

Servas International
SI Exco Teleconference
FT Minutes
Tuesday June 24, 2015 19.00 – 21.00 GMT/UTC
Over Skype

Participants: **Ann Greenhough (AG); Jonny Sågänger (JS); Danielle Serres (DS); Mirek Wasilewski (MW); Arnoud Philippo (AP); Jaime Romero**

Announced absence: **Jaime Romero (JR)**

Minutes Recorder: **David Asher (DA)**

NEXT MEETING: To be arranged

Actions are identified in Italics and Underline. A summary of action items is at the end of the minutes
Decisions and Motions are in bold

Meeting began at 21.00 GMT/UTC.

1. Chit-chat
2. Today's agenda: adopted.
3. **Minutes of SI Exco meeting 2.06.15**
 - Version 2 of minutes agreed as accurate.
4. **Exco member's written reports.**
 - APs report received. JS would like written reports to continue. Agreed.
5. **SICOGA 2015: SI Conference and SI GA 2015**
 - **Planning meeting Sweden:**
 - JS summarized work undertaken for planning SICOGA
 - JS has circulated notes from meeting. Notes received by AG, DS and MW.
 - **Status report: number of participants, programme etc**
 - AG has sent email earlier about first day of SICOGA:
 - A proposal received from Marijke Batenburg (MB) for Zenergy Global for opening session. Waiting for costing. Group is used to working with international orgs
 - NZ plan for first coach to leave at 7.45 am; last one leaving at 9.00
 - On arrival, programme proposed to start at 2.30 pm with surprise item from NZ
 - Opening programme from 3pm up to dinner time
 - Usual dinner time at venue is 5.30 pm. Marijka to check if 6 or 6.30 possible.
 - Usual breakfast time 8.00. Will check if 7.30 to 8.15 possible.
 - Tea and coffee available mid-morning, mid-afternoon, and available continuously from kitchen for visitors use.
 - MW and AG had discussion yesterday about funded participants list. 75 persons funded by Servas International with varying % funding. MW will circulate an updated list of funded participants soon.
 - NZ planning group have 3rd August for many of their arrangements to be in place. Pre-conference: 80 places with hosts so far identified for participants with hosts.

Aiming for 100. MB will send out information soon about Hotel Parnell and nearby low cost hostels for self-booking. As low as NZ\$25 per person per night in dormitory. Aim is to identify those who prefer hotel and hostel accommodation, especially Friday night, before allocating hosts.

- Plenty of wall space for posting SICOGA material at venue. Each participant will get brown paper bag as welcome pack with info, tourist information, orientation and mementos from NZ.
- Visitor programme being developed. Daily trips to the town and to visitor attractions possible. Travel costs to be met by participants.
- Number of NZ organisers and Amir Levy (AL) will arrive on Friday to set up conference room and technical equipment and prepare for registration.

- **Next Exco / NZ meeting**

- Proposed date for Exco/ NZ SICOGA Team meeting on Saturday 11 July (replacing 27 June) at GMT 7.00. DS, MW, JS, AG can all make this time. Action: JS to send invitations out for Saturday 11 July Exco / NZ Skype meeting.
- MB is no longer National Secretary of NZ: Sandra and Peter Debney are new joint NS.

- **Handling of motions**

- DS reported that much work ongoing with motions.
- List of motions being studied by AWG.
- Would be helpful if motions were in alphabetical order.
- Conveners for working groups agreed as: JS will work with PP on Future and Vision; AG with AP on Travellers/ Hosts and Regional Development; DS will work on Peace; MW on Finance; Pramod on Modernisation.
- DS has sent email to nominations committee but no reply. AG confirms Norma lead person answering emails. AG confirms an 'open door' to anyone wanting to discuss nominations with NC. AG will get update from Jean Seymour.
Action: All motions to be finalized and sent to DS
- 2012 SI GA agenda identified a number of standard administrative motions required at the each SI GA. AG highlighted these, eg on member groups. PP and PK may have more detailed knowledge of what required. JS will take advice from them before completing motions that are required.
Action. AG will retrieve highlighted standard administrative motions from previous conference and send to JS.
Action: JS to complete motions without whole template and forward to AWG

- **SICOGA Kit**

- JS to work with Agenda Working Group on this before posting and circulation to national groups.
- AG suggested timetable is too rough yet for publishing and could cause confusion.
- JS will send SICOGA kit, including outline timetable, to all National Secretaries and main contacts irrespective of their attendance. AG to finalise SI team information. MW to send financial report for 2013 and 2014 (preliminary figures) without accompanying documents. AP suggests also sending to main contacts.
Action: JS to send out SICOGA kit to National Secretaries and Main Contacts (including titles of motions, with signposting to website in order to find main body of motions).

Action: AG to update SI team list for inclusion in SICOGA 2015

Action: MW to provide financial reports for 2013 and 2014 (preliminary figures) for inclusion in SICOGA 2015

- **Late applications for delegate funding for Jerina Malesevic (JM), Servas Croatia:**
 - AG has circulated a late application from JM which was discussed.

