25.07.2020 – Minutes of the Twelfth (12th) Online Meeting of ExCo 2019-2020

The Twelfth (12th) Online Meeting of the IVSA Executive Committee (ExCo) 2019-2020 was held at 17:00 pm GMT+2 on 22.08.2020. Elwin van Oldenborgh (President) was present to Chair and Merel Knoops (President-Elect) was present to take the minutes.

Attendance
Executive Committee Officers Present
Elwin van Oldenborgh        President
Merel Knoops               President-Elect, External Relations Officer, Vice President, acting SG
Emily Freeman             Committee Coordinator (CC)
Anna Cieckiewicz          Member’s Organization Director (MOD)
Laura Scowen               Development Aid Director
Kathi Loose                Treasurer
Cahyani Fortunitawanli    Public Relations Coordinator (PRC)

Other IVSA Officials Present
Laure Chevalier           Chair of the Standing Committee on Animal Welfare
Jaklien Goossens          Secretary to MOD & DAD

Apologies

1) Opening – Elwin van Oldenborgh (President) called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm GMT+2.

2) Approval of the Agenda – The Agenda of the 12th (twelveth) Live Meeting was Kathi added Brief Media and Taxes to the Treasurer Update

3) Action Points
   Update Bylaws with amendments from Croatia, Morocco and SGA were done by Kerstin.

4) Trust Report
   No trust report.
   Next year’s trust will have a meeting next week

5) Committee Coordinator (CC) Update –
   a. Handover meetings with the chairs
      SCoVE done, most other will be in first week of September
   b. WHSS Update

6) Committee reports –
   a. Standing Committee on Animal Welfare (SCAW)
i. Fear Free Workshop
As soon as there are dates for the workshop, they’ll start promoting it online. Email from Hongkong, girl was interested in starting an MO. SCAW will provide them with posts for their animal welfare week. Ania commented that IVSA Hongkong cannot exist, they need to be a part of IVSA China, but suggested for them to contact her (Ania).

ii. End of the term
Laure will be sending out emails to all SCAW partners saying she’s leaving and who’ll take over from her.

iii. Chair selection
Chairs should talk together about selection of members
Ania commented that the regional teams should be involved in the conversation on selection of committee members
Emily wants to work on that

iv. Veterinary Medical Association Hong Kong
Email from Hongkong, girl was interested in starting an MO. SCAW will provide them with posts for their animal welfare week. Ania commented that IVSA Hongkong cannot exist, they need to be a part of IVSA China, but suggested for them to contact her (Ania).

b. Standing Committee on Veterinary Education (SCoVE)
   i. Handover meeting: went well

c. Standing Committee on One Health (SCOH)
   i. Handover meeting: scheduled
   ii. Projects: won’t go in details as not much has changed

d. Working Group on Alumni (WGA)
   i. Handover meeting: scheduled for Tuesday

e. Standing Committee on Wellness (SCoW)
   i. Handover meeting: 1st week of September

f. Standing Committee on Career Attributes (SCoCA)
   i. Handover meeting: 1st week of September

7) Development Aid Director (DAD) Update –
   a. Handover meeting: Laura is helping Elen get started
   b. Elwin van Oldenborgh mentioned it would be a good idea to make a budget and finalize it to present during GA. Will also be added into the handover.

8) Member Organization Director (MOD) Update –
   a. Communication and MO involvement
      Strategic plan for the regions is ready. ExCo needs to approve before 25th of August, because Ania would like to have it ready before the handover meeting with the next MOD. Has a lot of ERO and CC things as well, so both Merel and Emily should definitely have a good look at it.
      Sudan decided to belong to SubSaharan-Africa, Ania gave them the choice.
b. Exchanges and International events
   
   c. Information and committees
   
   d. Regional Representatives
      Scheduling handover meetings with the regional representatives. The new regional reps will probably be doing different things than last year’s reps, so it’d be good to have them all together, to also meet the new MOD.

9) Public Relations Coordinator (PRC) Update -
   
a. Social Media & Website
      Lot of it is coming from Partners, Purina Institute every Wednesday. Today was the OIE ambassador program and tomorrow AMBOSS Scholarships.
   
b. IVSA Journal
      Published, check it out at issuu.com/ivsajournal
      Attended events, committee updates, article on life after graduation. Very interesting. Would be great if officials shared it.
   
c. Sponsorship Booklets: will be finished before the end of the term.
   
d. Elwin asked for the summary of the Strategic plan to be uploaded to the website, a new section underneath the media center. Ania added that the old one should be deleted from the wiki. Elwin will do it once he’s back.
   
e. Dauda asked if something was uploaded, and Nita responded that she uploaded it. Also he wants to add things to the committee sponsorship proposal booklet under projects. He will forward it to Merel for approval, who will then send it to Nita for final design.

10) Treasurer Update-
   
a. Brief Media
      Received the money
   
b. Taxes
      Tax papers got lost, so Kathi couldn’t pay them, now we have a €50 fine. Jaklien can receive the papers. There’s companies that give you access to the online tax platform, but it costs €500, so that’s why it didn’t happen. Elwin suggests that Kathi calls them again in English, so maybe they’ll email it to her then.
   
c. Handover meeting: 2nd one already scheduled
   
d. Nita asked if Kathi already reimbursed her for the website. Kathi will do it this weekend.

