



## Public Libraries Section

### Minutes of the Standing Committee Mid Year Meeting in Mülheim, Germany, 9 – 10 February, 2007

<b>Location:</b>	<b>Meetings 1 &amp; 2 :</b> Public Library Mülheim an der Ruhr, Friedrich-Ebert Str. 4745468 Mülheim an der Ruhr, GERMANY	
<b>Members attended meetings 1 &amp; 2</b>	Monica Medina Blanes (MMB) Klaus-Peter Boettger (KPB) Barbara Gubbin (BG) Joyce Jelks (JJ) Torny Kjekstad, Chair (TK) Gunilla Konradsson-Mortin (GKM) John Lake, Secretary (JL) Claudia Lux (CL) from 11.00am	Marja Malminen (MM) Libuse Nivnicka (LN) Suzanne Payette (SP) Gloria Perez-Salmeron (GPS) Mary Sherman (MS) Kent Skov (KS) Ian Stringer (IS) Olga Ustinova (OU)
<b>Apologies</b>	Jingxia Li (JLi) Ruth Ornholt (RO)	Florence Ponce (FP)

#### 1. Greetings and apologies for absence (Kjekstad)

TK welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies had been received from Jingxia Li, Florence Ponce and Ruth Ornholt. A discussion followed on Committee members who have not attended either the mid-year meetings or Conference meetings for several years. This is to be raised and dealt with at the conference meetings in Durban.

Action TK/JL

#### 2. Opening, Announcements and Documents Check (Kjekstad/Lake)

KPB welcomed everyone to Mülheim an der Ruhr and after an overview of the town (and at meeting 2 an explanation of the new Library planned to be built in 2007/08) he went over the arrangements for the days ahead.

KPB informed the meeting that Claudia Lux, the President elect for IFLA would be joining the meeting later today.

#### 3. Approval of the Agenda (Kjekstad)

The agenda was arranged to meet the needs of the two days but was agreed as the original items on the agenda.

#### **4. Approval and Follow-up of the Minutes of the mid year meeting held in Seoul, South Korea 19 & 25 August, 2006 previously circulated (Kjekstad)**

The minutes were approved with the following amendments:

Page 3 Item 9 last paragraph line 2 – alter "thought" to "through".

Page 4 Item 10 b) ii Marketing update – first paragraph first line alter "Canadian" to "Quebec".

The following matters arose:

JL still to re-circulate the mentor list for the Committee (attached to these minutes) but for those members present the mentor scheme was felt to be working well.

**Action JL**

The distance problem for the location of the mid-year meeting was raised for Committee members in Africa, Latin America and Asia. Further discussion will take place in Durban in planning for the mid-year meeting in 2008.

#### **5. Chair's Report (Kjekstad)**

TK reported on the call for papers for the Section programme for Durban which GPS was assessing with Gwynneth Evans from the Reading Section and colleagues from the Schools Section. The Divisional call for papers was also progressing well and JL was coordinating this process.

TK reported on her difficulties with nomination for GB as a personal member - this had been disallowed due to her having served for 4 years as chair of Division III. There was a discussion about how we could work together with other Sections (Metropolitan Section was named) in order to get public library representation on the GB. The need to canvas for GB elected members for the next election was agreed and BG and KS were nominated to work on that.

**Action BG/KS**

The Multicultural Manifesto – was being progressed but needed some further work and approval by UNESCO. TK had on behalf of the Multicultural Section and as chair of Division III, had a meeting in Unesco, Paris with Adiz Abid. The last drafted text was discussed and commented by Mr. Abid.

CL joined the meeting at this point and was invited to talk to the meeting on her theme of *Libraries Make a Difference* getting libraries on government's agendas by "interfering". She explained that while it was not always possible to get messages across from our employed positions it was possible to do this using our "professional" status through national associations and IFLA. She said that we need to find business partners, use examples of good practice e.g. on WSIS database, and write when libraries are not invited to forums when discussions are taking place.