Motion: Funding to be agreed for Jerina Malesevic to be funded as a delegate to attend SICOGA 2015 to include registration fee and 80% contribution to flight costs. AG to agree maximum SI contribution with JM based on most economic flight.

Motion: Passed.

6. SI Family Coordinator

- AG has circulated proposal. Susana Martinez (SM) has been in working with families and young people since 2012. AG recently met face to face with SM at Servas Britain meeting when able to discuss a potential role to lead promoting Families in Servas. age group. AG suggests close working relationship with Youth Team. AG proposes SM is funded as not currently employed. Would contribute to developing role before, during and after SICOGA.
- JS supports proposal and feels SM would work well. DS wishing to clarify the status of the post – an appointment not an elected post. AG confirms a number of precedents for appointed roles exist. AG confirms this is an area of work that needs to be done and AG does not have time or skills. DS querying whether post is time limited. AG confirms that post would continue after SICOGA.
- MW highlights there are 2 separate issues – creation of post, and funding to SICOGA. MW suggests funding SM on basis of presenting a plan for the role to SICOGA.
- AP would like to separate the appointment of SM to present a plan of action and the creation of a new Servas Officer. According to the Statutes the number of officers is limited. AP suggests changing the name Youth Team into (e.g.) Youth and Family Team. The membership of SM would gain synergy because activities for families (with youth) and activities for youth 'come together' in the same team.
- AP reminds the group of a successful Spanish event 2013 which was family / young people focused. AP queries why necessary to create a new post, rather than adapt Youth Team to include a focus on family activities. Would prefer to support SM as member of a team. AG assumes SM would work collaboratively with Youth Team.
- JS proposes instead of appointment as Families Coordinator at this stage, that SM is funded to attend SICOGA to present a plan of action for development of Families in Servas.
- Agreed work needs completing by JS and AG on outstanding Families motion.

Motion: To fund SM to attend SICOGA, with maximum contribution to flight costs from London of 1250 euros (as already agreed for Jean Seymour). Conference fees to be paid. SM to present a plan of action for Servas families to SICOGA 2015.

Motion passed.

Action: JS and AG to integrate their motions on Servas families.

Action: AG to inform SM of decision.

7. SOLYS Project:

- JS confirms that project is progressing. Will have something to show in NZ. Volunteer countries will be piloting the system shortly.
- AP confirms work of SI website team slow at present. Pictures not yet of necessary standard. AP to get text from other Servas websites. JS confirms suggests to find people with skills for writing for the web, and producing high quality photos. AP to pursue some possibilities.

8. SI Handbook

- This is responsibility of JR as GS. Info in chat. Progress towards completion remains unclear.

9. SI Country Reports

- Info sent by Chat
- Responsibility of JR. Task of collating and circulating these is incomplete. This is creating delays for JS to complete the annual SI status report and for the membership committee to complete its work.
- JS reports that he has not had a satisfactory response from JR about progress on a significant number of important GS tasks not completed. JS confirms that he is insisting that JR responds to his concerns about incomplete tasks before any funding for his attendance at SICOGA 2015 is agreed. He has not so far met the usual requirements for all those who are to receive SI funding.
- **Decision: All Exco members present support JS as President in delaying a decision on the release of SI funding to JS to attend SICOGA 2015 until he receives a satisfactory response from JR about his inactivity in his role as GS.**

10. SI Finances

- Proposed motion by JS: ***'Reimbursement to Bernard Andrieu for two posters of the future screens of ServasOnLine System. Purpose to have material to show when presenting SOLSYS to regional or general assemblies. The posters are helpful to make people understand and appreciate what's coming with the project. Total 42.69 Euro via bank transfer'***
- MW doubts the value of use of posters to promote SOLSYS, as the same function could be better fulfilled by a PowerPoint presentation. This could be covered by a separate motion about expenses for SOLSYS.
Action: Motion about reimbursement to Bernard Andrieu to be decided by email. (JS and all).

11. Next meeting: Thursday 16 July 19.00 GMT

12. DS leaves meeting at 21.07

13. End of meeting 21.10

Summary of actions:

- Action: JS to send invitations out for Saturday 11 July Exco / NZ Skype meeting.
- Action: All motions to be finalized and sent to DS (all)
- Action. AG will retrieve highlighted standard administrative motions from previous conference and send to JS.
- Action: JS to complete motions without whole template and forward to AWG
- Action: JS to send out SICOGA kit to National Secretaries and Main Contacts (including titles of motions, with signposting to website in order to find main body of motions).
- Action: AG to update SI team list for inclusion in SICOGA 2015
- Action: MW to provide financial report for inclusion in SICOGA 2015
- Action: JS and AG to integrate their motions on Servas families.
- Action: AG to inform SM of decision.
- Action: Motion about reimbursement to Bernard Andrieu to be decided by email. (JS and all).