



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PEDESTRIANS

General Assembly October 2019 in Rotterdam

Meeting minutes

Date:

Tuesday 8th October at 7.15pm local time

Location:

Dudok, Meeting Room “De Meentzhaal”, Rotterdam

Agenda:

- **Welcome**
- **Minutes of the 2018 GA in Bogotá**
- **Activities Report 2018-19**
- **New Members**
- **Engagement**
- **Finances, Strategic Plan, & Budget**
- **Board and Executive Committee**
- **IFP Legal Status**
- **Varia**

Welcome

Geert Van Waeg (President) opened the meeting, welcomed all, and provided a general summary of the year for IFP. Each **voting member** representative present in the room introduced themselves:

Europe:

- Geert van Waeg, johanna.be, Belgium
- Tom D Hollander, Voetgangersbeweging/FEPA, Belgium
- Eddie Kips, Janneke Zomervrucht and Peter Jonquiere, MensenStraat, the Netherlands

- Jim Walker, Walk21, UK-Based
- Monika Litscher, Pedestrian Mobility Switzerland
- Dominik Bucheli, Fussgaengerverein Zuerich, Switzerland
- Tevfik Furkan Dogan and Gorker Aknol, Yaya Dernegi, Turkey
- Dieter Schwab, Walk-Space, Austria

Oceania:

- Ben Rossiter, Victoria Walks, Australia
- Celia Wade-Brown and Andy Smith (by phone), Living Streets Aotearoa, New Zealand

North America:

- Aldo González, Liga Peatonal, Mexico
- Eileen McCarthy, America Walks, USA

South America:

- Leticia Leda Sabino, SampaPé
- Gustavo Calderon, Fundación Colombiana de Peatones, Colombia

Voting Members on skype introduced themselves:

- Mário Alves, ACA-M, Portugal

Geert confirmed that there were at least 5 voting members from 3 continents, so there was the required quorum for the meeting.

Associate members present

- John Wetmore, Perils for Pedestrians, USA

Guests in attendance

- Jason King, Get Ireland Walking, Ireland

Minutes of the 2018 GA in Bogotá

The delegates approved the minutes for the 2018 General Assembly held in Bogotá in October 2018.

Activities Report 2018-19

- Ongoing: Multi-modal Optimisation of Road-space in Europe (MORE) project-This project involves improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the main roads that feed traffic to/from the interurban road links of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T). New concepts, tools and processes will be developed and tested in five cities: Budapest, Constanta, Lisbon, London and Malmo. The plan is for MORE to deliver tools to assist cities in their roadspace design process: a library with design elements to develop new options; a stakeholder engagement tool for the co-creation of design options, using both web-based and traditional planning tools; a simulation tool that will mimic user behaviour in streets and on roads, including the delivery of performance indicators; and an appraisal tool for the assessment of design options.

This is a milestone for IFP and Mário is leading IFP's work through funding we received. Our initial role was to make sure that our European Members responded to the "Current User Needs Survey" from Work Package 1. Member responses were appreciated -- Pedestrians are the most represented mode in the survey sample by far. Our major contributions to the deliverable for Work Package 1 -- "D1.2 Urban corridor road design: guides, objectives and performance indicators" -- was to make sure that the interests of pedestrians are taken into consideration.

- October 2018: Walk21, Bogotá, Colombia — IFP led an advocacy workshop with America Walks and Como Anda, and members contributed to poster sessions and breakouts.
- January 2019 and May 2019: OECD and ITF (International Transport Forum) — Geert van Waeg attended the preparative meeting (Jan 17, Paris) and the Summit (May 22-24, Leipzig) and reminded them of the needs and role of pedestrians.
- March 2019: EU Global Safety Regulations (GSR): With other organizations, IFP advocated strongly to support passage of new regulations on safety features — Auto Emergency Braking, data recorders, intelligent speed adaptation (ISA). ISA was the most important to IFP. The automobile industry has lobbied heavily against ISA. It passed on March 25. From 2024 all new cars have to have ISA.
- April 2019: United Nations Road Safety Collaboration (UNRSC). Geert van Waeg attended the 26th Meeting in Chania, Greece.
- May 2019: Preparation of Ministerial Conference on Road Safety: Geert van Waeg actively participated in the preparative meeting in Stockholm. We wrote, together with European Cycling Federation, the session description for "Ensuring the safety of active road users" (from "non-motorized vulnerable road users"). We brought focus to where pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users can contribute to road safety in several other sessions.

- May 24: SuM4All Consortium meeting: Continued active involvement in SuM4All/need to stronger promote walking as SuM4All
- May 28-29: Participation in Stakeholder workshop of LEVITATE (“Societal Level Impacts of Connected and Automated Vehicles”). This is a 3-year EU project “building tools to ... prepare for a future with increasing levels of automated vehicles...”.

New Members

IFP has two new members: Tous à pied (Belgium), which originally focussed (under their previous name Sentiers.be) on right of ways but now shifted focus to become broader pedestrian organization for the French speaking part of Belgium, and FundaPeaton (Medellin, Colombia). Associate memberships are on hold. There is a concern that car-oriented organizations could abuse associate memberships.

Engagement

Twitter (@ifpedestrians): IFP increased its followers from 3690 to 5090. We do about 13 tweets per day.

Facebook: Followers have increased from 9,186 to 11,500, with an average reach about 1,000-3,000 per post.

IFPedestrians-net: Membership increased to 300 this year and there are about 5-10 emails per month.

Instagram: IFP joined Instagram this year and has more than 1000 members and 100 publications.