## **6. Financial Report (Boettger)**

KPB distributed an account of the Section's financial position and highlighted the need for projects to be spent up in 2007. The Caterpillar project had funds for 2 years to be completed and the e-book project for the Public Library Guidelines also had its final year funding to be used up. It was agreed that we could look at sponsoring a student to attend a conference out of our Administration funding to a limit of E1000 and proposed that this should be the student who had assisted Barbara Clubb on the Libraries, Museums and Archives project, to speak at the IFLA Congress in Quebec in 2008. This should be looked at as a regular activity and a portion of our budget agreed for each IFLA Congress.

The need for a social event after the Section programme in Quebec was also identified and agreed in principle that this could be supported by the Section funds.

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

The Governing Board meeting would discuss the Review of Sections and the paper for this was still confidential. TK reported that it was no longer necessary for Sections to staff the IFLA booth at the Congress exhibition.

TK would be judging the poster sessions for Durban.

Under the evaluation of the Seoul Conference the lack of a delegate list in the publications distributed was to be redressed in Durban.

The problem of supporting 7 official languages without fluency in all 7 being spoken was discussed in the review.

The Committee was advised that the minutes of GB and PC meetings were on IFLANET and to read these as further information to supplement TK's report.

## **8. Review of Ongoing Projects**

### **a) Meeting User Needs (Medina-Blanes)**

MMB reported that the resource list had been updated in July and October 2006 on IFLANET. She has checked all the web links and adjusted them so that they all work. MMB would be translating the list into Spanish as the first language of all 7 IFLA languages for the resource list to be provided on IFLANET.

### **b) Public Library Guidelines Guidelines**

#### **i. Translation and publications update (Lake)**

JL reported that he had not been advised on any further translations of the Guidelines since Seoul. We currently have 43 out of the target of 50.

**ii. Marketing update (Lake/Payette)**

The leaflet to publicise the Guidelines has been translated and published in Norwegian, Spanish and French and a Korean word version had been produced for Seoul. It was agreed that something needed to be published for Durban and JL would contact our South African Committee members to ask which languages (Dutch?) would be appropriate and how these could be funded.

**JL/KK/KdeK)**

**iii. E-book Revised Edition (Lake/Gubbin/Stringer/Ornholt/Jelks)**

JL and BG reported on the progress with the revision of the chapters of the guidelines. Progress was slow but a meeting was to be held in Mulheim between JL/BG/IS and JJ to discuss and progress further.

**c) Public Libraries, Museums and Archives Research Project (Clubb)**

It was agreed that TK would ask Sjoerd Koopman about this report being added to the IFLA publications programme – perhaps as a "print on demand" type publication. TK would also chase BC about the completion date and to suggest that a presentation of the report is made in Quebec in 2008. The location could be in a Museum or Library in Quebec with a small reception included.

**d) Caterpillar Book Box Project (Stringer)**

IS reported on the difficulty he had experienced with communications with June Baatjes but recently this had improved and she had reported that 17 new caterpillars had been produced with the support of the Ministry of Education in South Africa. Each book box costs E300 (2,700 Ran). It was agreed that the committee would support the projects in South Africa by inviting June Baatjes to the conference to present the Caterpillar Project and would finance a further 5 book boxes for South Africa. The budget would be provided as follows:

Airfare for JB to attend conference	2000 (Ran)
Hotel for JB at conference	2400 (Ran)
5 caterpillar book boxes (5 x 2700)	13500 (ran)
Total	17500 Ran or approx. E650

Suggestions for the presentation included having plans of the book boxes to be on IFLANET and distributed at the conference – perhaps as a simple origami exercise for participants at the Divisional programme.

## **Public Library Manifesto Revision (Pérez-Salmerón/ Oyarzún/Skov/Boettger)**

After feedback from selected countries (Spain, Denmark and Germany), it had been found that no substantial revision of the Manifesto was necessary and agreed that we should issue an update on IFLANET in key areas relating to the use of information technology.

After discussion it was agreed to co-promote the recent Internet Manifesto and Public Library Manifesto with a leaflet/weblink. The leaflet should take the form of a "10 ways to make a public library work"/"Update your libraries" approach with success stories/developing the Public Library Guidelines approach.

It was agreed that this leaflet should be displayed with posters on the Guidelines and the Manifesto at the Durban conference.

It was also agreed to pursue the possibility of a weblog on the Manifesto on IFLANET and invite comments from delegates at the conference.

