



**IFLA Section 8 for Public Libraries Standing Committee
Mid-Year Meeting held in Saint Petersburg, Russia**

**Minutes of the Meetings held on Thursday, March 26 and Friday,
March 27, 2009**

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Time and Location: | Meeting 1: Thursday, March 26, 14.30 – 18.00 Saint Petersburg City Public Library, Main Building | |
| Time and Location: | Meeting 2: Friday, March 27, 09:00 - Noon Saint Petersburg City Public Library, Main Building | |
| Time and Location: | Meeting 3: Friday, March 27, 15:00 – 18:30 Saint Petersburg City Public Library, Music and Art Department | |
| Members attending meeting 1, 2 and 3 | Olga Ustinova (OU) Lorraine Jackson (LJ) Joyce Jelks (JJ) Kent Skov Andreasen (KSA) Klaus-Peter Böttger (KPB) Libuse Nivnická (LN) Annick Guinery (AG) Ruth Ørnholt (RO) | Suzanne Payette (SP) Gloria Pérez-Salmerón (GPS) Torny Kjekstad (TK) Barbara Gubbin (BG) John Lake (JL) Mònica Medina-Blanes (MMB) Yuk-Man Lee (YML) Yaeko Kakiguchi (YK) |
| Apologies | Karliën de Klerk Jingxia Li Ian Stringer | Marja Malminen Yuk-Man Lee |
| Absent | Anna Torfadottir Victoria Okojie | Magdalena Reyes |
| | | |
| | | |

2. Welcome and Introduction to the Saint Petersburg City Public Library.

Olga Ustinova welcomed everyone to Saint Petersburg and to her library, the Saint Petersburg City Public Library. She provided a brief introduction to libraries in Saint Petersburg and to her library. There is one of the two National Libraries in Saint Petersburg; a National Library at the Academy of Sciences which was established by Peter the Great; there are 42 state university libraries; a public library for the visually impaired; the Pushkin Library and 188 public libraries. There are 17 districts in the city each of which operates its own public library system. The Mayakovsky Central City Library is the central research library for the public and is the keystone of the Saint Petersburg City Public Library. The Mayakovsky Library operates in four facilities; it owns 1.9 million items and receives 550,000 visits a year. An important role of this library is to provide continuing education for professional librarians in the city. They also collect and report all the statistics for the public libraries in the city and play a coordinating role for the administration of the other public libraries. It is staffed with 320 full time staff.

OU reviewed the agenda for the next three days: the Committee was invited to dinner that evening as the guests of the Library and would go to see the media center en route to dinner. The Committee would meet again on Friday morning at the Main Library and after lunch go to the Music Library for a tour and another meeting. On Saturday morning the Committee will visit the Children's Library.

1. Greetings and apologies for absence. (Lake)

John Lake noted those who had not been able to join the Committee for the Mid-Year meeting and welcomed those who had been able to come to Saint Petersburg. It was noted that Marja Malminen had recently been involved in a major conference in Helsinki and could not get away a second time so quickly. Kent Skov Andreasen expressed concern that despite trying to contact her, he had received no communication from Anna Torfadottir who has not attended any meetings since being elected to the Committee. He planned to make one more effort by telephone. KSA had been appointed to be her mentor.

3. Opening, Announcements and Documents Check (Lake/Gubbin)

Barbara Gubbin reviewed the documents which had been sent out prior to the meeting including the agenda, minutes of the annual meeting, the strategic plan and a proposal from Christie Koontz for revisions to the content of the Guidelines for Public Libraries.

4. Approval of the agenda. (Lake)

JL indicated that he had sent out a final, revised agenda, which some people might not have received if they left their homes early to journey to Russia. In this new agenda he had included item 2 – a welcome from Olga Ustinova; 10(g) Mobile Library Guidelines, which had been sent to the

Committee by BG and 10(h) Reading Manifesto. KPB requested that the Working Group on Digital Libraries, which he is working with, be included on the agenda under Review of Ongoing Projects as item 10(i). There were no further additions to the agenda; RO noted that the e-newsletter had recently been sent by IS to the Committee and would be considered under item 15.

5. Approval and Follow-Up of the minutes of the annual meeting held in Quebec City, Canada on Saturday, August 9 and Friday, August 15 2008.

MMB noted that she was present at the second meeting and under item 16 it was noted that it should read Saint Petersburg City Public Library. There being no further changes or amendments the minutes were approved by consensus.

