

Minutes of the Council Meeting 2010

The annual meeting of representatives of the ECWS member societies took place on the occasion of the ECWS exhibition organized by the AIB, at the Ramada Hotel, Antwerp (Belgium) on April 23rd, 2010.

The meeting opened at 10.00 hours and closed at 11.30 hours.

Present

- for the Associazione Italiana Acquerellisti (AIA; Italy) : Giovanni Carabelli (president) and Fernando Cavalieri (liaison officer)
- for the Aquarelinstituut van België (AIB; Belgium) : Bruni Mortier (president) and Piet Van Leuven (ECWS coordinator)
- for the Nordiska Akvarellsällskap (NAS; Denmark, Iceland, Finland, Norway, Sweden) : Torild Inger Børretzen (liaison officer)
- for the Agrupaciòn de Acuarelistas de Aragón (AADA; Spain) : Sara Fontecha Arangubía
- for the Agrupaciòn de Acuarelistas Vascos (AAV; Spain) : Julio Gomez Mena (president)
- for the Agrupaciòn Española de Acuarelistas (AEDA; Spain) : Chus Bella (liaison officer)
- for the Agrupacio d'Acuarelistes de Catalunya (AAC; Spain) : nihil
- for the Agrupaciòn de Acuarelistas de Andalucia (AAA; Spain) : nihil
- for the Finnish Watercolour Society (FWS; Finland) : nihil
- for the Grupo de Acuarelistas de Baleares (GAB; Spain) : nihil
- for the Société Française de l'Aquarelle (SFA; France) : Michèle Reynier (liaison officer)

Due to difficulties in the air traffic several members had to cancel their participation.

Agenda

1. Welcome and introduction

Bruni Mortier, president of AIB, welcomes the participants and opens the meeting.
Piet Van Leuven (PVL), ECWS-coordinator leads the further discussion.

2. Update of information

The list of names and addresses of the ECWS contacts, given as Appendix 1 should be updated. Any corrections should be mailed to PVL a.s.a.p.

3. 2009 in retrospect

The exhibition in Segovia (Spain) in June 2009 is evaluated. The quality of the exhibition is greatly appreciated. The council regrets that there was insufficient information for the foreign participants and that little information was provided about the continuation of the exhibition in other cities. There is severe criticism concerning the return of the paintings (see following point).

The other ECWS event was the biannual in Bellagio organized by AIA. Although the general appreciation was very favourable, the experience of having the exhibition in different locations will not be repeated.

4. Expedition of paintings : problem of expenses

In most cases the amount of expenses for return of the paintings after the exhibition has not been known beforehand. In some cases this turned out to be an unpleasant surprise due to exorbitant high costs for the artists. To remedy this problem the following procedure has been agreed upon by the council :

- there shall be only one copy of the catalogue per artist
- catalogues and paintings shall be expedited separately
- catalogues and paintings shall be expedited by ordinary post
- catalogues and paintings shall be expedited collectively per country
- the expenses for the expedition should be known beforehand and possibly included in the fee for participation

For NAS there should be one address in each of the member countries.

5. Future activities

The following activities are confirmed :

2011 : Exhibition and Symposium "HARBOUR AND THE SEA" in Turku (Finland) organized by FWS, from Thursday June 30th till Sunday July 3rd.

Venue : the Museum Ship "SUOMEN JOUTSEN", Sea Center , Forum Marinum, Linnankatu 72, 20100 Turku, tel.(02)282 9511, www.forum -marinum.fi (Opening hours: daily 11-19).

2012 : The AIA is considering the possibility of taking on the organization of an ECWS event either in Genova or in Maccagno. In Genova the optional venue is the "Sea Museum" (Rienzo Piano). In that case marine subjects would be preferable.

2013 : Exhibition and Symposium in Løten (Norway) organized by NAS.

The ECWS exhibition will be in conjunction with the "Nordic Akvarell" exhibition, to be held in August or September. For the symposium will be reserved a special week in Løten with workshops and seminars.

2013 : Exhibition and Symposium in Marseille (France) organized by SFA.

The SFA has proposed an ECWS exhibition in Marseille (France), "A la Rencontre de l'Eau", to be held in May 2013, including a 4-day symposium. Negotiations with the responsible authorities in Marseille are under way. Whether the proposal will be accepted in the framework of Marseille-Provence will be known in 2010. The SFA proposes Charenton-le-Pont near Paris as a possible alternative.

6. Communication

Once again the problem of the variety of Spanish associations without any central coordination is discussed. So far no progress in this respect is in view.

7. Statutory matters

Member societies which persistently do not comply to the statutes by providing no full contact coordinates (liaison, e-mail addresses,...) or not showing any interest in organizing activities should be encouraged to quit their membership.

8. Coordination Committee

The council decides to set up a committee with the purpose of helping in coordinating and steering the Confederation in matters of general policy. The task of this committee would consist of regular contacts via E-mail, discussing issues concerning the ECWS activities with the aim of preparing the annual council meeting. As members of this committee are proposed : Mrs. Bruni Mortier (president of AIB), Cristina Bracaloni (Liaison officer of AIA), Mr. Andrés Mateo (liaison officer of AAV), Mr. Trond Einar Solberg Indsetviken (president of NAS) and Mrs. Michèle Reynier (liaison officer SFA).

9. Varia

It is suggested that representatives in the council should be exempt from paying the fee for participation in the symposium. Their expenses for travelling and symposium should be paid by the own association or should be calculated in the budget of the symposium.

The bulletins of the various associations should contain a short English translation of the main information that may interest the ECWS community.

The general feeling is that the cost for participation in the ECWS activities is rather high and should be reduced as much as possible.

Experience gained in organizing the ECWS exhibition and/or symposium should be transmitted to the next organizing association.

P. Van Leuven
ECWS coordinator
April 28, 2010