

WISTA International Executive Committee Minutes of Meeting

DATE: Monday, June 1, 2020

In Attendance: Despina Panayiotou Theodosiou (DT) Alexandra Anagnostis (AA)
Connie Roozen (CR) Sanjam Gupta (SG)
Naa Densua Aryeetey (NA) Fabiana Martins (FM)

Unable to attend: Angie Hartmann (AH)

Prior Meeting Minutes PENDING:
August 2019

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 hrs UK time.

1) **WISTA International Submission to IMO for the Council (TC 70/8/1)**

It's confirmed that the Technical Cooperation Meeting will not take place before 2021 due to continued COVID restrictions.

DT suggested we have the F&T Committee prepare a paper on how technology creates employment opportunities in the maritime industry and how women and other diverse groups can benefit.

Additionally, the Diversity Committee can look into how the COVID pandemic has impacted women in the maritime industry (not related to technology).

During this discussion, all agreed that greater collaboration between the Committees will strengthen the work and allow us to meet the IMO's expectations in a more timely fashion.

DT asked everyone to note any other ideas we can work on in this regard.

The contributions from the member states for the Council meetings are coming in via letters/emails now which makes it difficult to follow the topics and determine where we can contribute. FM offered to help monitor the IMO meetings and update the spreadsheet she prepared in the past.

2) **Trademark Process Update**

Turkey: There was an appeal from a company which has registered VISTA. This has delayed us slightly. The attorney offered two options: 1) wait out the results of the appeal or 2) take a more proactive approach and engage an attorney to contest the objection. Following the advice of Blank Rome, it was decided to wait out the results of the objection which will take 6-8 months.

Brazil: Our application was rejected as being too generic. FM's firm is working with Blank Rome and assisting us in filing the response. FM advised that what was rejected was "Women's International Shipping & Trading Association" not WISTA, which is what we have filed for protection.

UAE: They advised they have not received our payment. This notice was just received prior to the ExCo call. CR advised that we had paid previously but for some reason it was transferred back to us. CR to review and pay again.

Cayman Islands, Mexico, Canada, Colombia: \$10,000 estimated to complete. It was proposed that while this was not budgeted, there is money in the budget for ExCo travel which will not be spent (ie., Spring Meeting and AGM) and it can be used to complete these trademark filings. Following a discussion, this was approved.

3) **Social Media Guidelines New Protocol**

DT shared that it was only recently realized that our Media guidelines do not include Social Media. There was recollection of some guidelines circulated in the past, but these cannot be found.

It was decided to ask Jillian to review the Code of Conduct Protocol and modify/update it as needed to ensure it covers Social Media (Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, etc). Once updated, it will be presented at the Presidents Round Table in 2020 for discussion and approval. AA to speak with Jillian.

4) **Code of Conduct as it relates to NWA Presidents**

Recent events have brought this topic back to the table. How do we support NWAs without interfering or taking undue responsibility? Their local articles need to include wording on the expectation of the NWA Board. It was agreed that we update our current Code of Conduct from *are 'strongly encouraged to incorporate this Code of Conduct'* to ***are expected to***. And that the NWAs are required to act in accordance with their own articles.

5) **2020 Presidents' Round Table Discussion**

It was originally thought to have the RTD and AGM one week apart but after much discussion, and considering the RTD will be a maximum of two hours, it was decided to have both events on one day to limit the inconvenience to some NWAs due to the time zones.

Post meeting note: The date set for the WISTA AGM is November 5th.

6) **Platform for the online AGM**

It was discussed to use Big Marker for the online AGM but after researching the platform (following the ExCo call), the [quote](#) received for using for just one month was \$20,000.

We thought we could utilize for just one month but this was not the case when speaking with the provider.

We are researching upgrading TMS's GOTO corporate account for just one month.

For the voting, it was proposed to use the same platform being used by WISTA USA, [Qualtrics](#).

DT suggested that since our AGM will be held in November, rather than September, we should discuss with the Nominations Committee about extending the deadline for candidate submissions. DT asked AA to contact the Head of the NC, Dorothea Ioannou and discuss extending the deadline for nominations.

SG advised that she has approached Shehara Jayawardana and she has expressed interest in putting herself forward but is concerned due to the Covid situation. SG also advised that Catherine Smith was hesitant to step forward but understands that Magdalene Chew is interested. SG has not yet had the opportunity to speak with Magdalene Chew. She will try to get in touch with her this week.

7) NWA Regional Representatives

CR presented the latest New Structure on Regional Representatives dated May 28 2020. All ExCo members are requested to review, offer their comments so this can be finalized, the representatives contacted and confirmed, and distributed to all NWAs.

Once this is finalized, the document will also serve as content for the Protocol which needs to be developed.

8) NWA Update

Only one NWA Update - SG advised that a lady from Thailand contacted her again. But the contact is sporadic. She will reach out to her again.

9) Minutes of Meetings

AA requested that everyone review the minutes which were recently circulated, advise any comments and/or their approval so we can consider them final and approved.

10) Other Business

A) **WISTA International online events** - DT asked if we should consider Yasmina Rauber's offer of a coaching session (*Women in leadership: want a happy and balanced life? Discover the 12 health and wellness areas you need to take care of.*) DT's thought is to put together online offerings from WISTA International – perhaps a few until the end of the year. CR agreed that it is a great way to stay connected with our Members and perhaps we could get sponsorship for the meetings.

FM cautioned that we need to ensure that we are well prepared and that we have people

available to help with the platform, etc. DT wants to speak with Lena Gothberg to see how successful the recent online event on LinkedIn went.

B) **Trade Committee** - NA asked about the invitation to the Trade Committee being sent. DT to offer her final comments to the email draft of May 16th to the Committees.

C) **Young WISTA Committee** – WISTA Sweden suggested this committee. No action taken on it as yet. It was agreed that we get current on the other Committees before moving forward on this committee.

D) **Mare Forum Cooperation** – CR asked about the status on this cooperation. There is a Press Release prepared but it was discussed that in addition to signing the Pledge, we have them agree to the “conditions” we have on the [sponsorship matrix](#). DT will have her in-house attorney prepare a contract/MOU outlining what they are agreeing to.

E) **ECSA Project** - CR asked about the ECSA Project email received from Karin Orsel. DT advised that the the President of the Cyprus Shipping Chamber is the Vice President of ECSA and she will ask for more information on the scope of the project. CR was asked to speak with Karin Orsel and Cajsa Jersler Fransson to find out what they expect WISTA’s role would be. DT will call the ECSA secretariat to see if the deadline has been extended.

The meeting ended at 14:05hrs UK time.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 6, 2020.