

Minutes of EOC AGM Meeting 1st March 2014 Blois, France

Present: F Albert, A Baudrey, J Blattler, M. Dumont, V Dumont, C Dupont, C Hammer, C Hermans (Minute taker), J Hermans, P Lemettain & R Jenny.

Observer: P Martin.

Apologies: the rest of the delegates

1. Those present were welcomed by the Chair Mr Jenny.

2. Minutes AGM Meeting in London, April 2013

Subject to the correction to the minutes of the AGM London 2013; Mr A Jouy should be listed under apologies, the minutes of the AGM London April 2013 were unanimously approved.

3. Report of Finances

The Auditors Report and the Profit and Loss statement were tabled. Mr Jenny thanked Mrs Borg and Mr Christiansen for their work. Mrs Borg reported Grupo de Estudio y Conservació de Orquideas (GECOR) has not paid their 2013 subscription. The reminders for 2014 will be sent soon to the members who have not paid in advance.

4. Members

Mr Jenny reported that the Fédération Française d'Amateurs d'Orchidées and Association Francophone pour le Jugement d'Orchidées had requested EOC membership which was then proposed and accepted unanimously by the AGM and their delegates were welcomed to the meeting. Mr Jenny requested that a short synopsis and the societies' logo should be sent to him for the EOC website. Mr Jenny reported that after initial contact with the new President of Grupo de Estudio y Conservació de Orquideas (GECOR) there had been no further contact. He also stated that the new representative for the Orchid Club Romania was Andrei Lénárd who was the son of the previous rep. Mr Jenny reported that he has arranged to meet Mrs C Wright the President of the Hardy Orchid Society at the London Orchid Show to discuss the benefits for the Hardy Orchid Society of EOC membership. Mr Jenny reported that there is currently no Orchid Society in Turkey and unlikely to be one in the foreseeable future. The AGM agreed to invite Mr Khan Hürkan as an Observer for a year and encourage him to form an Orchid Society in Turkey which could then become a member of EOC.

5. Status EOCCE 2015 London

Mr Hermans presented a paper reporting on the progress of EOCCE 2015 (see Appendix). Mr Hermans requested delegates' help in promoting the EOCCE 2015. It was unanimously agreed by the AGM to provide the funding of 2000 € requested by Mr Hermans to support the Scientific lectures at EOCCE 2015. Mr Hermans thanked the AGM for their funding.

6. Status EOCCE 2018 Paris

Mrs Dupont reported that progress was being made on creating the structure for EOCCE2018 and that it had been agreed that an umbrella organising group will be created. Different venues and sources of funding were also being explored. The planned date for the event will be Spring 2018.

7. Statutes Changes

The amendments to the Statutes were unanimously agreed by the AGM.

8. New Solutions Bank Account

Mr Jenny reported that he was having problems opening a new EOC bank account in Switzerland with foreign national as signatories. Mr Dumont agreed to discuss with the Bank that had the original EOC account to see if there was a way forward.

9. EOC Website

Mr Jenny reported that there may be a need for a new host for the EOC Website and a new Webmaster by the end of 2014.

10. EOC news platform Orchid Review

Mr Hermans reported that the Orchid Review will support the EOCCE's in London and Paris is happy to publicize dates of other shows in Europe.

11. Status EOC Projects

List of Judges: Mr Hammer reported that the updated list was on the website and that the list is being used by the organisers of the WOC to validate the European judges.

List of Events: Mr Jenny reported that it was only the RHS meeting dates and the shows held in Germany that were being regularly updated on the EOC website and encouraged other delegates to add their Show details.

List of Orchid Journals: Mr Jenny reported that there had been two additions from Spain and one from Czech Republic and that the Slovenia journal had been deleted as the Society had folded.

Contact CITES: Mrs Dumont reported that there were ongoing changes to the CITES contact details and regulations. It was agreed to add the link to the CITES website to the EOC website. It was agreed that Mrs Dumont would approach the Head of the CITES Authority to see if a presentation to the EOC delegates would be possible. It was suggested that the AGM in London in 2015 might be a suitable time.

