



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PEDESTRIANS

Minutes of the General Assembly 2010

November 18, 2010, 17:30 – 19:00

Hotel Kurhaus Scheveningen (Den Haag), Holland

Present: 32 Persons, 17 voting members *

Mario Alves [#]	ACA-M *	Portugal
Tom Armstrong	Living Streets *	Britain
Lotte Bech	Danish Federation of Pedestrians *	Denmark
Terence Bendixson [#]	Living Streets * /FEPA	Britain
Paul Bickelbacher	Fuss e.V. *	Germany
Pippa Brashear	Project for Public Space	USA
Marlène Butz	Fussverkehr Schweiz *	Switzerland
Paul Cullen	Oxford P.A.	England
Tom Dhollander	Voetgangersbeweging* / FEPA	Belgium
Anne Faure	Consultant	France
Peter Jonquière	Former IFP	Holland
Anthony Karagoras	Hellenic Ass. for the rights of Predestrians, *	Greece
Jacky Kennedy	Canada Walks *	Canada
Grigoris Mavrakis [#]	Hellenic Ass. for the rights of Predestrians, *	Greece
Paolo Nardi	Associazione Diritti Pedoni *	Italia
Godfrey Ngunyi	University of Nairobi	Kenya
Charles Nilsen	City of Monash,	Australia
Veronica Reynolds	Walk England*	England
Ben Rossiter	Victoria Walks *	Australia
Zora Paulinova	Ekopolis	Slovakia
Arndt Schwab	Fuss e.V.*	Germany
Dieter Schwab [#]	walk-space.at *	Austria
Andy Smith	Living Streets Aotearoa *	New Zealand
Christian Thomas	Secretary, FIP	Switzerland
Bronwen Thornton	Walk21 *	International
Ole Thorson [#] (President)	Catalunya Cammina *	Spain
Thomas Schweizer	Fussverkehr Schweiz *	Switzerland
Ellen Vanderslice [#]	America Walks *	USA
Stefan van der Spek [#]	(FD)	Holland
Geert van Waeg [#]	Johanna.be *	Belgium
Ros Weatherall	Oxford Civic Society	Britain
John Z. Wetmore	Perils for Pedestrians	USA

[#] Members of the Board

* voting members of IFP

1. Welcome by the President Ole Thorson

Ole welcomes the assembly as the biggest assembly ever in the history of IFP. IFP is growing like the circle of the waves after having thrown a stone into the water.

2. Minutes of General Assembly in New York 2009

No opposition, Minutes shall be published before the meeting.

3. New members of IFP

The following new members are welcome:

- **Serbia: 5 km/h www.5kmh.org.rs**
- **Canada Walks**
- **Victoria Walks, Australia**

Ireland: There is no association yet, but a website on consulting: www.walkingmatters.ie

From Sierra Leone there is an application, but it is not clear yet, if this is a single person or a group: Roadsafe Salone.

The President points out that all members should represent IFP in their region and communicate more on the Internet.

4. Elections

The members of the **Board** have been elected in 2009 for a term of two years. No elections are necessary. New members may be elected. The Secretary proposes **Mario J. Alves** (Portugal) who has been active in promoting road safety and as a member of the Pedestrian Quality needs group. The President proposes him as Treasurer of IFP, hoping that there will be finances, soon.

The Assembly elects him as member of the Board, and as Treasurer.

5. Activities 2009/2010

The Secretary has represented IFP in the Working Party on Road Safety (WP1), a body of the UN-ECE. The WP1 has just celebrated its 60th anniversary.

Geert van Waeg has represented IFP at several international meetings, including the meeting of NGOs working on road safety and victim support (resulting in the generation of the Brussels NGO declaration, together with FEVR, the organisation of the victims), the ministerial conference on road safety in Moscow, and at UN Road Safety Collaboration (UNRSC) meetings. Through active participation in these latter meetings,, it has been possible to renew form scrap a manual on "Safe Roads for Development", , and to influence other documents from the point oof view of both vulnerable road users and function and quality of public space.

International Charter of Walking:

Ole Thorson wishes a broader promotion of the Charter. It was a work in common to promote walking. More cities should be asked to sign. All language versions existing should be sent to IFP. The ones available so far are published on the website (English, Spanish, French, Italian, German).

