

Minutes of the First General Members' Assembly 2020/21

Notulen van de Eerste Algemene
Ledenvergadering 2020/21

ASDV BONAPARTE

25-09-2020, 19:30. CREA 3.12

ATTENDEES

Amber van Lochem

Hannah Geddes (streamed in online from the UK, no voting rights, informed the board prior)

Jannis Limperg

Joost Stael

Leonora Verveld

Niamh Limerick

Noah van Dansik

Saskia Bergmann

Srishagon Abraham (referred to as Srish)

Stella Vellevoog

Stephan van den Berg

Vincent Vonk

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INHOUDSOPGAVE

OPENING

FINALISATION OF AGENDA

Amber: Finalising agenda, everybody ok?

Everybody approves

FINALISATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Amber: Finalising minutes, everybody ok?

Everybody approves

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Location

Noah: Location: we were in touch with some, was not going very well, talking to Meevaart again. Hopefully we can go there again.

Corona

Noah: Corona: As you all know we live in times with a virus. Unfortunately, some events like the first weekend might get hard, but we will try and do our best and have distance

Discussion

Niamh: Is Meevaart finished at 9?

Amber: For now yes, but there are thinking of extending it. If so we might make it our permanent location. Otherwise (no extension) we will have a big problem.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Leonora: Not so much has happened over the summer as you might imagine. We will start with the budget. *Explains the structure of the sheet.* Contributions: got more than expected. Courses we got more than expected.

Amber: It's mostly the same as last time

Leonora: Social activities: bigger loss than expected, because we paid for the abroad weekend accommodation, but we did not get income from that. Good news is that we might be able to use this reservation for another time (not sure yet). If you remove that 1000 euro's, we made a 6000 euro's reduce loss.

Jannis: Shouldn't we cancel it?

Noah: We would not get full refund if we did that, we are trying to move it again

Leonora: Barco: unexpected loss of 60 euro's (problems SSRA) we discussed that during last GMA

Amber: Was bigger than beginning of the year, so we reduced that

Leonora: Profit last year: bills from last year that weren't paid last year, so loss of 500 euro's. Got a lot of money from debtors. We had to pay less rent because of Corona. Less expenses on board. No one asked from money for Cicero; so we made 200 euro's with that

Niamh: Shouldn't the money that is paid for the market go to the board expenses of next year?

Leonora: no but maybe should be.

Leonora: (Explains the budget graph). We have some big spendings like on e.g. rent.

No questions

Leonora: We will go on to debts. Explains the structure of the graph of the debts. Left one is the start, last one is current situation, middle one is previous GMA. Debts are being paid off. In regards to paying contribution: some people keep refusing to pay, but we have not fully exhausted our options to make them pay. We might not be able to get that and I wouldn't recommend the next treasurer to keep chasing them. Most debts is due to paying contribution. Some is from people that just have a big debt from last year.

Jannis: is it normal to have big debts as a member?

Amber: It was, but Axel started to change that

Leonora: people often also undscribed too late. Sadly, those are a lot.

Jannis: does it cost you money if they cancel sepa's?

Leonora: No.

Saskia: Good job on collectings debts on A' Open

Leonora: We made a blacklist and if people keep refusing to pay they will be put on the black list for our society.

Leonora: Balance sheet tells you what we have. *Explains structure.* Debts have increased by almost a 1000 euros. We scrubbed at the previous GMA some costs on printing etc.

Final report of the Financial Oversight Committee

Amber: Leonora is already voted in for next year

Niamh: Kasko is happy. Three main things that we checked: receipts were all in order: make sure that you document them right away cause they might fade away. Fiscal case was in order: 50 cents was gone, which is fine. Actual amounts were all ok, savings were fine. 30 Euros were gone; Leonora is going to look for it. If we don't: under 50 euros it is marginal which is ok. We all decided that it was fine and got drunk.

Leonora: We do bookkeeping by hand, complicated to do everything perfectly, hard to find mistakes. Next year we will change with a new bookkeeping system.

Niamh: be more careful. But I also think it was corona virus. Overall happy.

FINAL REPORT OF THE OUTGOING BOARD

PR Commissioner

(Hannah moved first as she had to stream in from the UK)

Hannah: Short: I was sort of PR, sort of members commissioners, about 1,5 months in general. Because of Covid stopped in March. Weird half board year, went back to UK and haven't been in NL since since Corona and stuff. Really enjoyed my month on board, and going there in person. Enjoyed BTD. In the end filling in different jobs instead of having a full PR roll. During summer I tried to organize more, but because of Corona was mostly online. Worked with Saskia and Taimoor, was still hard. We tried our best this year. I wish the next board a lot of luck. I encourage follow up to try to be creative and if you need help you can contact me.

Chair

Amber: Since June we didn't do much, some debate evenings, summer did not do a lot. Noah did, I tried to help her and give information. The new board has got it all covered. Excited about being a regular member next year. So I can explain a lot hehe.

Treasurer

Leonora: oh, uh... I had a nice time. It was lovely. I think I'm very excited next year, a lot to improve but I have complete faith in Joost.

Srish: Why are you so beautiful?

Amber: You have to talk a bit louder.

