

EXCO Teleconference
September 11, 2010 at 16:00 GMT
Minutes
Telephone: +1 978-964-0049; code 310673#

NEXT MEETING: SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2010 AT 16:00 GMT

Actions are identified in Italics and Underline

Attendees: Gary, Pramod, Mirek, Luisa, Pablo, Penny

1. Greetings, quick updates, comments
2. Review and agree on the agenda
 - Added 7g. Contact with National Groups re: events
 - Added 7h. Appoint new Development committee member to replace Sally from Malaysia
3. Review of notes from meeting of August 14, 2010
4. Email EXCO decisions made since last meeting
 - a. Pay final invoice #41 from Marco Burlando
 - b. Gary buy Skype credit for L. Bohnhoff to attend ServasOnLine telephone meetings
 - c. SI Treasurer hold meetings with bookkeeper and auditor in Bangalore in 2011
5. Items needing a decision:
 - a. DV - voting rights and ServasOnLine levy payment, general update
 - It was noted that
 - the SI Statutes VI 3) state: "Only delegates from member groups which have met their financial obligations to Servas International within six (6) months of the due date are allowed to vote."
 - the Financial Operating Procedures 5.4 state: "The declaration of SI stamps and the return of stamps not used for the previous year must be made before the deadline March 1st of the next year, unless there is exceptional circumstances to be explained to the SI Treasurer."
 - It was agreed that with this first full Distant Vote, EXCO must work for
 - consistency with the SI statutes and GA decisions
 - fairness
 - reasonableness, considering that Servas officers are volunteers
 - Stamp Fee payments were due on March 1, 2010, and so 6 months after that is September 1, 2010
 - It was agreed that there was a lack of clarity related to the requirements for voting in advance of the start of the Nov 2010 Distant Vote. For that reason, **MOTION: Allow a one-time extension of the stamp fee payment deadline from September 1, 2010 to October 15, 2010. Carried.**
 - Action: **Mirek** will follow up with the countries who have not met their financial obligations.
 - Action: **Penny** will ensure that requirements for voting rights are clear and well publicized before the May 2011 Distant Vote.
 - It was noted that comments on the DV process have been received from 2 National Secretaries

- b. Brazil meeting - EXCO representation, funding status, general update
 - Gary stated that he will not be attending the meeting in Bahia, Brazil in October 2010
 - **MOTION: Pablo Colangelo will represent EXCO at the meeting, at an estimated cost of approximately CHF1000 to cover meeting-related expenses. Carried.**
 - The initial funding request and Development Committee comments were discussed
 - No funding decisions were made, since the revised budget has not been received.
 - Action: **Pablo** will find out which South America countries will have delegates at the meeting.
 - c. Far East Area meeting funding
 - Results of questions about the meeting were discussed
 - No funding decisions were made
 - Action: **Pramod** will find out which Far East countries will have delegates at the meeting.
 - d. EXCO face-to-face meeting
 - The meeting dates have not changed – they are Nov 10-16, 2010 with a weekend ServasOnLine meeting and area gathering.
 - A meeting in Belgium (Brussels) is not possible. It appears unlikely that a meeting in France, Germany or London can be arranged.
 - It was agreed that a meeting in the area of Amsterdam would be investigated further
 - Action: **Gary** will identify what will be needed for the weekend ServasOnLine meeting
 - Action: **Penny** will answer the detailed questions suggested by Rita, and contact Arnoud Philippo to give him the details of the EXCO and ServasOnLine meetings, and try to confirm them in the Amsterdam area.
 - e. ServasOnLine – discussion document, next steps
 - Gary will consult further with potential volunteers and supporters, and this will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.
6. Updates
- a. Host List Reliability NOT DISCUSSED
 - b. Nepal meeting
 - It was noted that the meeting in Nepal was held this weekend.
 - c. SI Registration NOT DISCUSSED
 - d. ICT appointments NOT DISCUSSED
 - e. Central America AC election NOT DISCUSSED
7. Other important items: NOT DISCUSSED
- a. 2009 GA evaluation
 - b. Gary's computer replacement

- c. Formal response to internal audit recommendations
 - d. EXCO requesting funds from countries for Servas activities
 - e. Projector – transfer to ServasOnLine person
 - f. Committee re: national election rules
8. Concerns, successes or comments from EXCO members
9. Other business

Respectful Communications:

- Written and verbal communications must be consistent with the principles of Servas as a peace organization
- Respect is a key principle of Servas
- It was agreed that respectful communications are possible even if a person has limited ability in the language being used
- It was agreed that it is not acceptable to be disrespectful within Servas communications
- It was agreed that when a person communicates in a disrespectful way, it is important to identify the specific disrespectful language and to tell the person that it is disrespectful
- STATEMENT: EXCO supports the requirement for respectful communication.
- Action: Clear principles for respectful communication will be developed at the EXCO face-to-face meeting

10. Next meeting date **SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2010 AT 16:00 GMT**