



International Art Medal Federation
Fédération Internationale de la Médaille d'Art

MINUTES OF THE INTERIM MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE AND CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES AND THE DELEGATES

Saturday 18th July 2015, 3.30pm – Gothic Room, Old Town Hall, Leuven

Participating members: 23 members present

Taking the minutes: Marie-Astrid Pelsdonk

1. Opening of the meeting

The President welcomed everyone to Leuven and said how much we are all looking forward to the congress next year.

2. Financial report

The treasurer reported that FIDEM's finances are looking good. However a congress year is when more members are paying their fees. At the meeting in Sofia some statistics were requested. The number of members in 2013 was: 297, in 2014: 358, and until today for this year 2015: 194. Per category of members for 2014, we had 24 students, 283 individual members (incl. artists), 37 museums & societies and 14 companies. (see enclosed PDF's)

What is different from previous congresses is that FIDEM has already paid the 15,000€ support for the coming congress. The treasurer recommended that:

1. the 80,000€ time-bound deposit due in January 2016 should be increased to 90,000€;
2. allocate the sum of 15,000€ to support the attendance of 15 or more students
3. to improve the budget it could be good to give the mints and foundries some publicity space in the next *Médailles Magazine*

Ana Pereira also informed that FIDEM now had a VAT number, which is: PT980524679.

All these recommendations were approved by the meeting.

3. New members to the EC, CC and delegates/vice-delegates

The following were noted, to be confirmed at the General Assembly in 2016:

EC – Tomas Kleisner (Czech Republic) has resigned and will be replaced by Javier Gimeno (Spain)

CC - Sylvie de Sylvie de Turckheim-Pey (France)

Austria – Michael Welz has resigned, FIDEM will try to identify a new delegate

Czech Republic – Juliana Boublíková-Jahnová

France – Beatrice Coullaré

Ireland – Robin Daly has been reappointed
Netherlands – Jan Pelsdonk informed the meeting that he would become the delegate
Netherlands – the present delegate Linda Verkaaik would become the vice-delegate
Serbia – Svetozar Mirkov
South Africa – Christine Roux
Sweden – Kerstin Östberg (vice)
Switzerland – Gilles Perret (vice)
USA – Jeanne Stevens-Sollman
USA – Jim Licaretz (vice)

4. Médailles Magazine

Marie-Astrid Pelsdonk reported that the 2014 *Médailles Magazine* was printed. Ana Pereira could show a fresh and hot copy coming out of the presses from the Portuguese Mint.

The layout and editing had taken around 280 hours of work and the magazine is of 252 pages. Copies had been sent to the members of the EC and CC days before the meeting. During the summer all the FIDEM members will receive their copy of the magazine.

The layout and editing has been made free of charge as well as the printing. Marie-Astrid Pelsdonk, The Portuguese Mint and the Gulbenkian Foundation, who distribute the magazine, were thanked for their work and generosity.

At the General Assembly in Sofia, it was asked that an estimate of the costs should be given. Ana Pereira explained that the printing cost would have been about 7,000€ for 500 copies. The price for the layout work and editing would be about 4,000€.

It was asked if the lectures could be on the internet as well. Old issues of *Médailles Magazine* are available on the website. It had been decided previously that the two latest issues would not be on the website since copies were still for sale. The webmaster explained that the 2010 magazine would soon be available in the archive pages of the website.

5. Website

Since the congress in Sofia last year, FIDEM has received a big donation from the University Museum of Bergen. Their donation made it possible to change the Internet Service Provider (ISP). The company is called CardSolutions and are based in the Netherlands. The migration took place in September/October and went well. This change means that FIDEM has much more space allocated and it was possible to make this company build and code a searchable online medal database. The webmaster thanked the University Museum of Bergen for this very generous gift.

The database is being filled in and all the medals from the exhibition catalogue from Tampere (2010) are now available on the website (www.fidem-medals.org/database). The information is filled in by Marie-Astrid Pelsdonk and all the artists have been contacted to obtain the copyright permission to use the pictures of their medals. It was noted that not all artists had answered yet and that it would be good if delegates and vice-delegates could help out to obtain the said permission. The work is continuing with the catalogue from Colorado Springs. She showed that for the moment 1,516 medals were available on the website.

Tapio Suominen had reported that the current credit card company had been bought by Paytrail and that FIDEM needed to make a decision on whether to migrate to them or to choose another solution. The webmaster had been looking into it and if FIDEM migrates it means having to recode the payment

page of the website. This would need some external help. On the suggestion of Philip Attwood, BAMS had been contacted since they have built a web shop. This had apparently been done by an external company. Since Paytrail needs a quick answer, the webmaster promised to contact CardSolutions next week to see if they could help with the coding and/or if they would build a web shop.

The Webmaster was thanked for the enormous amount of work she has put into FIDEM.