6. Chair's Report – John Lake.

JL thanked Barbara Gubbin for her work on the minutes and the program for the 2009 conference and said that with able assistance from KPB, the Committee had secured funding for one more year of the Caterpillar project and for the revision of the Guidelines. JL reported on a conference he had attended in Delhi, India on emerging technologies in libraries and where he had served as the keynote speaker. He asked the Committee to be thinking about how to get greater public library involvement from Indian libraries in IFLA.

JL has also been working on the pre-conference Libraries as Places and Spaces, which will be held in Turin, Italy and is co-sponsored with Academic and Research Libraries, Library Theory and Research, Management and Marketing, and Library Buildings and Equipment with support from Turin Public Libraries and the AIB Piemonte (Regional section of the Italian Library Association). It will be immediately prior to the annual IFLA conference, August 19, 20 and 21 and registration should appear shortly on the IFLA website.

Ian Ross, Ottawa has recently contacted JL with an interest in “twinning” or “linking” public libraries. His library has an interest in doing this with a library in Africa and JL has introduced him to a service in Nigeria.. JL suggested there could be further discussion on developing this topic in the future.

There is no mid-year meeting of Division III this year because of the change in the organizational/operational structure of IFLA. The Divisions are changing their focus and sections are being re-assigned. There will be a Leadership Forum in Milan instead of a second meeting of the Division as in the past. TK noted that the Public Libraries Section is moving to Division I while the Section Serving the Disadvantaged will move to Division III and is re-named Library Services to People with Special Needs.

IFLA has established a Centre for the Chinese Language in China and JL recommended that the Committee consider ways to use the Centre to encourage the involvement of Chinese public libraries and the dissemination of the new edition of the Guidelines. He recommended that under Agenda item 10(h) New ideas for projects for 2010/2011 the Committee consider promotional work with Indian public libraries and with the new Chinese Language Centre. TK said that Ngian Lek Choh

from the National Library/Public Library in Singapore had been involved in the establishment of the Center and would be an important contact.

7. Report from Governing Board and Professional Committee. (Kjekstad)

TK will attend the Governing Board and Professional Committee meeting in April. At the December meeting the decision had been made that there would be a meeting of the existing Divisions on Saturday, prior to the beginning of the Milan conference but that the new structure would go into effect at the conference and there would be no post conference meeting. She noted that the existing Division III is being split up with sections being assigned to different Divisions. It will be important to work hard to maintain the working relationship which exists between the sections which serve the public. Elections have been held for each Division and the new Division Chairs and section officers will be asked to attend a Leadership Forum on Sunday, during the conference. Steve Witt is the new Chair of Division I to which public libraries now belong. Mr. Witt is Associate Director, Center for Global Studies, University of Illinois, USA.

TK noted that IFLA has a new and very competent Executive Director, Jennifer Nicholson with a strong management team including Stuart Hamilton, Senior Policy Advisor, Louis Takacs, Web Manager and Ingeborg Verheul, Communications Manager. Funding from the Gates Foundation has been important in supporting IFLA's progress but the future does not look bright financially for the organization and it does not appear that the Swedish government will continue to support FAIFE. At the December meeting a budget of Eu. 75,000 was approved for Fiscal Year 2009 with Eu. 43,000 for projects.

The establishment of SIG's is underway. TK had noted in the minutes of the Committee's most recent meeting that there was interest in a mobile libraries SIG but no action has been taken to establish this, nor has any Committee member expressed interest in forming a "public libraries and democracy" SIG similar to the discussion group which the Public Libraries section has sponsored in the past.

On the subject of Manifestos, the Professional Committee has discussed if a formula is needed to guide the development and layout of manifestos in the future so that they can be handled more efficiently and expect greater success with UNESCO officials. TK and Ingeborg Verheul will work on these guidelines. KPB asked if the new strategy for developing manifestos was being done by IFLA or with UNESCO; TK indicated that this is currently an internal project to IFLA.

Finally TK reported that with the new procedure of keeping "administrative" funds for Sections at IFLA headquarters in The Hague, less has been spent by the sections than in past years.

JL thanked TK for her years of service representing public libraries and public library interests on and to the Governing Board. He said he planned to set up a meeting with Steve Witt during the Milan conference and RO recommended that John invite Mr. Witt to the committee's meeting on Saturday. TK will lay the groundwork for this at the next Professional Committee meeting. SP said it was important that public libraries continue their relationship with the Gates Foundation and wondered how we should approach doing this. It was recommended by BG that we invite Deborah Jacobs to our next meeting. Deborah Jacobs was formerly the director of the Seattle Public Library and now works for the Foundation.