Finance, Strategic Plan and Budget

2018-2019:

- IFP transferred € 7478.64 forward from last year and received €17,451.71 for our work on the MORE project during the year and € 1220.03 in donations. We also received € 61,088.80 from MORE for work in future years.
- Expenses for this year totalled € 16,737.32
- The resulting amount, which will transfer to next year, is € 9412.77
- We also received a provision from MORE for work in future years. That money has been on a separate bank account as it should only be used for expenses done within the MORE contract framework

The financial report was presented and discussed. Dominik Bucheli (Auditor) reviewed and recommended that the GA approve the accounts and relieve the Board. Bucheli will continue as Auditor next year. **The General Assembly approved the financial report.**

Geert presented the Strategic Plan (see attachment), which builds on IFP's mission statements and has been reviewed by the Board. With respect to the development of policy statements, Geert acknowledged that, despite our best intentions, this has not been easy to do. The plan going forward will be to combine work from members. With respect to helping members, IFP supported our member from Poland in their work with the authorities on right of way for pedestrians in crosswalks. It was useful to frame the question internationally. Celia asked if we can add a sentence to the plan along the lines of emphasizing human diversity of peds, including disability, ethnicity, age, gender. She also would like the logo to be more modern and inclusive. Geert asked how we might incorporate the sentence. Celia indicated that she thought the Board could work out where it belongs. Ben suggested keeping the logo and maybe looking at minor changes.

Geert also discussed a proposal from Fussverkehr Schweiz: Christian found a person who might sponsor a person to work to get IFP represented before Swiss bodies. Leticia asked if IFP members can get report on work. Monika said yes. The person hired will report on her/his activities to IFP. There will be at least an annual report that voting members can see.

Leticia asked about IFP and suggested it should be the "International Federation of Pedestrian Organizations" rather than the International Federation of Pedestrians, given that members are organizational, not individual pedestrians. Dominik pointed out that "pedestrian" has two meanings and the term "pedestrian organizations" could be misunderstood. Ben opposed any name change because of legal complications and the resources involved to make a change. There was some additional discussion that resulted in a decision to keep the name as is for the moment.

The General Assembly approved the strategic plan.

Geert presented the budget (see attachment) with the GA, noting that there would be increasing work on MORE project. In 2019 we got in more \$\$ than expected. 2020-22 is neutral. Celia asked if Andy (Treasurer) supports budget? Andy said yes. **The General Assembly approved the budget.**

Board and Executive Committee

Board: Gregory Mavrakis of Enosipezon (Greece) has resigned. There is no term limit for board members currently, but Geert said perhaps we should discuss the possibility. Ben supports the idea of term limits because it would allow IFP to dismiss inactive board members. After some discussion, it was agreed that board members would have a term limit of 2 years (with no limit on number of terms), starting now.

Jim asked if board members are elected as individuals? Geert said yes. Individuals represent their organization, but are on the board as individuals. Jim asked if he could become a board member in lieu of Bronwen Thornten, who is becoming more busy with other matters. After some discussion, it was agreed that Jim would be elected to the Board, subject to Bronwen's resignation.

Executive Committee: Andy was elected last year and so continues as Treasurer. The President and Vice President are at the end of their terms. Ben nominated Geert to continue as President. Ben is currently Vice President. He is happy to continue or step down. There were no other nominations, so Geert and Ben were re-elected.

Ben also suggested we have two vice presidents, with one from a country that is not in Europe, North America or Oceania, and possibly designated for a woman. Dominik and Geert thought we would need to change the bylaws for that and we could work on it over the next year. It would also depend on whether we change legal status (see further)

After this election the members of the Executive Committee and Board are:

President:

- Geert van Waeg (Belgium), johanna.be

Vice President:

- Ben Rossiter (Australia), Victoria Walks

Treasurer:

- Andy Smith (New Zealand), Living Streets Aotearoa

Secretary General:

- Mário Alves (Portugal), ACA-M

Board:

- Gustavo Calderon (Colombia), Fundación Colombiana de Peatones
- Eileen McCarthy (United States), America Walks

- Dieter Schwab (Austria), Walk-Space.at
- Christian Thomas (Switzerland), Fussgängerverein Zürich
- Bronwen Thornton (UK), Walk21
- Silvia Stuchi (Brasil), Corrida Amiga

IFP Legal Status

IFP is an NGO based in Switzerland. It took a while, but finally it has a bank account in Switzerland. Geert reminded members that we had a discussion last year on insurance for board members. Swiss law causes some problems. They did get some quotes (high) but most insurers did not respond. Should we make IFP an Belgian organization, which might make it easier to obtain insurance? This would just mean moving its seat. It would cost 1k-2k euros. Dominik thought it possible to make a different type of Swiss registration, but it would require (slightly) more work and reporting. Geert said Belgian registration would require the same thing, so maybe it would be better to stay in Switzerland. Dominik and Geert thought we could work on it over the next year. Jim said that, given MORE work we're doing, we should get liability insurance even if the cost is high. The risk may be small, but the "game" is different now. Dominik said it's really hard to charge board members of a Swiss organization. Mário does have insurance. Ben said Switzerland does seem different from other countries, but the Swiss website also advises getting insurance. Jim felt insurance cover was essential. The potential liability is really to IFP as an organization. Monika will look into Swiss insurance options and discuss with Geert and then the Executive Committee will investigate options.

Varia

UN World Pedestrian Day: This is celebrated in South America. There are 2 possible dates in August — Mário discussed making a proposal to the UN. Do we want to do it? Celia thought it should be near one of equinoxes. Andy said he'd been in contact with the group that is petitioning the UN for it. Ben suggested Mário do a proposal.

Geert closed the meeting.