12. AOB.

It was agreed by the AGM to reject Mr Parsons' proposal for a list of European Traders to be put on or linked to the EOC website on the grounds that it was not felt to be the role of the EOC to recommend or endorse traders. Mr Jenny agreed to inform Mr Parsons.

It was agreed that Mr Jenny would circulate the delegates to request their suggestions for ideas of what they now want from the EOC as a lot of progress had been made on the earlier targets created in 2010.

Mr Jenny thanked the SFO for hosting the AGM.

13. Next AGM Meeting

It was agreed that the next AGM meeting would be at the EOCCE 2015 on Sunday 12th April at 10am in the RHS Conference Centre.

Mr Jenny asked delegates for any suggestions for a venue for the EOC Board Meeting in autumn 2015 to be sent to him.

Appendix

EUROPEAN ORCHID SHOW and CONFERENCE LONDON 2015 Update 25th February 2014

eoclondon2015.org.uk

Dates have been confirmed as follows:

Staging: Tuesday 7th April and early Wednesday 8th April 2015

Judging: Ribbon judging 8th April for all registered judges (there also will be RHS display and award judging).

Preview and official opening: evening Wednesday 8th April

Science conference at the Jodrell Laboratory lecture theatre, RBG Kew: Wednesday 8th – Thursday 9th April.

Hardy orchid conference Friday 10th April at RHS Vincent Square near Westminster in Central London.

Horticulture and travel, possibly 2 parallel conference sessions Friday 10th – Saturday 11th April, at RHS Vincent Square, London.

Grand Gala Dinner at Royal College of Physicians Saturday 11th April

Show open Thursday 9th – Sunday 12th April

Conference

International Speakers so far include (subject to change & confirmation), Alec Pridgeon (US), Ken Cameron (US), Claire Micheneaux (Australia), Kingsley Dixon (Australia), Stephan Gale (Hong Kong), Henrik Pedersen (Denmark), Hannah Rasmussen, Samuel Sprunger (Switzerland), Svante Malmgren (Sweden), Hildegard Crous (S Africa), Camiel de Jong (Netherlands), Holger Perner (China), Tom Miranda (US), Lourens Grobler (S Africa), Martin Motes (US), Jean-Michel Hervouet (France), John Elliot (Singapore), Andre Schuiteman (UK), Cassio van Den Berg (Brazil), David Roberts (UK), Christopher Bailes (UK), Chris Purver (UK) etc. Lecture space is still being assessed but we hope to have parallel lecture sessions on the 10-11 April.

Show

The Show will be in both RHS Halls (<http://www.rhs.org.uk/Shows-Events/RHS-London-Flower-Shows/Getting-to-the-shows>) and there is much interest to exhibit from Europe and around the world already. A list of potential exhibitors is being put together. There is likely to be a small charge for sales space for commercial exhibitors.

An educational programme is planned together with the launch of the 'Orchid Schools' project. There will also be displays of Botanical Art and tours of the Lindley Library.

Registration

Registration will be split into two distinct packages: A 'Science' Package and a 'Horticultural' Package: both will give full access to the Show, the Preview, early entry to the Show, delegate lounge with refreshments, judging if qualified, opportunity to book visits, tours & Gala Dinner and either access to the Science lectures at RBG Kew or the horticultural lectures at Vincent Square. Cost will be around £70. For the very keen ones there will be a full package giving access to all lectures. Day tickets for the Show will be available.

Events & Tours

There will be an opening ceremony and reception at the RHS Halls on Wednesday 8th of April.

The Gala Dinner at the Royal College of Physicians in Regents Park will be a grand event with pre-dinner drinks, 4 courses and beverages for around £70.00. There also will be an optional botanical tour.

Day trips (10-11th) to RHS Garden Wisley and RBG Kew are planned, including a behind-the-scenes tour.

Historical tours of London are also planned.

Website

The website is under construction and will hopefully go live in March – April: eoclondon2015.org.uk. Registration will go live in April.

Proceedings

We are still looking at options for Proceedings but it is now likely that we will produce a special EOC 2015 issue of The Orchid Review as the EOC official Journal. It would be an enhanced version of the September 2015 issue.