Action Item: JL.

8. Financial Report (Boettger)

KPB reported that there had been a decline in membership in the Section which has resulted in fewer “Administrative” funds being assigned – Eu. 1,225 instead of Eu. 1,430 the previous year. However, since we regularly do not take full advantage of these funds he did not see any major problem with this decrease in funding. There are funds for the revision of the Guidelines by Christie Koontz and a first payment was made to her in December 2008. A second payment is due soon. An additional Eu. 1,120 will be needed in 2010 for the camera ready product to send to be printed. This will need to be requested in October 2009 for the next fiscal year. To date Caterpillar projects in South Africa and in Burkina Faso have been funded (we have received photos of the progress of the current Burkina Faso project from Ian Stringer) which means that only one or two more projects can be funded in 2009, probably in the Gambia and Ghana, for the final part of this project. All the expenses of the Quebec conference have been paid.

9. Programs for IFLA WLIC 2009 in Milan, Italy.

General: JL noted that registration for the conference is due by May 15. The Committee will meet on Saturday, August 22 and he will ask that the meeting be on Saturday afternoon. There is no scheduled second meeting so he has requested a time be assigned for such a meeting on Tuesday or Wednesday for the “new” Committee to meet as elections will have taken place by that time and there will be both new officers and new members of the Committee. KPB said he would attend the conference but could not be there on Saturday as that was the day his new library building is scheduled to open! The conference will end on Thursday, August 27 and there will be no meetings on Friday except for the Governing Board. IFLA has asked members to volunteer time on the IFLA booth in the exhibit area: SP, LJ, TK and MMB volunteered.

Action Item: JL

Papers are due by June 1 to IFLA for the conference program and pre-conference; JL may need assistance from Committee members to translate some of the papers.

The new Leadership Forum will take place on Sunday morning for new officers so JL asked when the Committee should schedule its regular evening dinner get-together. It was agreed to do this on Sunday and KSA will contact Elena Boretti, an Italian public librarian and former member of the Committee to assist with planning this.

Action Item: KSA

JL noted that the Tampere, Finland Public Library would be bringing a mobile library to the conference.

9 (c): This will be the last year to use this poster and materials for a poster session. JL asked for assistance with the poster session – to put up the poster and to staff it from noon – 2 p.m. and to pass on the poster to the new chair of the section. There was a discussion about providing copies of the leaflet on the Public Library Guidelines at the conference. KSA reported that Elena Boretti had said she would translate the leaflet into Italian but there was no resolution as to the funding for printing. SP has the format for the leaflet which she will send to KSA. He will look into printing copies at his library. We have sufficient copies in French, SP has these and will bring them; JL will print the English version; GPS and MMB will see what they can do about printing more copies of the Spanish

version and YK will contact the Japanese Library Association about translating it and printing it in Japanese. JL will ask the new IFLA Chinese Centre to translate and print it in Chinese.

Action items: JL; KSA; MMB and GPS; SP

KSA reported that he and one of his staff have applied to do a poster session.

9. (a) Libraries as Spaces and Places is the pre-conference which the Public Libraries Section is co-sponsoring and will be held August 19-21 in Turin. Twenty papers have been selected with a wide variety of languages and countries represented. There is no registration fee. The program will begin in the morning on August 19 so you will need to be in Turin by August 18. JL has asked Norman Foster Associates if they would attend the pre-conference to provide a keynote speech. Norman Foster Associates are currently working with the New York Public Library but have not been able to commit. KSA said he had the name of a Danish architect he could recommend and would provide this to John as an alternate contact. Additional information about the pre-conference will soon be on the IFLA website.

Action Item: KSA

9 (b) BG reviewed work to date on the joint Metropolitan/Public Libraries program at the conference. This year the Metropolitan Libraries Section had indicated that they would be in charge of the program with Public Libraries providing its time slot. Committee members had been sent a copy of the Form O sent in about the program entitled Framing the Future or A New Agenda for Public Libraries. The program will be in four sections and will address Community (Veronda Pitchford, Urban Libraries Council, USA); Collections (speaker not confirmed but someone from France is under consideration); Creativity (Inga Lunden, Director, Stockholm City Library); and Capabilities (Jens Ingemann, Director, Copenhagen Public Library.) The keynote speaker is Vicki McDonald, Director, Client Services and Collections, State Library of Queensland. After the speakers the room will divide into roundtables for discussion of each of the presentation “tracks.”