6. XXXIV congress Namur & Gent (6-10 September 2016)

Paul Huybrechts presented the plans for the coming congress. The congress will be held in two cities of Belgium: Namur (6-8 September 2016) and Gent (9-10 September 2016). The exhibition will be held at the Provincial Museum of Ancient Arts of Namur and the lectures at the University of Namur. Several receptions and smaller medal exhibitions are planned. There will be a transfer day where all the participants will travel by bus, made available by the organizers, to Gent. This means that all the participants need to bring their luggage with them. During this transfer there will be a choice of two locations for an excursion: to the Mauquoy Medal Company or to Brussels. The congress will continue in Gent, with a medal fair and the General Assembly meeting at the University of Gent followed by a closing banquet at a very special location. There will be one day post-congress tours organized to the battlefields of WWI and to Bruges on 11th September.

The medal exhibition will be open to the public between September 2016 and January 2017. The medals should be sent to arrive in Belgium between 15 September and 15 November 2015. The medals should be sent only by the delegates in one consignment. Any delegate who cannot meet this deadline should contact Paul Huybrechts. The return of the medals will be done at the end of January 2017.

Paul Huybrechts was asked to make the forms accompanying the medals available very soon because of the limited time schedule. The ATA carnets and values to be mentioned on the documents sent with the medals were discussed. It was stressed that the value to write is the insurance value and not the selling price. Delegates were asked to make sure that artists followed this.

The national quotas were discussed. Three countries had asked to have their quotas increased. The exhibition space allows 900 medals, which is 100 medals less than in Sofia. Therefore the requested increases could not be met totally but were divided between the three countries: Japan, who had increased the number of their members, would be allocated 4 extra medals, Bulgaria, who had generously given away space in the last congress, would have 4 extra medals added to their quota and Denmark who had shown great interest in participating after a couple of years, received a quota of 2. The General Secretary was asked to contact these countries to inform them of this decision.

The question of a theme for the lectures of the congress was raised. There is no compulsory theme but an optional theme was proposed: "The relationship between artists and mints/foundries".

7. 2018, 2020, 2022 and 2024 congresses

Lynden Beesley, Canadian FIDEM delegate, presented the plans for the XXXV FIDEM Congress in Ottawa in 2018. The congress dates are 29 May to 2nd June 2018. The Canadian Museum of Nature will host the medal exhibition and the lectures. In 2018, the city of Ottawa and the CMN are celebrating the centenary of eligibility of Canadian women to vote. The CMN building was used in 1918 by the Canadian Parliament due to a fire in the House of Parliament. It was in this building that the law of women's emancipation was enacted. Because of this the CMN has requested that for this Congress the artists follow a theme in the production of their medals, the general FIDEM theme for medals is "Women" and the category of "Women in Science" is a condition of FIDEM exhibiting medals at the Museum. The plans for the Ottawa congress were well received.

The plans for Beijing in 2020 would be discussed by Philip Attwood in September while meeting with a Chinese delegation.

Two suggestions had been made to hold the 2022 congress in Hungary and the 2024 congress in Poland.

8. Other topics

a. return of medals from FIDEM exhibitions

Some medals (from 4 countries) sent back from Sofia had been either lost or damaged. Contact had been made with Bogomil Nikolov and CIC (the company sending the medals back) to compensate the artists. In the beginning the communication went well but contact has now broken down with CIC in Sofia. A lawyer has been contacted to see if a litigation is possible. FIDEM is advised against it since the amount of compensation (3,000€) is a very small sum.

FIDEM has resolved to provide compensation from our own funds (without establishing a precedent) as a gesture of goodwill. Since Bulgaria had not taken up the loan from FIDEM while organizing the congress, with the consent of the treasurer and the participants present at this meeting, it was decided to compensate the lost/damaged medals with parts of this money.

FIDEM is still going to ask the lawyer to write to CIC in Sofia, but in the meantime, the General Secretary was asked to contact the artists concerned to get confirmation of the amount asked.

b. mints and foundries

It was discussed on how to attract more mints and foundries to join and what FIDEM can offer. Their names linked with their website is already available on the FIDEM website. A new field will be added to the coming forms to accompany the medals sent to Belgium and published in the exhibition catalogue. A producer field will be added to the medal database.

c. guidelines for congresses

Some changes had been made to these guidelines concerning the return and insurance of the medals. A proposition to add under point 10. *Finances - The principal expenses to be* "production of the congress medal" was accepted by the participants. (see enclosed PDF with the latest changes)

d. competition Tongdao Beijing

Points of concerns were raised about this competition. The company had approached FIDEM before Sofia and initially wanted FIDEM to be a partner in the competition. The rules and regulations however did not follow the FIDEM guidelines and this was made known to Tongdao. Although many things were changed not everything was to the satisfaction of FIDEM who therefore declined to be a partner but agreed to place the information on the website under other medallic news, not FIDEM news, thereby letting the artists know about the competition but allowing them to choose for themselves if they wanted to enter or not. The meeting felt that FIDEM should have made its concerns more clear on the website. This point of awareness was taken seriously and a sentence urging artists to study the competition conditions closely will be added.

9. Closing the meeting

The meeting was closed at 5 p.m.