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## BALTIC SEA LIONS CONFERENCE IN RIGA

Saturday 28th September 2012 :

Minutes of the meeting - 15. Meeting of BSL

Participants:

Poland Elzbieta Szymd

Russia Svetlana Vatagina, Aleksandr Zimin, Marina Zimina

Estonia Ragnar Lõivukene

Latvia Silja Thimsen

Lithuania Giedrius Indrašius

Finnland Sanna Sissalo

Sweden Mona Neppenström

Danmark Knud Loekkegaard

Germany Lutz Baastrup

Associated Switzerland Axel Scherrer

Guests:

Werner von Sengbusch (Germany), PDG Ilkka Siissalo (Finland), Daiva Valawciauskaite (Lithuania), Rolf Hallberg (Sweden)

1. Opening of the conference – Elzbieta Szymd and Ragnar Lõivukene  
Elzbieta welcomes everyone and thanks for the Past Year as President.
2. Choosing the chairman and secretary .  
Ragnar is appointed Chairman and Lutz is appointed Secretary.
3. Handing over of presidency by Elzbieta Szymd to Ragnar Lõivukene.  
Elzbieta explains, that the President is elected for two years and the Vice President takes then over and another Vice President is elected.

Ragnar then takes over the presidency.

#### 4. Choosing of a new vice president

Lutz is elected by all as Vice President of Baltic Sea Lions.

#### 5. Self-presentation of all members of BSL and other participants .

The new delegate from Lithuania Giedrius Indrašius presents himself for the first time since Tomas had to leave due to his work with youth camps in his district.

Werner von Sengbusch explained that he is a friend of Axel Scherrer and his club is very active in Latvia, also he himself has family connections.

Marina Zimina reports that Alexandr Zimini is elected District Governor and makes a short presentation of Lions Club Great Bear.

All other delegates make a short presentation.

#### 6. Acceptance of Minutes of meeting from last meeting in Tartu Estonia.

The Minutes of the last meeting were accepted by all.

#### 7. Short History of BSL

Baltic Sea Lions was founded in 1999.

Founders 111N Germany, 120 Estonia, 106C Danmark.

I meeting was in Riga (Estonia) March 11 2000 already with Sweden, Finland, Lithuania and Latvia adding to the founding districts. First president Viggo Puggaard, Vice President Harald Dräger.

II meeting 2000 in Vilnius (Lithuania)

III meeting 2001 in Kuressaare (Estonia) P Harald Dräger, VP Jaan Lember

IV Meeting 2002 in Nida (Lithuania)

V Meeting 2003 in Gdansk (Poland) VP Elmar Skkov

VI Meeting 2004 St.Petersburg (Russia) P Elmar Sakkov, VP Christer Lemmel

VII Meeting 2005 Glücksburg (Germany)

VIII Meeting 2006 Pärnu (Estonia) P Christer Lemmer, VP Aida Peceliuniene

IX Meeting 2007 Druskininkai (Lithuania) P Aida Peceliuniene

X Meeting 2008 Treika (Latvia) P Aida Peceliuniene VP Ilkka Siissalo

XI Meeting 2009 Helsinki (Finland)

XII Meeting 2010 Sopot (Poland) P Ilkka Siissalo VP Elzbieta Smyd

XIII Meeting 2011 Norrtälje (Sweden) P Elzbieta Smyd VP Ragnar Loikuvene

XIV Meeting 2012 Tartu (Estonia) P Elzbieta Smyd VP Ragna Loikuvene

XI Meeting 2013 Riga (Latvia) P Ragnar Loikuvene P Lutz Baastrup

XII Meeting 2014 Hamburg (Germany) P Ragnar Lõivukene VP Lutz Baastrup

In Helsinki it was decided, that only one Person per Country can vote but many People can come together.

Knud points out, that his districts wants to see some progress in the work of BSL.

Ragnar explains, that there are no written rules. Protocols are missing.

Mona mentions that in the Past BSL was founded to support the new Lions countries but in her disctriect it is the thought, that we do not need this anymore but BSL should help all.

It is agreed that all informations shall be collected and put on the Homepage. The informations before 2004 are missing and everyone should Email it to Lutz.

8. Presentation of actual situation of BSL / all/

Lutz refers to the collection which was sent around to all delegates.

Silja explains that the Situation in Latvia is still difficult because people ask what they can gain from Lions Club.

Elzbieta points out, that in Poland sometimes members cannot afford membership anymore.

9. Proposals and /or presentation of common project of BSL :

a/ Mona Neppenstroem and Rolf Hallberg of the Swedish Scientific Academy on behalf of Sweden

Rolf Hallberg presents on behalf of Sweden a project.

The baltic sea is polluted except for the upper area between Sweden and Finland. The quality is at risk. The Baltic Sea is very important for the whole environment. Even if we stop all emissions today we still would have a problem. Water is a Key factor for all humans. The Baltic Sea is the second most polluted inland water of the world. There is only one big water reservoir for Europe - the northern Baltic Sea. The Message is, to protect the Baltic Sea.

Proposal: Let the information spread throughout the BSL countries. It should be promoted by giving out a leaflet.

The project is discussed by all.

b/ Lutz informed about the possible Sailing youth camps in 2014 with normal young people between 16 and 21 and in 2015 with disabled people.

c/ Silja informed about a project for an elderly home where there is need . The home is privately organized and financed. There is no support of the state. They need cupboards and possible later on a lift. She will give the main facts to all including the needs and what should be done.

d/ Ilkka reported, that two schools in Karelia need new school kitchens. He asks, if anyone knows about any way to get such kitchens.

e/ Elzbieta mentions a project in Poland for playgrounds for schools.

Ilkka informed about the still running project of delivering Computers to Karelia.

Diskussion about the projects.

The sailing projects are agreed upon for both times. Lithuania and Latvia point out that they probable do not have the money. Lutz will prepare an Information Paper about both projects. The confirmation should be given for 2014 by the end of this year and for 2015 by the next conference.

The water project shall be spread around to all districts to be translated.

All other projects should be explained on project papers including the concrete lists of needs and how others can help.

#### 10. Discussion about future of BSL

Ragnar mentions that the collection of information before the conference was a good idea and should be continued.

Mona proposes that the delegates should collect the projects of the Clubs in the district regarding Baltic Sea Districts.

Ilkka informed us that he already has registered the webaddress [www.balticsealions.org](http://www.balticsealions.org) and will check with his Multi District if we could use their webspace and content management system for free.

Generally it is agreed, that we shall continue with common projects.

A presidents letter every once in a while would be nice.

Ragnar asks everyone to please reply to emails he sends out.

11. Presentation of Convention in Hamburg July 2013 – Lutz Baastrup

Lutz reported that the IC in Hamburg was a big success. We had by far the most delegates in Hamburg since Chicago with more than 24.000 delegates.

12. Agreement on next BSL conference . Where ? / all /

It is agreed on Hamburg for 26.- 28. September 2014.

It is agreed on St. Petersburg for 25. - 27. September 2015.

13. Open discussion

The BSL flyer should be updated. Ragnar will take care of this. Axel asks about Kaliningrad. There still is a Club in Kaliningrad with 18 Members. They should be invited to the next meeting.

14. Closing of official day of conference / Ragnar Loivukene/

Ragnar closed the meeting at 3:15 p.m.