

IFLA Gothenburg

First Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

Government Libraries Section

Tuesday 10th August 2010

Present:

Jerry W. Mansfield, Chair (USA)

Patrick Ryan, (United Kingdom, Treasurer and Secretary)

Inger Jepsson, (Sweden)

Sanjay Kumar Bihani, (India)

Maria Goeckeritz, (Germany)

Mika Lawler (Japan)

Elina Kähkö, Corresponding Member (Finland)

Sebastian Wilke, Corresponding Member (Germany)

(Mina Pease, Observer, USA)

1. Minutes from Milan accepted
2. Treasurer's report

Of the 325 Euros for administration, 151 Euros remained following the Mid-Term Barcelona Conference expenses. This sum was now available as it need no longer be held over for potential Conference expenses. All agreed to consider how this sum could be used.

3. Information Point and Mid-Term Barcelona Conference

The Chair made special thanks to Miguel for his work for the Section. The newsletter, *The Information Point*, was now available on the website and, in particular, the Chair signalled out Miguel's work in making the Mid-Conference in Barcelona a success. Most noteworthy, aside from its success, was that Miguel had managed to change venues at late notice, had worked with very little local back up and had in effect created a platform for Catalan government librarians to come together for the first time.

4. Current Conference

The Chair brought our attention to the changes in how IFLA does its business – the Strategic Plan will from now on be an Action Plan. He brought to our attention that the Section needed an updated plan by October 2010. Consultation on this plan would be done by email in preparation for the

October delivery date. It was noted that our current section plan was up to date. Not all IFLA section plans are up to date.

As a point to note, programmes in the future must tie into one or more of IFLA's strategic plan areas. Other changes included the selection dates of conference venue would rise from 3 to 7 years to enable longer term planning and potentially better rate availability.

IFLA was also asked to consider a discount for members who attended both a preconference and the main conference in hopes that more participants will attend the general conference.

5. Gothenburg Programme Conference

The Chair reminded the Section of the Thursday 1.45 pm venue where a joint session by GIOPS, Law libraries and the Government Libraries Section would take place. The Programme title was "Creating an International Legal Information Policy Agenda: Issues and Challenges" and would consist of a lightning round of discussion on several topics. The second programme of note for the Section was the joint Government Libraries, GIOPS, Knowledge Management, Preservation and Conservation and Law libraries session on Friday at 9.30. Speakers for this programme had reduced to three in all; nonetheless an interesting session was anticipated.

The Chair brought the Section's attention to the web publication of the Government Libraries Section on *Mission and/or Vision Statements of Government Libraries Worldwide*. These were compiled in response to an initial request for assistance from two libraries who had been asked to produce such documents at short notice and needed them as a mechanism to define their value, activities and a reason for their ongoing survival. The chair had assisted these libraries and had also begun the collection process of mission statements to ensure that similar help for other libraries would be available. The listing is jointly authored by the Section members, and it will be updated periodically. It is not intended to serve as a directory of current library mission statements but, rather, examples that existed at a given point in time.

6. Election of Officers

In February 2011 the IFLA election cycle begins. In late October 2010 IFLA will send a call for nominations for election in August 2011. People do not necessarily need nominations from their own countries but the nomination must come from an institutional member of Section 04, Government Libraries. If any members present seek nomination and are unsure who to approach, then they should discuss this with the Chair. The chair pointed out that one-half (9) of our existing elected members are up for re-election.

7. AOB

An evening social event, a three hour dinner cruise on the Göta älv, the river which runs through Gothenburg and out to the sea, was arranged for Friday the 13th.

8. Next meeting

According to the programme, the next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 15 but due to several scheduling conflicts, the Section will find a quiet location to have the second meeting on Thursday, August 12 at 13 at 1pm.