9 (d) JL noted that there will be a satellite conference which the Public Libraries section has given its name to which will take place in Belgium and the Netherlands sponsored by Libraries for the Blind called the P3 Conference: Better library services for print-disabled people through partnerships with publishers and public libraries. Go to the IFLA website for more information.

The meeting was adjourned until the following day, Friday, March 27, 2009.

The meeting of the Public Libraries Standing Committee re-convened on Friday, March 27 at the Saint Petersburg City Public Library, Main Library.

10. Review of Ongoing Projects.

10 (a) MMB reviewed the document she has developed “Meeting User Needs.” After discussion it was agreed that this project had probably run its course unless new contributions were made. In many ways this had been overtaken by the IFLA Success Stories on the web. MMB will investigate if this resource provides an ability to search on a subject type basis before disbanding the project and will report at the Milan meeting.

Action Item: MMB

10 (b) Public Library Service: Guidelines for Development. JL reported on the translations of the Guidelines. There are new translations in Japanese, Georgian and in Romanian.

10 (c) Public Library Service: Guidelines for Development – Revised Edition. BG led this discussion which comprised a review of the contents page of the Guidelines with changes which Editor Christie Kootz has recommended for the Committee's consideration.

Chapter 1. The role and purpose of the public library.

1.3 The purposes and mission of the public library. Recommended changing the order of the proposed wording to "mission and purpose." This was the only change in Chapter 1.

Chapter 2. The legal and financial framework.

2.2.3. E-Government Services recommended as a new section. It was agreed that this should be added but there was some debate as to the terminology and what would be best understood. In the end "e-government" was agreed to for this section.

2.4.2 Partnerships and Collaboration. The Committee agreed to the addition of the word collaboration.

2.7 Publicity and promotion. CK had proposed creating a new Chapter 7 entitled Marketing and would thus move 2.7 to the new chapter. It was agreed unanimously to include a new chapter on marketing.

Chapter 3: meeting the needs of "Customers." There was considerable discussion about the word "customers" some calling them users, others clients and yet others customers. There was no real support for the term "patrons." A vote saw a majority favoring the term "customer." CK has indicated that in her introduction to this chapter she will explain the use of "customer" instead of "user, member, clients or patrons." The entire document will be standardized to this term.

3.2 It was agreed that identifying and reaching out to the "non-user" and non-reader" is an important topic to address.

3.4.1 Service Provision. This will include providing service using new social networking tools such as those generally referred to as Web 2.0. This term is generally understood and should be used.

3.4.12 Strong support for including a definition for "information literacy" and addressing this topic here.

3.5 Customer care. CK will give consideration to dividing this up into two sections; no strong comment on this from the Committee.

3.5.1 CK needs to include customer consultation, focus groups and identifying and implementing user driven innovation in this section.

3.10 Library Buildings. Committee members were not clear what CK means when she refers to the size of the population impacting a facility. The population served can impact the size of a library but there are many other factors as well – make-up of population, specific services provided – the Committee will wait to see the work on this section before further comment.

3.10.5 Committee members are in support of addressing issues of accessibility but commented that accessibility is much more than just shelving. They were asked to recommend additional examples of legislation or guidelines, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act to include in the book.

3.10.11 The term sustainable was also suggested. Recommended to move this section to 6.2.7 and refer to the IFLA publication on Library Building Guidelines.

Chapter 4 Collection Development

4.6 Agreed to omit word “book” and include electronic collections.

4.7 Make this section much stronger

Chapter 5. Human Resources.

5.3 Agreed to add library directors as a category.

5.4 No one present was aware of the new book by Jean Preer on ethical issues in 21st century librarianship but agreed it was an important issue to include and update with the latest research.

5.9 There was a sense that while Career Development may no longer be the correct phrase to use “Staff Effectiveness” was not a phrase which was clear to everyone; would like to see different terminology here.

5.9.2 would prefer the word “reviews” instead of “appraisals.”

5.10.2 there was discussion about the section called “anti-social behavior” – what does this mean? On the part of staff or customers? It was agreed it was referring to the “problem patron” issue but there was not unanimous agreement that this needed to be addressed. Will wait for first draft for further comment.

Chapter 6. The Management of Public Libraries.