11) Secretary General Update-

12) External Relations Officer Update-
   
a. Sponsors:
      i. Purina institute
         Merel has been in continuous contact with them about the facebook posts to ensure IVSA is doing all the promotion it should be doing.
      ii. Purina brand
Similar to Purina institute, there has been regular contact and promotion of the purina diets, both on Facebook, as well as in the EO Bulletin.

b. Partners:
   i. Amboss
      The Scholarships will be promoted soon as Nita said, 15 IVSA members will receive a free subscription to the learning platform they are offering, which is a great opportunity for us. AMBOSS will do the selection themselves, so it’s a low effort partnership for IVSA.
   ii. OIE
      A meeting is scheduled to discuss the future of the OIE Junior Ambassador Program, together with Elwin, Andreas and the new SCOH chair.
   iii. IPSF
      The MoU has been approved by the GA, and a signed version of the MoU has been sent to IPSF.
   iv. IFMSA
      The MoU has been approved by the GA, and a signed version of the MoU has been sent to IPSF.
   v. ISOHA
      The MoU has been approved by the GA, and a signed version of the MoU has been sent to IPSF.
   vi. VetXThrive
      No response on the MoU yet, hopefully, the partnership can go into full effect in the new term.
   vii. VMS
      VMS has agreed to do a three-part webinar series for IVSA students, the next ERO will work on this partnership a lot more
   viii. ASTUCORP
      ASTUVET is an online platform that is supposed to offer everything veterinary medicine related on one website. They’ve asked IVSA to be a partner, meaning that we will receive our own page on the platform to post our updates on events/activities/etc. This will be completely free for IVSA.

c. Potential sponsors / partners:
   i. Vetiqo
      The next ERO will be encouraged to engage with Vetiqo further, they have expressed interest in sponsoring some of their materials for our events.

d. Upcoming projects:
   i. Sponsorship booklets for the Standing Committees
      The booklets will be almost finished, just in time for the next ERO and Chairs to work with.

Ania commented that the links to the purina institute stuff can also be included in the EO bulletin

13) President Update

   a. Partner communication
14) Attended Events
   a. 69th IVSA Congress, Online SGA
      1. Most bylaw amendments passed, elections went well.
      2. Moving forward with the structural changes, would be a good idea to contact the AVS. Elwin will contact Callum (AVS Treasurer). Ania mentioned that we should also be including Nabeelah from now on. Would also be good to have a meeting with SAVMA.
      3. Heard sounds that people thought Alumni should not be able to represent a country (including voting), could be a possible future bylaw amendment.
      4. Elwin also sent a personal letter to someone who showed some disruptive behaviour during the SGA, no response has been received. Kathi had a call with a past president to discuss how things went. Apparently us only allowing 2 minute statements triggered some delegates. It came across as if we wanted to push our views, something to take into future consideration.
      5. Emily states that he wasn’t following the code of conduct.
      6. Emily’s minutes are finished and in the drive. Merel will finish hers.

15) Upcoming Events
   a. ExCo Meetings:
   b. 69th IVSA Symposium in Indonesia
      1. Have to decide whether it should be an SGA or a regular GA. Nita had a talk with the OC President, the OC President seems confident that it will happen like a regular GA, as travel is opening back up. Ania explained that they’re still anxious about maybe having to lower the amount of delegates (and thus increase the fee).
      2. Received a message from a member from Sudan, who wants to attend the Symposium, and is in financial struggles and would like to start looking for sponsors. Usually this isn’t done, because applications need to open first. Merel said we need to take into account the fact that many countries need more time for sponsorship. Elwin says that we’ll need to do it for everyone, as more countries are in the same position. He also suggests that we should send a recommendation letter instead of an acceptance letter. Kathi agrees that we should help them and that there are other countries, so we should be doing this for more countries and not just Sudan. Ania suggests to disseminate the opportunity to our members. Elwin suggested the EO Bulletin.
16) Any Other Business (AOB) –

1. We received a message from a student from IVSA Bangladesh who want to become a separate MO because IVSA Bangladesh is only offering IVSA opportunities to 1 single university, and leaving out all others (including the university the student is from) Ania suggest to have a meeting with IVSA Bangladesh and the MOD and the regional rep. They can’t form a local MO if there’s a national MO already. Hopefully the meeting will sort things out amongst them.

2. History Project: Mehdi had a plan to compile nice things from the history project (compile pictures from congresses long ago in a book to then sell as merchandise at events for the DF). Mehdi and Elwin will continue to work on that.

3. Pedro from IVSA Rio wants to form a national MO for Brazil. They don’t need to form it because the bylaw amendment passed, Emily is staying in touch and translating everything to portuguese to make the communication easier.

4. Elwin wants the new officials to think about how we want to communicate with trust next year. Because Trust - ExCo relations have not been the easiest the last few years.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm GMT +2.

Merel Knoops
President-Elect, acting SG