

YMCA Europe Executive Committee Meeting

21-22 February 2009, Reykjavik (Iceland)

Participants:

Peter Posner, President
Kare Dag Mangersnes, Vice President
Ed Eggink, Treasurer
Olga Lukina, Assessor
Beate Turk, Assessor
Karin Hammar , Assessor
Stepan Cerny, Assessor
Merita Goldi, Assessor
Marina Michailidou, Recording Secretary
Johan Vilhelm Eltvik, Secretary General
Michal Szymanczak, Deputy Secretary General
Eva Tschornova, Office Manager

Apologies:

All present

Peter Posner welcomed the members of the Ex.Com. The movement is happy to receive us in Iceland

Reports

European Secretariat and Staffing

Johan Vilhelm reported. Report received. The financial situation is challenging for YMCA Europe as for the rest of the world. Johanna Hippe and Ian Luck are not working as employees now after providing excellent work. The idea to have two more employees (specialized in PR and Marketing, Funding), is important but not realistic at the moment. So JV suggested rearranging responsibilities within the existing staff

A discussion followed on Catch the Vision, which took place in November in Albania. It was a successful seminar that will be organized again in two years time.

Movement Development

Michal reported. Report received.

New people have to be selected for the leadership of FG Albania and Georgia.
The process of establishing Field Groups for Serbia and Kosovo will soon start .

Christian Community

The group needs new members. The Committee suggested that candidates from Iceland would be a good idea. Moreover COG could be invited to the next Catch the Vision seminar.

European Programs

A joint meeting will be held during the GA between Ex.Com members, Leaders of PGs, YE Staff and MD people.

Also during the GA there will be organized two side meetings for people interested in Social Inclusion, and the Outdoor Network, with the aim to investigate the interest and the possibilities for new membership.

European Representation

There is a need to establish a network of people who will be interested and possible candidates for representation.

Kie Cummings, member of YES Group, was elected as member of the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe for the period 2009-2011

Finances

National contributions and GA debts are important to be covered soon to fulfill the income budget. Festival made a small surplus and was a success. A detailed overview will be presented in the GA.

The Operational Plans were presented and received by the Executive Committee.

Resource Mobilization

All YMCAs in Europe are facing the challenge: How to appear like one European movement without being centralized? The analysis in world and European level is that we have weaknesses in presenting ourselves and we need to work on this.

Johan Vilhelm stressed that Resource Mobilization is a long term process but it needs also short term results.

A European strategy paper on Resource Mobilization was presented as a part of global strategy. The strategy paper includes an overview, an analysis of the current situation regarding funding streams, the challenges we are facing, an action plan in short and long term. Further details will be presented and discussed in the GA 2009.

YE Master class

A rough schedule was presented about a 2 weekend training seminar. The training will be advertised during the GA.

Training Center

Peter reported. The center is continuing operating in a financially viable situation. The Ex.Com appointed Peter Posner, Johan Vilhelm Eltvik, Radek Hlavsa, Eva Tschornova, Jana Vohralikova and Michal Frankl as members of the TC Board.

Jan Nissen and Mary Wolfe will stay in the Supervisory Board.

WAY- GOP

GOP: GOP is moving forward despite the financial crisis. There is a good foundation for YMCA in the Balkan region. Canada and USA are still supporting the process. A big number of initiatives for grant applications is going on.

WAY: The World Council 2010 will be held in Hong Kong. There will be elections for a new Executive Committee and a new General Secretary will be appointed. The Resource Mobilization is a priority in the agenda.

Festival Evaluation

The evaluation was run for participants, and national coordinators by YE. Information by the USA delegation is also included. The good results of this evaluation should be promotion material for the next festival.

Next meetings

GA 2009

Dates: 20 –24 May 2009,

Place: Dassel, Germany

Theme: "Do not burry your talents"

GA 2010 : will be held in Litomysl.

Movement Development and Program Groups (6th–7th November 2009, Litomysl)

Executive Committee meeting (7th– 8th November 2009, Litomysl)

Executive Committee meeting (6-7 march 2010, place not decided yet)