Consensus that splitting management and marketing into two chapters is an excellent approach.

There were few comments about this chapter. Strategic planning is very important and including a section on doing an environmental scan will strengthen this section.

6.10. Include a section on quality management.

Chapter 7. The Marketing of Public Libraries.

There was general agreement with what CK has proposed for this new chapter and recognition that this is her specialization in terms of research and teaching so she will bring her expertise to the writing of this section. GPS brought up the term SOA; we do not know what this stands for in English but is related to service oriented service and she considered it important for CK to address.

CK had asked the question: what to include or leave out in terms of the Appendices or a web-based resource list? There was general agreement with BG that a web-based and regularly updated resource list was the best way to keep the publication current and relevant. Every Committee member was asked and agreed to do the following: Identify a document, preferably electronic, which has significance in their library/country/organization for each of the chapters of the book and send these to BG by July 15, 2009. These will serve as the basis for any appendices CK decides to include and for the new web-page of resources. Any other comments about the outline should be sent to BG by April 30, 2009.

Action Item: Every Committee Member!

BG asked for volunteers who would be willing to review the first draft of the book and provide CK with feedback. RO, KSA, LN, LJ, GPS with IS and JJ from the original committee agreed to serve in this role.

BG will send the Committee's comments to Christie Koontz and the first draft is due the mid/end of June 2009.

10 (d) Libraries, Archives and Museums: this publication is now electronically available on the IFLA website in English, French, Spanish and Japanese.

10 (e) Ian Stringer was not present at the meeting but Committee members had seen pictures of the Burkina Faso project underway and there is a third African project under consideration. TK emphasized the need for complete final reports on each project to the Professional Committee.

10 (f) GPS expressed some frustration with this project as it has not made a great deal of progress and lacks broad support and input. The new manifesto guidelines which TK will be working on might make this project more meaningful. GPS collaborators KSA and KPB agreed to work closely with her to strengthen the document.

10 (g) JL noted that a report on the Mobile Library Guidelines had been sent out to everyone before the meeting by IS/BG. There were no comments.

10 (h) New Ideas for Projects. Joyce Jelks recommended that the program on Libraries as Space and Place should be considered for a repeat in three to four years. Services to ageing communities was another recommendation for the Committee to focus on. KSA, BG and others proposed looking at e-books and other electronic information is impacting libraries and how electronic resources should be marketed. Reaching out effectively to potential users was also mentioned as a topic for consideration..

10 (i) KPB reported briefly on the meeting he attended of the Working Committee on Digital Libraries. Public libraries had joined the Committee about half way through the process so it had not been easy to catch up but he is expecting to see a draft of the working paper soon and will share it with any Committee members who are interested in seeing it.

11. Elections 2009.

A number of current Committee members must stand for election this year if they wish to stay on the Committee for a second term. TK had a ballot and the names of the people on the ballot were reviewed and comments made by those Committee members who know them. TK made the point that members can vote strategically and do not need to cast the maximum number of votes. JL is completing his second term on the Committee at the Milan conference and so a new Chair must be elected at the conference. Those interested in serving as Chair, Secretary, Information Officer or Treasurer should contact John and express their interest. There was some discussion about combining the position of Secretary and Treasurer. The current Secretary indicated she would not be interested in holding both positions and LN expressed an interest in acting as Treasurer.

12. Increasing Membership in the Public Libraries Section.

It was agreed that this is a difficult time economically to increase membership as libraries are cutting back their travel budgets. Maintaining our current membership may need to be our emphasis as our membership has fallen to 283 from 300. There are not a lot of public library members in Italy and it was hoped that holding the conference in Milan would attract more membership in Italy. It was

suggested that we target the Chinese and Asian communities through our Section members Li Jingxia, Rashidah Bolhassan and Yuk Man Lee.

Action: JL

13. Mobile Library Project for EU Cultural Programme. (Stringer)

IS had reported that he had heard nothing further on this project.

14. Reading Manifesto. (Jackson)

LJ reported that while she had volunteered to represent public libraries on the team working on this project she had heard nothing further and had nothing to report. JL will contact the Chair of the Reading and Literacy Section to help move this on.

Action: JL

15. Website, Newsletter and Section Brochure. (Stringer)

On the topic of the newsletter, IS had sent out the e-newsletter, which is generally published mid-year, to all Committee members for comment. Comments included that there were too many articles about mobile libraries and RO agreed to do some editing and send comments to IS on this section.

