

EOC Board Meeting 28 October 2017 at SFO Offices, 17 Quai de la Seine, Paris, France

Present: C Dupont, V Dumont, C Hammer, C Hermans, J Hermans, R Jenny, M LeRoy, A Matikka

Apologies: G Diana

EOC Board members were welcomed by Mr Jenny.

3. Minutes of the Board Meeting in Gdansk, May 2017.

It was agreed that the Minutes of the AGM Gdansk would be accepted as the Board Meeting Minutes.

4. Financial Report.

Mr Matikka tabled the spreadsheet of the membership subscriptions. The membership fee for the Association Francophone (AFJO) was now paid. It was agreed that the 2016 and 2017 fees for the Irish Orchid Society would be considered as paid. It was agreed that the Treasurer should now write a formal reminder letter to Norsk Orkidéforening (NOK) as they had not responded to his two e-mail ones. Unfortunately, the subscription for Société Nationale d'Horticulture de France (SHNF) went to the old bank account. They had been advised to get their money returned so that their subscription could be paid to the correct account.

It was agreed to remove the four societies who were no longer members from the subscription list (Club Amigos de las Orquideas; Orchid Club Romania; Orchideenfreunde Dortmund & Vereinigung Deutscher Orchideenfreunde).

5. Members.

Mr Jenny reported that he had been approached by a Researcher at Athens University about advice on how to set up a new Orchid Society in Greece and what the benefits of EOC membership were. The new member society that was agreed in Gdansk; the Polish Orchid Association has now paid their annual subscription.

6. Status EOCCE 2018 Paris.

Mr LeRoy presented an update on EOCCE 2018.

Conference: On Friday 23rd March there would be an all-day Masterclass with the theme 'New Trends in Orchid Cultivation.' Some talks would be in French with English power-point presentations and vice-versa.

The final Speakers list would be put on the web site as soon as it was confirmed.

Publicity: The Communication team was now being led by Mr LeRoy but Ms Goussu was still involved. The English version of the website was now working and the Registration process was easier. The EOCCE 2018 Facebook page was being updated regularly. Through the SNHF 'save the date' had been sent to 10,000 e-mail addresses. A Press Release was being prepared. The annual exhibition held at MHN Paris '1000 orchids' was due to start on 7 Feb. 2018 and would run for a month. It would be used as an opportunity to promote the EOCCE 2018. Philippe Lecoufle has agreed to use his contacts to promote the show. The French Federation of Photography plan to hold a photographic competition during the event and attract some of their 5,000 members.

Sponsorship: Sponsors were still being actively sought. It was agreed this was an area that Board Members might be able to help with. It was agreed that Mr LeRoy would send his sponsorship document to the Board Members as soon as possible so that it could be used when the members were at the WOC in Ecuador in early November. A possible sponsor for

some of the Judging Trophies may have been found. Mrs Hermans agreed to send Mr LeRoy the list of Trophies required. Mr Jenny agreed to sponsor the prize for the best Poster and it would include a dinner ticket for the winner. It was agreed that this would need to be publicised on the website and the scientific delegates informed. It was suggested that the closing time for poster submission would be the start of the Science Conference on Saturday 24th (09.00).

Judging: It was agreed that Mr LeRoy would contact Dr Pratt about convening a Poster Judging Panel for the Saturday morning and that it would include Mr Jenny.

Mrs Dumont & Mrs Hermans confirmed that the Judging Masterclass to be held on Friday afternoon 23rd would be re-named the European Judging Symposium. Mrs Hermans would amend the Judging Handbook to reflect this.

The Premier Trophies and the Poster prize would be presented at the Dinner.

Editors Forum: It was agreed that Mr LeRoy would confirm with Mr La Farge that 10am Saturday 24th was suitable for the Editors Forum.

EOC Subsidy: Mr LeRoy thanked the Board for the EOC subsidy which would be used for the combined EOC member's exhibit.

Show: There is a waiting list for exhibitors. It was suggested that the timing of the dinner at le Train Bleu is to be set to allow exhibitors to attend, as the show closed at 19.00 that day.

Registration Fees: Board members felt that better clarification of all the rates on the website was required.

Each amount needed to show what was included i.e. show access, science conference access the Preview but not the Dinner. A simple table was required.

The new 50€ Judging rate is in fact for Judging on Thursday without the reception & access to the Show, the Masterclass & European Judging Symposium on the Friday are all included. It was felt that this needed a new name to promote it better, perhaps 'Judging & Friday Registration'. Mrs Hermans agreed to let the Mrs Stowe know about these details so that it could be included in the December Orchid Review.

EOC Meetings: Mr LeRoy confirmed that the EOC delegates did not need to pay to attend the EOC AGM meeting but there would be no free access to the Show, Judging or Conference. He agreed to provide a projector and screen for the EOC meetings. (Friday & Saturday). He would also send a plan of the layout of the various venues to Mr Jenny by Mid-February so that it could be circulated to the delegates with the AGM paperwork.

It was suggested that the SFO might be prepared to sell books for others on a small commission and that Mr LeRoy could explore this further.

It was suggested that regular updates are sent to the Board so that they can help promote the event.

Mr Jenny agreed to circulate information to the EOC delegates before the Early Bird Registration closes 30th November. (Target date 25th)

7. EOC Website.

Mr Hammer reported that the pictures of the Journals on the website would soon be updated.

8. Future Meetings.

It was agreed that the next Board meeting would be at 10.00 Friday 23rd March at EOCCE 2018.

It was agreed that the next AGM would be 14.00 on Saturday 24th March 2018 at EOCCE Paris.

A provisional date was agreed of Saturday 6th October 2018 for the Autumn Board Meeting in Vienna. Mr Jenny would also explore a proposal to visit the living collection at the University of Vienna on the Friday before.

9. Next EOCCE: Copenhagen 2021

No further information about Copenhagen was available. The organisers would be reminded by Mr Jenny that they will be doing a presentation about it at the AGM in Paris in March. Mr Jenny confirmed that he did not have any definite proposals for EOCCE 2024 yet.

Meeting close at 11.45.

Appendix

Programme of EOC Events at the EOCCE 2018 Paris Information for EOC delegates

Thursday 22nd March

11.30 -16.00 Judging

18.00 Preview

Friday 23rd March

10.00-12.30 EOC Board Meeting

14.00-17.00 European Judging Symposium

14.00-15.00 Short Presentations (5mins): including the French, British, German & Swiss

15.00-16.00 Practical Session

16.00-17.00 Round Table/Q&A

Saturday 24th March

10.00-12.00 Editors Forum (tbc)

09.00- Poster Judging

14.00-17.00 EOC AGM