



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PEDESTRIANS

Minutes of the General Assembly 2012

2 October 2012 12.30 - 14.00
Mexico City, Mexico

Meeting Notes

1. Opening of the 2012 Assembly by Ole Thorson, President of IFP

2. List of active members present

10 Persons, 8 Voting Members

- **Bronwen Thornton, Walk21, International
- **Ole Thorson, Catalunya Camina, Spain (President)
- **Geert van Waeg, johanna.be, Belgium (Vice President)
- *Anne Faure, Rue de l'Avenir, France
- *Tony Armstrong, Living Streets UK
- *Marcos Montes Garcia, A Pie, Spain
- *Paul Bickelbacher, FUSS e.V. , Germany
- *Dieter Schwab, Walk Space, Austria
- Richard Murcaster, Living Streets UK
- Alexandra Leal, Mexico Camina, Mexico (observer, candidate member)

** Member of the Board * Voting Member

3. Election of President and secretary of the Assembly

Chair for the Assembly: Ole Thorson

Secretary for the General Assembly: Bronwen Thornton

4. Comments to the Minutes from 2011 Assembly in Vancouver

The Minutes of the last General Assembly were accepted.

5. Report from the Presidency of IFP – Activities during last year

OECD and ITF (International Transport Forum) - Ole Thorson and Bronwen Thornton

- Last Forum in May 2012 titled: *Seamless Transport*. Nothing said about pedestrians at forum or in newsletter. Young transport researcher of the year was awarded to a study on walking!! IFP went to the consultation in Paris, January 2012 and Walk21 provided comment by email from Jim Walker direct. Very disappointing but we must continue to be present at this forum.

- The full OECD report on pedestrians has been released: **Pedestrian Safety, Urban Space and Health** (in 2011 only an 18 page summary was available). Can be ordered and previewed from www.internationaltransportforum.org.
- For the future: Walk21 and IFP to continue their direct relationship with ITF. Members to write to their Ministers in lead up to the forum to put pedestrians on the agenda.

ACTION: IFP to provide template letter for members to use and prompt them when to do so.

UN Working Party 1 - Christian Thomas still active.

- Christian provided an update by email: 'The process of the WP1 has become very clumsy in the last years. Unless I make a considerable input, topics that could improve pedestrian safety don't come on the agenda. Therefore, I have nothing new to report worthwhile to mention in the minutes.'

Road Safety Collaboration UN/WHO - Geert van Waeg

- The Pedestrian Safety Manual is close to a final draft - Geert has helped with the writing and influenced the tone - to see pedestrians as part of the solution, not just the problem. The manual has some emphasis to low and medium income countries
- The meeting acknowledge the good work and effort by Geert in this role.
- Walk21 to be one of the reviewers of the manual and to continue the 'tone' and focus established.
- The first **UN Road Safety Week** in four years will be held next year and focus on Pedestrian Safety! It will be May 6-12, 2013

ACTION: IFP to send a note to all members about it and how to be involved. IFP to ask WHO if there are any resources to share with members.

NGO Alliance on road safety and victim support - Geert van Waeg

- WHO has organized 2 meetings of NGOs active on road safety and victim support (Brussels 2009 and Washington 2011), and now asked the NGOs to organize themselves. Christian has done a great job in supporting the team to set up this alliance. Due to time constraints (Christian and Geert) we have decided not to become active members of the board, but we are member.
- Anne Faure tabled a flyer of the new 'presentation' of her organization.

6. Projects in 2011-12.

Living end roads - Geert van Waeg

- **Belgium** is progressing with the application of the idea. Already 50 municipalities have adapted their dead end signs into living end signs
- **Spain** is negotiating with municipalities. Initial response from Barcelona is positive, also Madrid contacted. Catalunya - all new planning to include network for pedestrians and cycling
- **France** - have made their own sign which has been legal since December 2011. It is a challenge to disseminate the idea to the municipalities
- **Portugal** - Mario investigating at a national level
- **Denmark** - a living end road sign exists already (and is well in use), but only for cyclists. We are working (through Lotte Beck) in learning more and trying to stimulate a pedestrian sign too

- **Germany** - has one for cyclists, but not used very much. Paul B checking within FUSS ev what can be done
- **USA** - currently negotiating with MUTCD (Federal authority covering traffic signs). They prefer an undershield, not just a sticker on the existing shield. We want to push stickers since implementation can be so much faster-easier (cost difference \$2 vs \$20). Discussion about size of icons and room on the current shields.
- **Austria** - to see what legals are needed (Dieter)
- **UK** - Living Streets on traffic sign review panel and will champion this proposal

ACTION: continue with the project and achieve step by step.

7. Projects for 2012 and beyond

Living end roads - Expand Living End Roads project

Is IFP more than a network?

- Living Streets: we need to share more information about what is happening, e.g. OECD, UN report
- group email conversation, updates and website updates.
- Assembly agreed more communication and interaction would be really helpful but no one wanted anything additional or complicated or to put all the responsibility on the secretariat. As a starting point, it was agreed to have a group email list so anyone can send updates or issues to the members directly.

ACTION: Christian Thomas to send an initial email to everyone with the list of members and their direct emails so everyone can

- contact each other, and
- send quick updates to the whole group.

ACTION: Tony Armstrong to work with Geert on ideas to stimulate network activity

Should IFP work with EuroCities?

- They are very in favour of walking and involved in SUMP (Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans - for European countries). Group agreed to make initial contact and see what the opportunity might be.

ACTION: Paul to contact EuroCities about being engaged with IFP and to link with them before W21 in Munich 2013.

Fair Space project

- - currently sleeping

Zebra Crossings:

ACTION: Dieter to lead on establishing a discussion group about this. Dieter to send a group email inviting interest

ACTION: Geert to send initial email about discussion groups.

8. Proposals for new membership of IFP, changes of representatives.

- **-Aconvivir (Costa Rica)** applied for membership. However, they are much more focused on cyclists - needs more focus on pedestrians. Invited to be an association member, observer with no voting rights, until a greater emphasis on pedestrians is realized
- **Mexico Camina** - recently founded NGO of young professionals: to defend rights of pedestrians, as a reference group for government and to study specific places in the city. Mexico City is the focus for now. Made an initial application at the conference - **Assembly held a conditional vote = YES.** Mexico Camina to follow up with official paperwork and process.

9. By-laws of IFP, and other administrative work

Scope to be discussed in context of the future framework, networking etc. Do we register by laws somewhere? to be decided.

10. Election of President and Vice-presidents of IFP, and other board members.

Ole Thorson to resign from the Presidency.

- The Assembly thanks Ole for 7 years of committed work and inspiration to awaken the association and increase its profile and activity. Ole remains on the board.

New President

- Ole proposes Geert van Waeg to be the next President. Geert accepts to be candidate. No other candidates. Geert van Waeg elected unanimous as president.
- Congratulations Geert! Geert thanks Ole, is happy to be on board and is looking forward to the next steps.

Vice Presidents:

- Ellen Vanderslice will continue.
- Dieter Schwab proposed to become vice-president by Geert van Waeg. Dieter accepts, and is elected unanimous as vice-president

Members of the Board:

- All existing members to continue.
- Tony Armstrong to join the board.

11. Any other business

- Walk21 asked for the IFP website to be updated with the information about the next conference, Munich, Germany 11-13 September 2013, "The City of Short Distances"

ACTION: IFP to update the information about the Walk21 conference on their website.