The new IFLA website is near completion but not yet online according to TK but once it is operational it will allow some of the social networking/communication which the Committee has wanted to have established.

The Section Brochure had been discussed in the first meeting under Item 9.

16. Programs for Brisbane Conference 2010.

The revised Guidelines will have been published prior to the conference and so one suggestion was to base a program on the guidelines.

The current economic recession is a global phenomenon and if one can assume that it will be continuing to some degree a year from now, a program on how public libraries support local economies and contribute to their communities during an economic downturn could be very useful.

The Section has signed on in support of a satellite meeting in Auckland, New Zealand on August 11-13, 2010 which will focus on New Zealand's services to its bi-cultural national community which will include consideration of serving indigenous populations. The other pre-conference will be held in Sydney, Australia on the topic Next Generation Users – Next Generation Libraries: Educating Next Generation Librarians in cooperation with the Reference and Information Services Section. Preliminary dates are either August 10-11 or August 11-12, 2010.

Program topics suggested for this conference reflected the earlier discussion on new projects for the Committee – services to ageing communities and e-books and e-resources in public libraries. These ideas need to be firmed up at the meeting in Milan.

17. Strategic Plan for 2008-2009-Update. (Gubbin)

KPB noted that a number of changes would be needed to the cover page given the changes in IFLA's organizational structure.

Goal 1: promote the role of public libraries in society with equal access to all.

The e-leaflet "10 Ways to make a public library work/Update your libraries" will be translated into more languages:

Action Item: Chinese, Italian, Arabic – KSA responsible; Czech – LN; Japanese – YK; Spanish – GPS; Russian – OU; French – AG; German – KPB.

Goal 2. Raise the quality of services

44 language translations are now available – add Romanian.

Action Item: JL will check whether Chinese version has yet been published.

The promotional leaflet for the Guidelines has been published in French and now needs to be published in Italian.

BG will revise the section on the new edition of the Guidelines publication under Goal 2d.

2.2 Meeting User Needs. MMB is working on a new approach and will report further at the meeting in Milan.

Goal 3. Promote the importance of training and professional development for public librarians.

A number of items are completed or need updating. The item 3.5 will be taken out as the Committee is no longer planning a training program for Sri Lankan librarians.

Goal 4. Promote literacy, reading development and lifelong learning.

4.1 can be expanded with the project in Burkina Faso and the proposed projects in Ghana and the Gambia. The criteria by which to evaluate applications have been established.

Goal 5. Promote networking and cooperation between public libraries

5.1 Libraries, Archives and Museums report has been translated into 3 languages, Japanese, French and Spanish on IFLANet. The Committee is not considering a SIG on this topic.

Goal 6. Increase membership ...

Currently membership in the Section is 283; the new goal will be 300 members. KPB will analyze the membership and send out the results to all Committee members.

Mentors will be assigned to new Committee members at the August meeting following the election.

Goal 7. Market the Public Libraries Section.

Committee members reported on a range of activities by which they had promoted IFLA and the section. These included an article by AG on the Quebec conference, presentations to the Russian, Czech Republic, Spanish, Indian and Norwegian Library Association conferences. BG will reflect the activity reported in the updated Plan for review of the Committee members.

7.7 Mid-Year meeting in 2010. LN said she would give serious consideration to hosting the 2010 meeting in Brno, Czech Republic.

Goal 8. Present informative programs....

Update to reflect Milan and ideas for programs in Brisbane in 2010.

Goal 9. Manage Standing Committee finances effectively.

Funds will be needed in 2010 to complete the Guidelines publication, to market the publication and to put it into DAISY format for the visually impaired. The Committee no longer plans to request funding to train Sri Lankan librarians.

18. Other Reports and Items.

18 (i) RO and JL had not done any work on a social networking site and it was generally understood that this would be possible using the new IFLA website so this project was put on hold.

18 (ii) The Committee will not be pursuing a training program for Sri Lankan librarians. Circumstances have changed, funding by IFLA is unlikely, and it was too large a project for the Committee to realistically undertake.

18 (iii) This topic had been discussed under Item 10 (h) New Ideas....

There being no further items to discuss, JL thanked Olga Ustinova for her very generous hospitality during our meeting and asked that special thanks be passed on to her staff for their interest and support. There were many comments about how much Committee members had enjoyed their visit to Saint Petersburg and that they were looking forward to spending more time in the city.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

Barbara A. B. Gubbin
Secretary