



Board meeting minutes

Zoom meeting, Saturday February 22 at 14:00 CET

Attendees

Josy Glatigny, Gunnsteinn Björnsson, Karl Lippitz, Konráð Konráðsson, Ralf Otto Gogolinski, Richard Baumann, Guido De Bie, Geneviève Donet Monteagud, Achim Härterich, Guðlaugur Kristjánsson, Stefano Farese, Christ van Oevelen, Sverre Hauger, Wolfgang Brunner, Mihai Bobitan, Jaroslav Jevčák, Richardo Whyte, Eiður Ævarsson, Franz Nagelseder, Markus Lanz, Filip Delanote, Maura Magni, Henk Oostdam, Manfred Puchner, Jan Boen, Jan van Hove, Dolores Muniz, Michael Mulhaul, Jeff Oatess, Paul Palazzolo

Approval of previous minutes

With a comment from Josy Glatigny regarding some typographical errors, the minutes were approved.

General status update

Gunnsteinn gave an update on the status of the main activities. Work has been ongoing with our new PP&Gs and there is a special item on today's agenda to discuss that. Preparations for the convention have been challenging at times, but things are coming together and going well now. The Lieutenant Governors training in Copenhagen was a success and participation was good. Everyone went home full of energy and enthusiasm.

Finance report

Treasurer Ralf-Otto presented the financial status report. No dues have been received, the only income comes from deposit interests. Expenses increased by 44.000 EUR compared to the December report in connection with the event in Munich and half of the cost of the Gent function passing as has been explained. Regarding the convention the figures are not very meaningful since most of the expenses will incur at the convention in Iceland.

We are still within our budget and Ralf-Otto concluded by stating that we are still able to fulfill our obligations.

Report on Membership

Franz reported membership status as of end of December 2024. At that time, we had 339 new members at the average age of 51. He then reported on the status for each district. At the end of January 2025, the total number of new members is 442 but we also lost 290 members. Franz concluded by emphasizing equal importance of all three. Build. Nurture. Retain.



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Jan Van Hove added that there are four MeetUps planned, but so far, no requests for grants have been received, even though the form is very simple. He also said that all supporting material for MeetUps is available at <https://academy.kiwaniis.eu> in all official languages.

Report on Training & Education

Jan Van Hove started by giving a report on the new initiative, the Lieutenant Governors summit. He emphasized that it is not a single event but a whole training process. The planning process started with investigating the needs. Information was gathered from districts, the organization and participants. Approaches and methodology were discussed in a preparation meeting. The conclusion was to implement blended learning using webinars, training videos, residential training in Copenhagen, WhatsApp community follow up and a follow up meeting in Akureyri. We have participants from all districts!

All outputs are available at https://padlet.com/kiwaniseurope/2024_2025_LG_summit

At the end of his report Jan went through evaluations from the participants. Overall, the scores were very good. At the event not all topics could be covered, and several participants suggested an extra day. There is still work to be done. Workshop at the European convention, further improvement to the sessions, develop toolbox for district trainers, translate and follow up with the participants.

Jan also talked about the European Young Kiwanis Summit that will take place in Lisbon May 2-4. Jan described the program and made a request to the governors to spread information about this event to the younger members of the districts. There is still room for 19 participants!

Lastly Jan described the support the Ghent office can provide for the districts. Examples are assistance with all kinds of presentations and workshops, support with eVoting and support with Slido & Zoom accounts.

Richard Baumann asked if the cost for participants in the LG summit going to Akureyri will be reimbursed by KI-E. Jan answered that the meeting at Akureyri was meant for those that are attending the conference anyway. So, no reimbursement.

BMC update

Dolores started by showing a short video and Eiður afterwards described the content of the video since sound was missing. It is a promotional video for the new method, 3 four 3, for getting new members. The video is aimed at current Kiwanis members and club leaders. To increase membership, all club members must participate.

The rules are that you must register with your division, the members who invite guests go on a special list and get a reward in the form of a pin once the challenge is finished. Presidents of clubs taking part will also get a pin and the final thing you must do is to share the method you use to bring on new members. This is to be done on the district level.



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Eiður then briefly talked about his visit to district Norden in February where ideas were shared.

Dolores took part in the Lieutenant Governors summit in Copenhagen on behalf of BMC and will be leading the BMC training at the European Young Kiwanis Summit in Lisbon. Information on the European convention and registration is about to be ready on the website. An official call to the convention has been sent by email to every member as well as information about the European Young Kiwanis Summit. On social media, the European Young Kiwanis Summit and Kiwanis 101 birthday have been promoted.

Tasks for the coming months are all related to the European convention, EYKS and PR Coordinators' communication.

Franz inquired about the objectives of the 3 four 3 project. Eiður confirmed that the goal for the participating clubs is that after 3 years the net increase in membership is 3. Franz reminded the governors that the Neo club project is still running.

