General Assembly October 2016 in Hong Kong

Meeting minutes

Date:
Tuesday October 4, 2016 at 17:45 local time

Location:
Boardroom 7
Business Centre
Renaissance Harbour View Hotel

Agenda:
• Welcome
• Minutes 2015 GA
• Bylaws
• Activity report
• Memberships
• Finance
• Projects 2017 and beyond
• Board
• other items
Welcome

Geert (President) opened the meeting and welcomed all.

Each voting members present in the room and on skype introduced themselves

○ Europe:
  ■ Bronwen Thornton, WALK21, International (UK-based)
  ■ Ole Thorson, Cataluna Camina, Spain
  ■ Geert van Waeg, johanna.be, Belgium

○ Oceania:
  ■ Ben Rossiter, Victoria Walks, Australia
  ■ Andy Smith and Ellen Blake, Livingstreets Aotearoa, New Zealand

○ North America:
  ■ Roberto Remes, representing Liga Peatonal, Mexico

○ Additionally through Skype
  ■ Mario Alves, ACA-M, Portugal
  ■ Dana Corres, Liga Peatonal, Mexico
  ■ Christian Thomas, Fussgaengerverein Zuerich, Switzerland

It was confirmed that there was 6 voting members from 3 continents physically present in the room, so the required quorum to vote was present.

● Associate members present
  ■ John Wetmore Perils for Pedestrians USA
  ■ Daniel Sauter Urban Mobility Research Switzerland

● In attendance
  ■ Kamana Manandhar RECPUEC Nepal
  ■ Lisa Quinn Feet First USA
  ■ Silvia Stuchi Corrida Amiga / Como Anda Brazil
  ■ Gabriela Callejas Cidade Ativa / Como Anda Brazil
  ■ Danielle Hoppe ITDP Brazil
  ■ Roberto Remes ReyPeaton Mexico
  ■ Bernardita Calinea Orentreich Foundation USA
  ■ Robyn Davies Queensland Walks Australia
  ■ Kylie Nixon PedBikeTrans Australia
  ■ Rodrigo Luruena ATE Switzerland
  ■ Skye Duncan NACTO/Global Designing Cities Initiative USA
The President expressed his thanks to Walk21 for sharing the cost of the meeting room of this GA

**Minutes 2015**

The delegates approved the minutes for the previous General Assembly, Vienna 21 October 2015.

**Bylaws**

The by-laws need to be updated and have been redrafted but not in time for them to be presented at the GA for approval. So we will have an additional General Assembly in 2016-2017.

Main items to be changed:

- Update not-for-profit wording including the inclusion of a treasurer/auditor to be in line with Swiss anti-money-laundering policies. This will allow us to open a bank account in Switzerland
- Update timings for GA invitations (3 months -> 1 month) and communications (1 month -> 2 weeks)
- Allow meeting attendance to include e-communication such as Skype

It was asked that delegates give feedback on principles.

The delegates agreed with the principles of the changes mentioned above. They also explicitly and unanimously agreed that the extra General Assembly (likely in January-February) can be held purely by electronic communication means such as Skype.

**Activity report**

**Participation in conferences and workshops**

*OECD and ITF (International Transport Forum)*

- Ole & Geert attended the ITF meeting in Leipzig in 2015. Good contacts. Important to present the voice of the pedestrians.
- ITF explicitly invited us to join the “decarbonizing transport initiative”. What that in reality will lead to is still not 100% clear, but there certainly is value in the initiative. We joined.

*United Nations Road Safety Collaboration (UNRSC)*

- Geert continued to actively participate into the UNRSC meetings and activities, to make sure that the voice of the pedestrians is heard when decisions or recommendations are made regarding road safety.
- Continue cooperation with the European Cyclists Federation representative (Ceri Woolsgrove) in order to strengthen the voice of active mobility.
- Preparation of the 4th Road Safety Week. The theme is speed. Might have to push a little that
urban speeds get enough focus (not just motorway speed).

2nd High Level Ministerial Conference on Road Safety (Brasilia)
• No major breakthrough, but valuable “thermometer”. Positive direction. Value of walking, cycling and public transport as a road safety measure
• Geert participated in interactive panel discussion on infrastructure and enforcement and sharing space

Statì Generali per la Sicurezza Stradale, Fondazione Luigi Guccione
• Mário Alves invited speaker in the Italian Parliament

Habitat III
• Ole and Bronwen participated in the preparations, especially the Thematic Meeting: Public Spaces in Barcelona and will be in Quito for the main event. Bronwen will present at the Eco-mobility workshop days and the SLoCaT Transport Day.

Segurança e Microacessibilidade em Faixas e Corredores de Ônibus in São Paulo (Brazil)
• Mario Alves was keynote speaker & accompanied a workshop on pedestrian safety in SP BRT projects

Website
Geert van Waeg with support from Mario Alves
• Limited activity from members
• A number of valuable request through the contact page

Facebook & Twitter & IFPedestrians-net
• Mario and Ben are very active managing our Facebook and Twitter profiles.
• Mario set up in March the mailing-list: Some good discussions on IFPedestrians-net (167 members).

