



17 April 2012

MINUTES
Nordic Federation of General Practice ApS
Annual General Assembly 14 April 2012 09:00-12:00

Venue

The Danish College of General Practitioners, Copenhagen

Participants

Gisle Roksund (Chairman), Torsten Sørensen, Pekka Honkanen, Thorarinn Ingolfsson, Marit Hermansen, Karin Träff Nordström, Peter Vedsted, Helena Liira, Emil Sigurdsson, Jón Steinar Jónsson, Elise Kosunen, Svein Steinert, Susanne Reventlow, Tumas Koskela, Tina Malene Pedersen (ref.)

1. Election of Chair of the meeting

Gisle Roksund was appointed as chair of the meeting.

2. Appointment of person to take minutes of the meeting

Tina Pedersen was appointed to take the minutes.

3. Approval of the agenda

Item 14 was discussed in earlier meetings and was therefore deleted.

Two points were added to “Any other business”: Discussion of Wonca Europe conference 2016 and policy document of preventing medicine.

The agenda was approved.

4. Approval of the minutes from 2011

The minutes were approved.

5. Election to the Board of Executives and possible duties

In accordance to the by-laws, the new members Marit Hermansen (N), Karin Träff Nordström (S), Thorarinn Ingolfsson (IS) and Lars Gehlers Johansen (DK) were elected to The Executive Board.

6. The Chairman’s report of the activities of NFGP ApS 2011

Gisle Roksund quickly referred to the report where after the annual report from the Chairman was approved.

7. Vision and mission for NFGP

A revised vision and mission were approved, they are currently stated as:

- Ensure that the congresses and SJPHC keep high common Nordic professional standards and profile and establish a professionally fruitful collaboration between them.
- Build up a logistic experience of the Nordic Congresses and strengthen the colleges' joint responsibility for issuing the SJPHC and for organizing and arranging the Nordic Congresses.
- Develop and maintain a sound financial situation for the SJPHC and for the Nordic Congresses; and in this connection develop and implement common guidelines regarding sponsorship of the congresses.

Furthermore it was suggested that the Svalbard document could be a possible fourth point. It was approved that The Executive Board will discuss the vision and mission via e-mail in the coming year and that they will bring a discussion paper for the next spring meeting in 2013.

There was a discussion about establishing a network e.g. for research or quality within the federation. The conclusion to this was that the federation wishes to encourage and support networks ideologically but doesn't have the opportunity to support economically. The federation will also support the networks via the website and SJPHC.

8. Report from the Congress Committee and status for the congress in Finland 2013

Elise Kosunen presented the main conclusions of the Congress Committees meetings from the autumn meeting 2011 in Tampere and the meeting 13 April 2012.

The Tromsø congress was overall a success. People left the scientific program with favorable opinions and useful information; there has been some negative feedback regarded to the social programme.

The committee had discussed how to encourage young researchers to participate in the congress. Some of the proposals were to raise the number of posters and arrange well organized poster walks.

Elise Kosunen briefed the federation about the congress in Tampere 2013. The registration fees will be announced in August. Currently, the rates are suggested to be 650 Euro (early bird) and then 720 Euro. There will be a lower fee for young GP's; there will not be a one-day-fee.

The committee had a discussion about other lower fees e.g. for other European countries. Finland expects questions about this, especially from Estonia. The standpoint in Finland at the moment is that there will not be a lower fee for European Countries but if they form a group and register together, Finland will consider a discount.

It was stated that the federation is informed about the situation concerning the Eastern countries.

The committee also discussed whether there should be a paper abstract book or whether the time is ready for an electronic version. On the basis of the Tromsø evaluation the committee has decided that the paper version is still wanted.

The congress fee to NFGP has been discussed and the committee suggested that it remained at 100 DKK as in the earlier years.

The General Assembly agreed with this.

The Committee agreed upon that the Swedish congress in Göteborg will be held from 15-18 June 2015. The General Assembly approved this.