Srish: My question was irrelevant

Noah: It was very relevant

Niamh: Would you like to still use the graphs for the next board?

Leonora: Yes, I would.

Secretary

Stephan: Sad about corona, but very excited about the new board, they seem very professional. I will try to be involved as much as possible next year.

Social Commissioner

Noah: We had a few nice socials. It was nice to see you again, that's what I did with social stuff. I acted more like chair and stuff. I am excited to work with these nice people.

KEY FIGURES

(Report provided, everything okay).

VOTING IN SOCIAL AND PR COMMISSIONER

Amber: Put your hands up if you are applying for a board position

Social Commissioner

Vincent: I am applying for social commissioner next year. I think it is important to include new members. Will be difficult with Corona but I will try to still do as much as possible while keeping track with measures.

Amber: How much time will you have for Bona?

Vincent: Quite a lot of time

Noah: Before corona we had a Girls' Night planned

Srish: Will you join the Girls' Night?

Leonora: Name should be changed to female stereotype appreciation?

Vincent: We want to do fun stuff during the First Years' Weekend like karaoke and people will not sleep over.

PR Commissioner

Stella: I want to be PR commissioner; I want to use FB platform more -> easy to find and nice for new members. Some other associations have nice structures that I'd like to use like having a poster with all the information you need. I want to make sure that everyone knows what's going on.

Srish: would you also want access on websites?

Stella: if we have a meeting I might ask that

Leonora: what will you do to introduce to involve members that like different things?

Stella: they would find us on google so regular

Amber: PR in English and in Dutch?

Stella: I have nice Dutch people in the committee so they can do it.

Srish: Do you want to focus on FB or also expand to IG?

Stella: FB is great for information such as events, IG is good for grasping attentions?

Stella: We will post regularly and that will be fine, I think.

Ad hoc voting committee

Saskia and Niamh selected.

Voting in of Stella and Vincent

Stella is voted in with 11 votes in favour, 0 abstentions, 0 against

Vincent is voted in with 11 votes in favour, 0 abstentions, 0 against

BOARD TRANSFER

PR Commissioner

(Stella goes first due to Hannah streaming in).

Hannah to Stella: I think you are going to do a great job, you are answering great will, impressed by your ideas. We need someone who thinks outside of the box like you. I'm going to send a present.

Stella: Nice to become your child so to say, nice that I can also ask questions and stuff.

Stella sworn in.

Treasurer

Leonora to Joost: Excited for you to be treasurer, you're going to be harsh. This drink will make you perhaps a bit sweet. Every time you drink it you will be reminded.

Joost: Tough to follow you up. I hope you will come as much as you can. Brought also booze (organic prosecco, it's your trigger word): Nice book: everybody should be a feminist. It is not that thick which is nice. And I am also going to give you cookies as you always eat mine.

Joost sworn in.

Secretary

Stephan: Srish is a great successor, love how engaged you are. (gives liquor)

Srish: we are all giving each other alcohol lol. You can pick which present you want. Happy to be following up after Stephan, looking forward to following his legacy.

Amber: DON'T HUG!!!!!!

Srish sworn in.

Debate Commissioner

Amber: Surprise we have a speech for you. I really wish you're gonna make your entire year and level up our courses and make everything fun and people better educated. You're suited for that and I wish you well. We're gonna maybe win worlds next year with you.

Saskia: I am following up from a low bar. I will be learning Dutch.

Saskia sworn in.

Social Commissioner

Noah: I think you're gonna do great. I already love your plans. Since social is my little baby, I'm hesitant to let go. So tell me to back off whenever. We have a tradition to buy tequila for the social commissioner.

Vincent: You did great, looking forward to feedback and being the commissioner. I bought you a game.

Saskia: Speech breaker! I wanna play already.

Vincent sworn in.

Chair

Amber: Chair rights given to Srish.

Amber: Noah, you're gonna be chair and I know you're gonna rock it and I feel very trusted that I'm leaving Bona in good hands. I know me and Axel were controlling it for a bit but now we're giving way to someone new. But I am comfortable you won't change Bona too much. I got you two presents, one I forgot at home I left at home (the book – De Beheerser), and environmentally friendly beer.

Noah: I loved working with you this year. I think you did great and I understand it's hard to let things go and I feel like I'm sort of your Bona baby, you and Axel were my Bona parents as me your Bona child. I hope I will do just as good as you. I got you prosecco rose.

BREAK

(Taking of minutes transferred to Srishagon Abraham)

PRESENTATION OF POLICY PLANS

- Position by position
- Amber: Is the part of Stella and Vincent in there? Yes.
 - Will contact by mail.

Chair: Noah

- No questions for Noah's policy plan.

Secretary: Srish

(Several questions at beginning missed, minute-taking transferred temporarily to Saskia Bergmann)

Stephan: If a new member came, how can new members be contacted?

- I'm in contact with people who have questions and Saskia takes over role of contacting people after the evening and adding them to the group.

Leonora: How will you ensure it will stay casual communication?

- Want to stay formal, because these duties are formal, there are loads of people who follow-up after formal things, then I'm more informal. But stay formal in initial.
- **Noah:** Personal notice lowers the barrier for contacting us.
- It's also true! People contact me daily about what's next and how they should be. etc.

