

Minutes
Annual General Meeting
ICOM Costume Committee

2004, Seoul

The annual meeting was called to order by Chairperson Joanna Marschner, who noted that a quorum of voting members was not present, though 20 members from 7 countries (USA, Korea, UK, Taiwan, Denmark, India, Germany) were attending.

1. Apologies received from: Anne Buck, Ann Coleman, Naomi Tarrant, Rainer Y, Britta Hammar, Sandy Rosenbaum, Isabel Alvarado, Christine Stevens.

2. Minutes of the meeting held in Krakow, Poland, October 2003 have been printed in the Costume News of December 2003.

3. Chair's report:

Poland: about 80 members, friends and observers met in Krakow in September last year. It was an incredibly successful meeting thanks to the hard work put in by Beata Slota, and her colleague Olga Jaros. We were delighted to meet so many colleagues in the many museums in Krakow and its environs.

Newsletter. Many thanks to Britta Hammar and Pernilla Rasmussen for their hard work putting out the Costume News this spring. We are also most grateful to Ann Resare who made an extended effort to get it circulated promptly. Ann sent a great appeal to all members to let her know any changed addresses, and please, please send e-mail addresses. At the moment the Committee is still burdened with an enormous postage bill.

Vocabulary of Basic Terminology: At the meeting last year you will recall that the Committee had been approached by the Synapse Corporation in Colorado, USA as to whether we would be prepared to sell the copy of the VBT for cataloging of costume. We decided that we should retain our copyright, and I replied to the Synapse Corporation to this effect. Our decision at the meeting was backed up by Anne Buck who had initiated the project back in the 1970s.

ICOM Advisory : the committee chairman is our representative.

A new Advisory Committee is elected at this Triennial, with new officers and board, and the Costume committee has 5 votes, to be cast by 5 voting members. A new election procedure now means that voting is carried out over several days, Oct. 3-6. Both Jacques Perot and Manus Brinckman are finishing their terms of office. There is satisfaction with ICOM's growth, and programs such as the planning for the protection of cultural property during catastrophe/war/disaster. ICOM has been effective in advising on illicit traffic and has in particular monitored trade from South America. The conference in Korea has accounted for many new members, as well as efforts from ICOM to encourage participation from Russia, China and Japan.

The ICOM Code of Professional Ethics has been under revision since the 1970s. Jeffrey Lewis is head of the committee and the final version will be voted on this Friday.

The ICOM statutes are a continuing mission as to ICOM's priorities.

Unesco no longer covers the housing costs of ICOM, meaning changes in the financial situation in Paris.

A working group to assess the workings of the international committees, headed by Martin Shearer, Switzerland, finds that the international committees - of which Costume is one of the medium-sized ones - are the spearhead of ICOM activities. Committees range from small (ca 40 members - Glass) to large (f.eks. Conservation, ca 1000 members). The working group suggests we continue the open framework, but also that new rules are implemented as to the creation of new committees, and that the activities of existing committees are reviewed.

There are important issues as to the ICOM treasurer's job, such as the matter of international currency. Much is lost in every international transaction. ICOM will be opening an e-bank with subaccounts for all the committees which should alleviate these problems.

ICOM Paris is getting a new database for our directories, which will allow for more efficient use. However, the Data Protection Act needs consideration - we cannot publish full directories, as only two named individuals have access in each committee.

4. Secretary's report:

I have in the past year corresponded with individual members and colleagues interested in joining the Committee, contacting colleagues and attending meetings. As of September 2004 we have 219 members from 33 countries. We welcome new members from Belarus, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Israel, Ivory Coast, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, Slovakia, Switzerland, and USA. This is 15 members more than this time last year, and we can regard ourselves as a medium-sized and active ICOM committee.