The Congress Committee had discussed the possibility of a Wonca Europe in Copenhagen 2016. They agreed upon this as long as it does not influence the Nordic congresses and will be separated from this work. They don't think that the scientific aspect will be any problem but they are worried about the economic part. If the financial part is organized they will support the congress.

9. The Editor-in-Chief's report for SJPHC

Peter Vedsted briefed about his first term as editor-in-chief. It had been a pleasure to start as Editor-in Chief with such a hardworking and engaged editorial board.

The journal publishes 40-45 papers each year and receives nearly 210 manuscripts primarily from the Nordic countries but also from e.g. Germany, UK, The Baltic countries and Asia.

They are free to publish for members. Non-members must pay 1000 Euro and even though they have not had access to as many papers for the last 8 months.

The journal is number four in the world within the field and is in the top quartile within family medicine.

The Editorial Board has held good fruitful meetings. The earlier delay at manuscripts is now turned to time-on. They are continuing to work on time limits for review etc. The largest problem at the moment is to get colleagues to review papers and to receive an answer within the time limit. The main priority is to change the time limit from four weeks to two weeks.

The next editorial meeting in Antwerp will be dedicated to a discussion and decision on how the journal should develop in the coming years. The General Assembly welcomed this and will also discuss this issue in the coming year.

This year is the 30th Anniversary of the journal. The Congress Committee suggested that the journal hold an Anniversary symposium in Finland. The journal agreed upon this.

To make the congress and the journal more visible the Editorial Group suggests that they will come up with the paper of the year and invite the writer to present the paper at the congress (approximate 15 minutes). As the congress is held every second year it will be two papers for each congress. The Editorial Board has set up some criteria for the paper of the year and will send invitations to the colleges and the readers to nominate the paper of the year. The award could be free participation for the congress.

The General Assembly finds the idea very interesting, and believes that it will make a good connection between the journal and the congress. The journal can start the process and it was also agreed upon that the award can be free access for the congress.

10. Annual financial account

The account and the budgets were discussed at the Executive Meeting 13 April. Please see the minutes from this meeting.

The account was approved.

New contract with Informa

The contract with Informa was discussed at the Executive Meeting on 13 April. Please see the minutes from this meeting.

Peter Vedsted and Torsten Sørensen will invite Informa and chosen publishers to bid and prepare a presentation of the different scenarios for the next spring meeting.

The Chairmen will discuss the issue by their Boards, academies and Members.

11. Budget 2013

The revised budget 2012 and the budget for 2013 were approved.

12. Election of auditor

The Secretariat proposed reelection of the current auditor, who was elected again.

13. Presentation, discussion and approval of layout and content of the new website

www.nfgp.org

It was approved that there was no need for a closed room (intranet) for minutes and other papers.

Nothing further to conclude.

14. Any other business

Decisions:

Together with the chairman of DSAM the secretariat will examine the financial and the organizational possibilities to hold Wonca Europa conference 2016 in Copenhagen as a Nordic joint venture. If the possibilities are positive and the five Nordic colleges are willing to participate NFGP will apply the Wonca Europe organization about permission to participate in the election as host country at the next congress in Vienna in august 2012.

The executive board has planned in the coming year to work on a common Nordic document of preventive medicine. Lars Gehlert Johansen is willing to start and coordinate the discussions. The paper will also conclude risk and screening.

The paper will be presented at the next Nordic meeting in September.

15. Next meeting

The next Spring meeting will be held from 2-4 May 2013.

The General Assembly will have their first meeting Thursday 2 May 16:00. The second meeting will be Friday 3 May 10.00-13.00 (open for all members).

Friday 3 May 14.00 – 17.00: Three separate meetings.

Saturday 4 May 9.00-11.00: The Annual General Assembly Meeting.

Special point for the next meeting:

The Executive Board will present a change in the by-laws to the general assembly in 2013 about that the chairman has to be a member of one of the Nordic colleges and can be re-elected every second year with a maximum of two reelections.