KFC update

KCF trustee Markus Lanz began with the positive news that, in the next couple of weeks, one more shipment funded by the Christmas campaign will be transported to Ukraine. Markus briefly discussed work in progress on the KCF Europe legal entity and then spoke about the Possibility Project and its rollout in Europe with the support of the KCF board. A workshop for the district chairs is being planned for September. Markus also shared information about KCF at the international level. Year-to-date donations for TPP stand at \$6,600,000, with approved grants totaling \$150,000. Markus encouraged the board to promote grant applications.

Updates by the KI President and CEO

As President Lee was unable to attend the meeting due to travel to Eastern Canada and the Caribbean District, Gunnsteinn invited President-elect Michael Mulhaul to address the meeting.

Michael talked about his focus on the new project, Kiwanis Voices and mentioned Elio and Philip from the France-Monaco district as contributors to the idea. Michael informed that Kiwanis Voices will officially be kicked off in Iceland and that Daniel Vigneron will be chair for ASPAC and Europe for three years. He talked about the importance of approaching the age group of 18-26 with the goal of fostering continuity and unity within Kiwanis. He concluded by stating that nothing can succeed without the help from the governors and asked for their support for the project.

Gunnsteinn then gave the word to KI CEO Paul Palazzolo who reminded the group that our main goal is to help members and clubs to be the best they can be. He also praised the Ghent office staff and Gunnsteinn for the very successful Lieutenant Governors' event in Copenhagen. Paul's final note was to stress that we need to continue with the Lieutenant Governors training program.



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Updates by the Trustees

After briefly explaining the trustees' work in KI committees, Filip Delanote noted that registration for the 2025 Kiwanis International Convention in Pittsburgh is poor from our districts and asked the board to promote this very important event within the districts. He also encouraged governors to make efforts to achieve distinguished district status.

Maura Magni asked all board members to share ideas and suggestions for partnerships that could be developed in Europe in line with KI partnerships.

Update Bylaws - PP&G 01:18

At the last board meeting we decided to go forward with two documents. After substantial discussions and proposals within the team working on this the conclusion is to recommend a single document with a clear distinction between what shall be voted on by the members and what can be decided by the board. Now is the time to move this to the next level and let the board members review the proposal and get advice from legal advisors. Gunnsteinn asked Manfred Puchner to introduce the proposal for new PP&G to the board.

Manfred explained the structure of the document which is divided into three parts, Policies, Procedures and Guidelines. The Procedures part includes specifications about what should be voted on by the general assembly and everything else is taken care of by the board. These specifications are in article 10.

Manfred talked about a change that could be made to article 6 following a comment made by Henk at the EC meeting this morning. He said that governors' comments on the proposal were very welcome and urge them to take it to their districts and legal advisors and come back with input, comments and suggestions. Manfred emphasized the importance of having some regulations since now we only have very slim articles of association, and that we need more tools to run our organization.

Wolfgang encouraged his fellow governors to take time to study the document thoroughly. Legal advice is needed since this document will have an impact on how we do things in the future.

Josy suggested that setting a deadline for comments on the proposal was necessary to ensure it could be voted on in Akureyri.

Gunnsteinn stated that mid-April would be the deadline.

Henk said that he, as our bylaw advisor, advised the two-document approach but the majority of the committee decided otherwise. He emphasized that it is a complex document and asked the governors to please take time to read and get advice.

Manfred explained that the proposal is based on text that has previously been agreed upon by KI and is familiar to the members.

As the governors still haven't seen the proposal Gunnsteinn asked the secretary to send it to the board and staff members after the meeting.

Update on Kiwanis Voices program

Since Michael Mulhaul already explained the program, Gunnsteinn asked if there were more questions? As there was none he continued with the next item on the agenda.

Any other business – 01:39

Gunnsteinn informed about a strategy planning discussion that took place at the EC meeting this morning. There it was decided that Jan Boen would lead the work and that Gunnsteinn, Elio and Karli would work together on finding and appointing more people to a team to carry on the work.

There were some questions regarding practical matters during the ECON in Akureyri that Gunnsteinn and Dolores answered. Registration on the website is almost ready with links and information about events and cost.

Following a question from Christ about Vice-president candidates and the “dark year rule” there was a discussion about this rule and its relevance. The conclusion was that it is up to the board to decide and that there will be an extra meeting to discuss and decide.

Christ also raised a question regarding the showcase event planned during the European convention. Gunnsteinn explained that for the “Infotainment” event, information about interesting projects and events has been requested from each district. Short videos, presentations and text should be submitted as soon as possible. Jan Van Hove said that Geert Vyncke will be the presenter and that his message is that input should be short, fast and entertaining.

It was decided that the latest PP&Gs proposal, the agenda of the convention and of the house of delegates will be sent to the board right after the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 16:05

Gunnsteinn Björnsson
KI-E President 2024/2025

Konráð Konráðsson
KI-E Secretary 2024/2025