Other congresses and presentations
• Geert was invited as presenter and panelist on The Safe Roads | Safe Kids Global Road Safety Summit in Washington DC in Dec 2015.
• Mario presented on a Traffic Calming Meeting in Lisbon and chaired the VII Forum CiViNET in April
• Input from the IFP was solicited by VRUITS (Vulnerable Road Users IT Systems). Amongst the proposed “solutions” was a system whereby pedestrians would wear a tag and drivers would be warned when the car detected a pedestrian tag in the vicinity. Very critical feedback was given on this system which we do not want to have implemented. That feedback was appreciated, and Geert was invited to attend the final presentation of the report in London.

Project: Living end street
Giving pedestrians (and cyclists) the information they are entitled to by breaking the car-centric way of
thinking. Information was given on the implementation in the following countries:

- Belgium
- Switzerland
- Danmark / Sweden
- Germany / France
- Catalunia (Spain)

... 

**Membership - members**

- **Liga Peatonal (Mexico)**
  Ligia Peatonal is our most recent voting member - it was accepted as such unanimously by the Board. They dedicate exclusively to pedestrian advocacy and are very active in Mexico. They are a collective of 15 regional associations from all over Mexico. They organize every year a walking conference: the last one was the III Congreso Nacional de Peatones in May 2016.

- **Costa Rica**
  Mauricio Leandro, founder and driving force of Asociacion Caminar, died. There seems to be no continuation in the Asociacion Caminar. The proposal to remove Asociacion Caminar from our member list was accepted.

- **Turkey**
  We made several attempts to contact our member Yaya Yasam Dernegi, but never a slightest sign of life. The proposal to remove Yaya Yasam Dernegi from our member list was accepted.

- **Additional voting member requests:**
  2 organizations asked to become voting members. Based on their profile, they definitely are not pedestrian-focused organization and can hence not become voting member. The executive will look further into the applications and propose to the board, who will take the decision, whether or not they should be considered as associate (non-voting) member.

- **Three additional potential candidates were present as guest and will consider whether or not they will apply for membership:**
  - Queensland walks, Australia
  - Como Anda - Brazil (they are not a formal organization, but might apply through one of the organizations they represent)
  - RECPHEC, Nepal

**Memberships**

We were asked to join the following networks:

- Decarbonizing Transport (ITF)
- Walk21 Network
• 3-star coalition
• SLoCaT

The delegates agreed that IFP should accept to become member of those networks.

**Finance**

**2015-2016:**
- In: € 10,000 one-time donation – no strings attached
- Out: € 401 (Leipzig ITF)
- available: € 9,599

**2016-2017**
- Rough budget:
  - € 5,000 for IFP travel to meetings and general activities,
  - € 2,000 for legal advice (structure, bylaws etc) and fund-raising, and
  - € 3,000 for the living sidewalk project
- private donation to IFP (500-600 euro) through the sale of honey with small label “in support of the IFP”. 50% of the revenue of that honey goes to IFP.

**Swiss bank account**

Now that we received a donation, we found out that opening a bank account has become more complicated than earlier. After verifying different options, we decided to open an account in Switzerland, home of the association. We need to nominate a person to carry out the necessary actions to open and manage a Swiss bank account. The delegates appointed Christian Thomas in this function.

**Projects 2017 & beyond**

**Funding**
- Further search for structural funding

**Living Sidewalk Project**
- Very good member feedback on the online questionnaire.
  - Respondents agreed that such a project is important and welcomed IFP taking action
- Official launch of the project during the Walk21 conference in Hong Kong (the day after the GA)
  - Next will be to work out some guidance for use
• Make it available to our members
  – invite them to build campaign
  – invite them to contact municipalities

• Make it broader available on our website
  – some level of "code of conduct"
  – possibility to report experiences back through our website

• Ole suggested that we could work to have this Living Sidewalk concept included in next year's mobility week (September 2017). A potential route could be to work through an association of municipalities.

Board

• Resignation of Jacky Kennedy (Canada)
• Maurice Leandro - deceased (Costa Rica)

Member activities

• Liga Peatonal Illustrated Pedestrian Charter:
  – The Liga Peatonal Illustrated Pedestrian Charter was presented to the participants as a tool developed by one of our members and which can be made available to other members as pdf. Practical arrangements on translations and how to get the translated texts into the pdf need to be worked out between the interested member and the Liga Peatonal. IFP can assist in making the translated version available for other members.
  – The participants of the General Assembly all liked the work done by the Liga Peatonal, and several members would consider having it translated to their language and be used in their activity.
  – This illustrated charter is not to be confused with the official "Charter for Walking", but can perfectly live alongside it. It has a different function and target audience.

• WALK21
  – Bronwen Thornton informed the GA that WALK21 is considering a specific session on pedestrians' rights in the next WALK21 congress (Calgary 2017). Initiatives such as this illustrated charter could perfectly find a place in this