to stop falling membership numbers', 'Best Practices' and 'How to fight the internet.' The Board agreed that it was a good idea and asked Mr Larsen to consider it for EOCCE Copenhagen.

Mrs Dupont suggested that the Board consider ideas to support students. It was agreed that the prize for the Best Poster at EOCCE should continue and Mr Larsen suggested putting all the submitted posters on the EOCCE website with the author's permission.

Mr Richardt confirmed that due to a change in tax regulations the DOG were no longer allowed to sell their journal direct to the public.

Mr Jenny thanked the President of SFO Mr Hervouet for allowing the EOC Board to meet in the SFO offices. Then Mr Jenny made a presentation to Mrs Dupont thanking her for her work over the years as a Board Member.

Meeting closed at 17.00pm  
Clare Hermans