C. Thomas would like to see at least the municipalities which have signed published in the Internet in order to increase the incentive for others to sign.

Bronwen Thornton announces that Walk21 will take care of it.

Ellen Vanderslice informs that a shortened version has been elaborated in America, and asks to whom the charter belongs. – There is no copyright, it belongs to everybody.

6. Projects

The WHO has published several Road Safety manuals. Some months ago, there was the idea to publish a manual on vulnerable road users (Cyclists, motorcyclists, and pedestrians) Geert protested, explaining the needs of the different groups and the reasons why motorcyclists (and to a lesser extent cyclists) are killed are mostly very different from the reasons pedestrians get killed. Now, a pedestrian safety manual is started to be

written. Geert is invited to be a writer. Terence Bendixson sees a possibility to participate in writing. Ole Thorson wishes to see clear and stark statements. Paul Cullen points out the falling on public ground and crime are problems to be considered as well. Geert will make sure that recommendations are not towards getting rid of the pedestrians walking, as has been a widespread tendency, but in the contrary, pedestrians have to be kept in the streets.

First ideas have been developed for IFP to participate actively in the Decade for Action for Road Safety of the UN. Considering that the funding for this has to be organised, there will be a focus on children, and a collaboration with UNICEF will be sought. A discussion has been held on the question, if IFP can collaborate with the FIA-Foundation. Geert and Christian have explained that the FIA (Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile) and the FIA-Foundation are completely different entities. The FIA-Foundation has a considerable amount of money from broadcasting rights of car-racing, but this money is dedicated to road safety, including pedestrian safety. The persons working for the FIA Foundation are competent and engaged, and in no way prejudiced against pedestrians. Ole Thorson welcomes such collaboration.

In order to encourage walking instead of getting rid of pedestrians, Geert mentions the concept of fair-space (in analogy to fair-trade), which is the vision that urban space would not be divided up the traditional way by conceding the vehicles the space planners wish for the traffic and conceding to the pedestrians the leftovers. Instead the urban space should be managed in a way that gives the room necessary to move safely and comfortable on foot, and allow vehicles to fulfil the functions necessary for the city.

7. Collaboration International Transport Forum ITF (OEDCE)

We have an invitation to become active at the International Transport Forum, but so far, the Forum did nothing for the Pedestrians. However, Jack Short, the Secretary of the ITF has addressed the Walk21 as a keynote speaker and has announced that pedestrian mobility shall be integrated in the work of ITF. A participation of IFP is considered important.

The decision was taken that IFP should be represented at the meeting in Paris on December 1st.

8. Information from the members and varia

Godfrey Ngunyi from Kenya: Don't forget us – we don't even have sidewalks!

Paul Cullen says we have the luxury to meet here and to complain, they have nothing.

Geert sees the concept of fairspace as a valuable tool to promote an advancement of walking in developing countries.

Gregoris Mavarakis wishes to get a newsletter to be better connected.

Christian Thomas would send out material to the members, provided there are inputs.

Ellen Vanderslice wants to support this activity.

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PS1:

On the Paris Meeting for NGOs with the International Transport Forum
(see Item 7 of the agenda)

As it turned out, Walk21 has received the same invitation as IFP to participate at the Paris meeting, and since some members were wishing that IFP is present, Bronwen Thornton went to Paris for walk21, and Christian Thomas for IFP. The discussion did not follow at all the questions mailed out and discussed within IFP before the meeting. Instead,

PS2: on the meeting of the Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety
Dec. 2nd, 2010 at the WHO Geneva

This was just a very small meeting of NGOs that are mostly members of the UN Road Safety Collaboration. The World Health Organization in charge of organizing the Decade of Action for Road Safety has a certain interest that NGOs are actively demanding better conditions for Road Safety, because obviously most Governments won't be very active if there is no one of the civil society asking Governments to take the responsibility they have.

Since IFP has been active in the Working Party on Road Safety for more than 10 years, and in the UNRSC since its creation, it was important to participate in this meeting to prepare a new document for the upcoming meeting of NGOs on March 14-15 in Washington DC.

Part of the meeting was used to discuss the creation of this new body. It was given the name of "Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety (GANGORS), and should soon have a secretariat, probably in Geneva. The basic agreement of the Alliance is the Brussels Declaration, which has been elaborated with the participation of IFP.