Minutes of EOC Board Meeting 13th April 2013 London, UK

Present: I. Borg, V. Dumont, C. Dupont, C. Hammer, J. Hermans, & R. Jenny.
Guests: C. Hermans (Minute taker).
Apologies: M. Speckmaier.
Those present were welcomed by the Chair Mr Jenny.

2. Minutes board-meeting in Paris 8.12.2012.
The minutes of the Board Meeting Paris December 2012 were unanimously approved.

3. Report of Finances, auditor report.
A report of the Finances was tabled by Mrs Borg. Some societies' 2013 subscriptions are outstanding. A reminder will be sent to them after the AGM.

4. Members.
The following societies have applied to join the EOC: GIROS, AGEO, the Portuguese Orchid Society & the Irish Orchid Society. Orchidophiles Réunis de Belgique and the Slovenian Orchid Society have resigned.
Mr Hammer has contacted the AHO (Arbeitskreis Heimische Orchideen) Germany who are considering whether to join the EOC. Mr Jenny will contact the native section of Naturaliste Belge and Mrs Dumont will contact Mr Philippe Martin of the FFAO about joining the EOC. It was noted that there appeared to be no apparent activity by the Orchid Club of Europe.

5. Proposal for EOCCE 2018.
Mr Jenny reported that he had received a formal proposal from the SFO, France Orchidées and SNHF to host the EOCCE 2018 in Paris.

6. Financial Competence of secretary general, treasurer and board-members.
Mr Jenny agreed to explore alternative banking arrangements for the EOC account and report back to the next Board Meeting in autumn 2013. It was agreed that there should be two signatories on an internet based account. The idea of setting some spending limits was discussed and suggested amounts agreed. They were a single signature only limit of €100, joint signature limit of €500 and Board approval limit of €1000; anything above this would require the approval of the AGM. These proposals and the changed banking arrangements once agreed by the Board will be put to the AGM in 2014.

7. EOC-Website.
The website will be updated with the new members by mid-May. It was note that the RHS & D.O.G. events were up to date.

8. EOC-news platform Orchid Review.
Mr Hermans reported that the Editor of the Orchid Review, Mrs Forsyth would be attending part of the AGM. He reported that the Orchid Review would provide a host for publicity for EOCCE 2015 and 2018. A PDF has been produced by the Orchid Review for the EOC website.

9. Status EOC projects.
List of judges: Mr Hammer reported that eight societies have responded so far with updated lists.
List of translators: It was agreed that this was no longer required (as per Dec 2012).

List of events (shows, conferences etc.): see above.
List of Orchid journals: Mr Jenny informed the meeting that the Journals were up to date.
Contacts CITES: Mrs Dumont reported that the next meeting is due soon and that there was no other new information.
Protection project: No further progress to report.

10. Communication within the EOC.
Mr Jenny reported that he was going to explore further the possibility of an EOC newsletter or setting up a web based EOC discussion forum at the AGM.

11. Any Other Business.
EOCCE 2015: Mr Hermans gave an update on the RHS hosting the EOCCE 2015 at short notice in place of Vienna. The RHS was supportive of the Conference which would coincide with the London Orchid Show using the two RHS halls with a lecture programme possibly in conjunction with partners. He pointed out that there were smaller lecture facilities now available at the RHS compared to EOCCE 2003. The RHS and the RHS Orchid Committee would be the main organisers. Mr Hermans was asked to formally request the €2000 EOC contribution to EOCCE 2015 before the 2014 AGM. The Board thanked Mr Hermans and the RHS for offering to host the EOCCE 2015 at short notice.

QR Codes: It was agreed that Mr Hammer would create a QR code to link to the EOC website.

12. AGM April 2013 London.
The agenda for the AGM was re-arranged and an item added about the EOCCE 2015.

13. Next board meeting (Fall 2013).
No suggestion was tabled for a venue for the next Board Meeting but Mr Jenny agreed to look into possibilities.

14. Next AGM 2014.
Two possibilities had been received for the AGM 2014 and it was agreed that the AGM should decide between Porto Portugal in early April and the SFO Conference and Show in Blois in March.