Stephan: I liked the personal communications, are you going to contact people systemically, so that even those without follow-up questions are involved?

- Originally, I wanted to, but now only 2-3 days, don't have time.
- **Stephan:** (Spilled beer).
- **Saskia:** I'm contacting yes.
- **Stephan:** When Winter comes then shared responsibility works less, should maybe make it systematic.

Amber: Make sure you're also utilising other platforms like website and mail, instead of Facebook and WhatsApp.

- Already being done.

Noah: Nice ending in his policy plan.

Treasurer: Joost

- No questions for Joost's policy plan.

Debate Commissioner: Saskia

Leonora: Do you know what to shout if someone shouts, "Bonaparte Hoogh!"

- Hoger! Hoogst!

Stephan: Is Bonaparte going to introduce videos on debating basics?

- We had the first course last week. Some new members didn't take part. New members that did come already debated in the open evenings. Not really people left in the dark. And we are making all the courses accessible to everyone. **But yes I should text people systematically.**
- **Niamh:** Texting people personally is effective.

Leonora: How often do you plan to hold training courses, and courses aimed at specific people?

- Not more than twice a month but at least once a month but depends on the frequency of other events. October, 2 courts, November 2 courses.

Amber: Practice evenings for NK?

- One in October: but UDS
- Internal beginners' tournament is on the 20th and could serve as practice. Will be BP. Amber wants it bilingual. But Amber has to join the Debate Committee.

Stephan: Newbies scared of debate because we're very professional. We should be accessible.

- **Noah:** Join debate committee if you have more thoughts on how to do things.

PR Commissioner: Stella

(Stella gives summary of her policy plan).

Saskia: How do you plan to keep PR committee active?

- Change day of meetings and look for new members.

Social Commissioner: Vincent

Stephan: Weerwolven? Rate 1-10.

- 8,5.

Amber: Are you going to organise a "Wie is de Mole" event?

- Yes.

BUDGET

(See attached spreadsheet on new budget proposal)

- "Realised" is in comparison with previous board

Points of discussion:

GENERAL

- (Miscellaneous profits and expenditures).
- The (low) amount for social activities is due to no abroad weekend or first years' weekend.
- Rent has increased due to De Meevaart because we lost NoNoMes.
- Income for debtors will be handled by Leonora, almost all paid but some still aren't fulfilled, from previous years.
- Barco losses is due to spending first beers for people.
- External membership losses: AKvV
 - **Amber:** Why is it higher?
 - **Leonora:** AKvV, CREA, Debatbond, no real places to put them before, but now we created the external membership losses for this.
- **Stephan:** How much per evening?
 - **Noah:** This is budgeted with De Meevaart in mind every week.
 - **Niamh:** Why not CREA?
 - **Noah:** Because CREA isn't letting us next month.
- **Leonora:** This is a worst case scenario budget. How will you abide by it?
 - **Noah:** There's a lot of uncertainty. This is budgeted with all those uncertainties in mind.

DE REDENAAR

- **Amber:** You haven't touched it. But Britt and Lisa might be interested.
- **Noah:** We keep reserving money for it but it's dead.
- **Saskia:** If possible, we should do it without external resources, but we have a PR budget for it anyway.

SERVICES

- Srish has reevaluated services we need for the website, we have a new section in the budget now for existing costs (website hosting) and new services we need or just got (form system, finance management system).

TOURNAMENTS:

- Amsterdam Open will be making a bigger profit than budgeted, sponsorships will be looked for but not there yet. We will be earning more than budgeted due to research as well.
- **Niamh:** organising tournaments - why the difference?
 - **Saskia:** We don't expect such a similar loss this year, and we're making a profit on Amsterdam Open to offset the loss of BDT.
- **Niamh:** Fees - up or down?
 - AO will go down because online. BDT as well due to costs we can cut.
- **Amber:** How are you going to sponsor all members?
 - Based on sponsoring peoples' first tournament. Sponsoring all who ask by dividing 200 on all. We will be implementing a cap (i.e. on EUDC/WUDC) so not one person can leech the entire sponsorship. Saskia and Joost will have a general overview soon. Saskia is in discussions with the research team for sponsoring and funding.
 - **Amber: I want an overview of where the money goes in terms of sponsoring.**

MEMBERS CONTRIBUTIONS

- **Jannis:** Did you budget according to if everyone paid, because some don't pay.
 - No, we budgeted according to an estimate of what we've or we'll be earning. We also assume constant growth of the membership base.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Niamh: Appreciation to the board. Congrats. Is there a specific committee to look for a location is the board just looking?

- **Noah:** As is, it's my responsibility. But we plan to change it soon.
- **Stephan:** Ask members? Could help.

Srish: De Redenaar

- **Srish:** Scrap it altogether. Or start a committee if Britt and Lisa are interested.
- **Noah:** Keep the idea alive until someone's interested.
- **Amber:** We could ask people who have gone to tournaments if they could submit pieces.

ROUND OF QUESTIONS

None.

CLOSING

General Members' Assembly adjourned sine die.