**Action GPS**

### **9. Website, Newsletter and Section Brochure (Stringer)**

IS reported that he had produced monthly newsletters for Committee and intended to produce the next newsletter in March 2007.

IS was waiting for a response from Sophie Fefoldi at IFLA HQ on setting up a listserve for public libraries.

It was agreed to link the Branch and Mobiles UK website onto our section of IFLANET so that the photo bank available there could be easily accessible for information and guidance to people interested in the latest technology and designs for mobile libraries around the world.

It was agreed that IS should continue to produce the newsletter in its current format – a more glossy version was not thought to be cost effective and GB had already queried the value of this type of newsletter production.

### **10. Programmes for IFLA 2007 in Durban, South Africa (Kjekstad/Lake)**

The Bill and Melinda Access to Learning Awards would be presented again at the Congress but details of format, location and timing were still to be finalised.

Our main programme would be the Divisional day on Social Inclusion with all the other Sections in Division III. A call for papers had encouraged a large number of proposals for this programme (over 40) and JL had requested an extension to the deadline for submission of the programme to IFLA HQ until 6 March. There was a discussion on the possible format for the day including suggestions for a journalist to make a presentation after lunch. The need for more than one mediator and round

table discussions were recommended and for the bullet points of these to be fed back to the meeting through a facilitator/expert.

It was agreed that we should have the posters of the Guidelines and the Manifesto on display outside the auditorium for this session and to ask June Baatjes to speak on the Caterpillar project. Feedback on other speakers was provided to inform JL and TK at the CB meeting discussion to finalise this programme.

## **11. IFLA Structure Review (Kjekstad)**

TK fed back on the GB discussion on the review of the IFLA structure after Seoul. While many Sections were working well it was felt that there was still too many and that Special Interest Groups could assist in this was to make smaller groups less formal and prove effective. There was a query as to whether Divisions were really required.

The closing of the Section's popular discussion group on Public Libraries and the Democratic process was again of regret to many members and the potential for something similar in Quebec on "Public Libraries on the Agenda" or "Libraries and the Political Agenda" was discussed. TK to bring up at PC in April.

More information was required on how to set up and run a Special Interest Group and the possibility of a Mobile Libraries SIG flagged up.

## **12. Elections for the Committee 2007 (Kjekstad/Lake)**

The current nominations for this Committee were being welcomed and it was noted that KS and MMB would be re-nominated. It was not known whether LJ and KK would be re-nominated at this stage.

TK reminded the Committee that current members would attend the first SC meeting at Durban and this would be chaired by the outgoing chair (TK) and minuted by the outgoing secretary (JL). The new Chair, Secretary and Information Officer would be elected at the first meeting and take up their positions for the second meeting. KPB was willing to continue to assist as Treasurer until 2008 which was a non-elected role and the Committee welcomed this.

## **13. Programmes for IFLA 2008 in Quebec, Canada**

### **i. Pre-Conference Seminar update (Payette)**

SP reported on progress on this joint pre-conference seminar with the Children's and Young Adults Section and entitled "In these days of technology how can public libraries attract and keep young adults?". The plans were progressing for a 2 day seminar on the preceding Tuesday and Wednesday to the Conference at a University in downtown Montreal which would be followed by a tour of the National Library and a river trip down the St Lawrence to Quebec over 1.5 days.

ii. A discussion on the Section's main programme for the conference produced the idea for a session entitled "Libraries on the Political Agenda"

Possible speakers were discussed including:

Ngian Lek Choh, National Library of Singapore  
Assumpta Bailac, Department of Culture, Catalonia  
Maria Dempster and the Mayor of Chicago  
Librarian in Dubai

JL to contact  
GPS to contact  
MS and BG to contact  
IS to contact

It was agreed that this would be an ideal session to programme with the Metropolitan Section. The possibility of the Mayor of Quebec attending was discussed and SP would investigate that.

Action SP

#### **14. Review Strategic Plan for 2005-07. (Kjekstad)**

The strategic plan had been updated by JL in October and it was approved as an accurate record of the Section's progress. A final review and update would be completed in Durban when a new plan for 2007-08 would be formulated.

#### **15. Other Reports and Items**

There were no further items raised

#### **16. Closing**

Thanks to Klaus Peter for his hospitality.

*Kjekstad & Lake  
April 2007*