

Minutes of EAY Executive Committee Meeting 3 - 4 March 2006

Place YMCA Palace, Prague, Czech Republic

- Reports from the different areas of operations were received. 2006 has been a difficult year for the staff, as the financial situation has been hard. They had the prospect of losing their jobs or colleagues. Successful fundraising efforts have secured all the staff positions for another year.

- The challenges to the financing of the operations in 2007 are still not overcome. The Executive Committee emphasised their appreciation of the work of the staff in the field of finances, both in staying within the budget, and in hard fundraising efforts. The overall income and expenditure for 2005 was within the budget, and the accounts balanced with a small surplus. The currency exchange losses have been reduced with 15.000€.

Michal Szymanczak was grateful for the greetings he received for his 50th birthday.

- A written report on the activities within the area of Movement Development was received. The level of activity is high. The Youth seminar on HIV/AIDS in Litomyšl, Czech Republic, funded by European Youth Foundation, was highlighted. The seminar was very successful and the level of the discussions was high. It was difficult to recruit people, even though it was at a low price. It seems there is a problem getting the information out to the relevant people in the national movements.

- A Training the Trainers course for Russian-speaking persons is being prepared, funded by the Swedish government.

- "Catch the vision" will be held in Armenia in October. It is becoming one of the most creative parts of our program.

- There is still some fundraising to be done to release the full US\$10.000 for sending young people to the World Council in Durban.

- There will be a change in coordinator of the Christian Orientation group, as Helen Jary is leaving.

- The Executive Committee again acknowledges the need for more support for the program groups, and sees the implementation of the new Role and Strategy as a way of increasing the support.

- The Youth Council of the EAY plan to have a meeting prior to the General Assembly in Faro.

- The budget that will be presented to the General Assembly for the field work is made with a drastic reduction in staff for 2007. In order to keep the staff and operations at the

current level, there is a need to fundraise €180.000 in addition to what is in the proposed budget.

- *Operational plans were also adopted and will be presented to the General Assembly.*

- The process in developing the new Role and Strategy has been well received and has created a strong ownership of the document. The process will continue as the implementation will begin at the General Assembly in Faro.

The Executive Committee wanted to thank all the people involved in making the document.

The Role and Strategy was adopted and will be presented to the General Assembly.

- Jana Mackova presented the latest development from the Training Centre in Litomysl. The reconstruction is going well. A management company is being established, and will take over the operations of the centre from the beginning of 2007.

- Reports on the implementation of the Global Operating Plan in Europe are being compiled at the moment, to be presented to the World Council in July.

- Reports were received from the Steering Group of the YMCA Europe 2008. An information package is being produced and will be presented at the GA. After thorough consideration the venue of the festival will be Camp Džbán, between the city centre and the airport in Prague. The Camp area has spaces for sports and facilities for camping.

- The Executive Committee decided on a new working name of the EAY. The name will be 'YMCA Europe'. The secretariat was given mandate to continue the work of creating a new logo.

- An application for membership in the EAY has been received from YMCA of Georgia. *The YMCA of Georgia is accepted as a member of the European Alliance of YMCAs.*

Next meetings

Movement Development meeting: 3-4 November 2006, Krakow, Poland.

Executive Committee meeting: 5-6 November 2006, Krakow, Poland.