I have been in touch with ICOM Paris with 2 sets of corrections, which have for the most been implemented in the official directory. Any changes in information have been sent on to both the chairman and our Swedish colleagues in charge of compiling and sending out the *Costume News*. It has not all worked perfectly, but we are hopeful that there are now but a few inconsistencies. Because some members send their changes of address to ICOM Paris and not to the Committee, while others send the information to the Committee and not to ICOM Paris, it seems to take a few months before everyone is up to date.

As former editor of the *Costume News* I have continued to receive some information from members about exhibitions and on-going work, which I have passed on to our editors Britta Hammar and Pernilla Rasmussen - along with news of what's happening in Denmark.

As Secretary I have also been approached about when and how a new Directory of members will be made available, and I ask the Board to make a decision about this.

And finally it has been my pleasure to be in close touch with the chairman about Committee business and upcoming meetings, with fruitful discussions of how best to further the interests and activities of this Committee.

Katia Johansen, Secretary, 29 September 2004

5. Treasurer's report, read by the Chair. The Committee has about 9.000, of which most goes to sending the *Costume News* to voting members. Many thanks to the Treasurer for his good work.

6. Sub-committees' reports:

Vocabulary: Christine Stevens has continued to update the database from members' contributions (of which there are very few), notices of new books from publishers and from reviews in journals. She encourages members to send references from their various countries, including author, title, publisher and country of publication; English or French translation of title (if possible); date of publication and ISBN number. A few sentences or so of précis or review can be included. The database has been transferred to Microsoft Access. Duplications have been

deleted; the total now is 1,972. Members can receive the bibliography if they send a CD. Christine's e-mail address is: Christine.Stevens@nmgw.ac.uk

7. Newsletter: next deadline for the *Costume News* is late October.

8. Composition of the Board, elections:

Naomi Tarrant, Chairman of the Nominating committee reported:

"The nominations received for this election have been disappointing. Two people nominated the whole Board for re-election and two individuals have been nominated for places on the Board.

The Treasurer, Rainer Y, has already served two terms. However, it is advantageous to the Committee to keep Rainer as Treasurer because he is in the Euro zone and we would therefore not lose on any transfer of money from Paris, and he has also proved a good treasurer. We would therefore propose that in these exceptional circumstances Rainer should be retained for one further term only.

We therefore recommend the present board be re-elected to serve another term. As neither of the two individuals nominated have ever been to a meeting of the Committee we therefore do not recommend their election to the Board in this instance. However, the Board is free to co-opt members.

We recommend to the Board that the process of selecting a new Board in 2007 is started earlier so that members can be approached to serve on the next Board with a view to selecting firm nominations during the 2006 meeting. Although we have over 250 voting members there are probably only 50 who regularly attend meetings and therefore understand the Committee's remit and concerns.

Best wishes, Naomi Tarrant, Chairman, Nominating Committee"

A ballot will be circulated to members along with the *Costume News* after the meeting.

9. Future meetings are planned as follows:

2005 Berlin: June 12-17. See proposed program in the *Costume News*. The meeting is being organized by Heidi Rasche, of the Lipperheide Library, Regine Falkenberg and Christine Waidenschlager. The director of the Deutsches Historisches Museum has very kindly allowed us the use of his lecture theatre and the galleries. The theme of the conference will be "On Men..." (men's fashion and garments, accessories, uniforms, folk costume, ect.).

2006 Copenhagen+Lund?

2007 Triennial - Vienna.

2008? Chile has been suggested

2009 Arizona, USA?

10. Other business

We received the sad news in July that Jenny Schneider, who was an early Chairman of this committee, had died in Switzerland after a long illness. Jenny was very much respected by members of the Committee, and we have asked those who knew her well to write down a few brief memories. Sigrid Pallmert kindly represented us all at her memorial service and conveyed the Committee's condolences to Jenny's family. Sigrid has agreed to write a short biographical obituary and edit the memories for publication in the next *Costume News*. Contributions can be made to a memorial fund in Jenny's name, which will go to *Medicin Sans Frontiers*.

As there was not other business, the meeting was concluded.

Katia Johansen, Secretary