



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Europe Forum

International Conference Tampere, Finland

July 29, 2023, 09.00-09.45 hrs

Marika Heimbach, Chair

Members of the committee present:

Marika Heimbach; Carola van Zanen van Rijn; Evelyn Goodsell; Pia Nyman; Reeli Tänävsuu; Astrid H. Bie Skaaland; Marie-Antoinette Hubers, ERD

Absent: Helga Skeidsvoll; Anita Jonsdottir.

Minutes taken by Astrid

Minutes

- 1) **Welcome** by Marika Heimbach, chair EU Forum Committee 2022 – 2024
- 2) **Presentation of the Forum Committee**, and Eygló Björnsdóttir, the winner of the European Achievement Award, 2023, for her outstanding job over many years as webmaster for Europe.
- 3) **Report of Europe Forum Committee**, by Marika:
 - Europa History has been revised and is constantly updated by webmaster. Members are asked to send information about their work, photos etc. to be put on the website.
 - “Artist of the month” to be continued every 2nd or 3rd month. Till now artists from Netherlands, Iceland, Finland and Germany have presented. Estonia or Great Britain will present theirs in October.
 - Educational topics: it was agreed by the EFC that four states present each year. Iceland, Finland and Germany, Germany have presented. Estonia or Great Britain will present in October.
 - Celebrating Lucia-day will be a tradition in December. All countries will be involved in a presentation.

- At the leadership development meeting last year in Austin the chairs of the US Forum, the EU Forum, the Area Representatives of Canada and Latin America met and discussed the idea to have a joint meeting of the respective forums at international conferences and conventions. Therefore the forum meeting was split. A joint meeting with all members attending the conference in Tampere would follow. At the next international convention in Maryland the joint meeting will be prepared by all chairs.

4) **Strategic Action Plan 2022 – 2024.** The Forum Committee has been working with the plan, no major changes. Membership is still the main issue. Headquarters has ordered a survey among the membership to share our experiences, and develop suggestions for the future. The outcome will be available to all members.

5) **Financial Report,** by Carola, treasurer, and Marie-Antoinette Hubers de Wolf, European Director and former treasurer. There is no money left. Flights are very expensive. There may therefore not be personal meetings next year. Marie-Antoinette suggested a new amendment at the convention in Maryland to ask for more money from HQ. The EFC will work on this to meet the deadline September 15.

There are still € 447 in European Fund, EMF, for projects. It is not yet decided how to distribute the money.

6) **Guidelines.**

Marika reported that the state presidents were sent the guidelines with highlighting in red and green which should be discussed and voted upon at this meeting.

The EU Forum receives 3000 USD each year upon request for spending on travelling costs to a yearly committee meeting, and other expenses. But reimbursing all travelling costs is impossible. In the guidelines it is stated that the travel costs should not exceed 300 €. Since this is not sufficient for many members, the question to be discussed is if each state could use state-money to cover the rest of the travel cost for their EFC-member. There was a discussion about this, and a vote if this could be decided already now.

It was decided to make an amendment to postpone the question till January. Each state will then get time to discuss this with their members, and State Presidents will then vote on behalf of their state.

7) **Euforia** is looking for a new editor. Helga Thorlacius, who has been serving as editor for four years now was acknowledged and thanked for her outstanding job. Also, a “thank you” to Evelyn Goodsell for proof reading. The question was asked who would volunteer to be the next editor. All states were asked to put the question among their members.

8) Marika pointed out that the committee serves the European membership. The work of the committee is good if it meets the members` expectations.

Therefore the committee needs the input: what do our members want us to pursue, which projects could be of interest.

A survey will be worked out by the committee and sent to the state presidents to forward to each member. It is hoped that the outcome will answer the question: what next?

Astrid H. Bie Skaaland