

Minutes
Annual General Meeting
ICOM Costume Committee

June 17, 2005, Berlin, Germany

I. Call to order, apologies.

The annual meeting was called to order by Chairperson Joanna Marschner and the proposed agenda adopted.

Apologies had been received from Karen Finch (GB), Gudrun Ekstrand (S), François Tétart-Vittu (F), Alice Zrebiec (US), Corinne Ter Assatouroff. (BE), Ioanna Papantoniou (GR) (who had attended most of the week=s activities), Alex Reeberg (USA), Susanne McClean (CA), Ingrid Loschek (D), Anu Liivandi (CA), Bianca du Mortier (NL), Roger Leong (AUS).

Since our last meeting two of the Committee=s long-time members - Jenny Schneider and Anne Buck, both former chairpersons - have sadly passed away. Naomi Tarrant spoke some words about Anne Buck, and Joanna had brought with her a large memorial article from the Times about Anne. Sigrid Pallmert spoke about Jenny Schneider. The group stood and observed a minute=s silence in respect for their memory.

II. Minutes of annual meeting 2004, Seoul.

The minutes as printed in the Costume News 2004:2 were approved.

III. Chairman's report.

Joanna Marschner welcomed members and especially new members, and thanked our hosts for the good arrangements at this meeting in Berlin as well as the pre- and post-conference tours. A great thanks to the Deutsches Historisches Museum. ICOM Germany has kindly offered a sum of money for printing the proceedings of this meeting. Last year=s meeting drew fewer members, about 35, representing 12 nations, because of the cost of travelling to Korea, but it was an extremely rich meeting. It was the first time an ICOM triennial had been held in Asia and it provided a great opportunity to meet up with old friends and to make many new ones in this vibrant, exciting city, with its rich traditional costume culture. A team of curators and costume history teachers had put together a very imaginative programme of costume lectures, demonstrations and visits, taking the theme AMuseums and the Intangible Heritage@. The last day of the costume programme was opened out to members of the Korean Costume Society. The number of people attending on the last day topped three hundred, filling the lecture theatre at Sookmyung University. It was a special pleasure to meet a number of Korean National Living Treasures, ladies and gentlemen, treasured for their particular skill at hat-making, for instance, or quilting or indigo dyeing. We also much enjoyed being taken by a team of young fashion students round the garment district of town, and shown the parts of the market where traditional dress, the Ahanbok@ is still for sale.

Newsletter: Many thanks to Britta and Pernilla for their sterling work putting together the newsletter and with Ann for sending it out. This is a massive work and we are all most grateful for all their work. Please, can people be sure to give us any change in e-mail address or in their postal address. This will make their task easier.

ICOM Advisory meeting: At the Seoul Triennial a new president of ICOM was elected. Alissandra Cummins fra Barbados. The new Chairperson of the Advisory Committee is Gunther Demski fra Austria, and the new Treasurer Nancy Husion from the US. There is also a new Secretary General, John Zvereff. There are now nearly 22,000 members. It is finanacially healthy. Able to contribute to the tsunami disaster relief planning, Publications on disaster preparedness, and ARunning Major Museums@ aimed particularly to address issues with Arabic museums. Iraq Red list re-published and new preparation of an Afghanisatn Red list. Matter under debate in the next consultation period includes Update to the World Heritage Convention on the Safeguarding of Cultural Diversity as well as the Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Heritage. ICOM website to be redesigned giving a page to each of the national and International Committees. Not clear yet whether they can support databases/publications on this system, or link through to other web addresses where our information is currently held. The President has decided to create an interim standing committee to look into issues arising from the International Committees. This has come about in part I understand because when ICOM looked into the matter of internet banking where all the International Committees could have a subaccount under an ICOM umbrella, the lack of any legal status for the committees made it unfeasible. There was uncertainty about the impact of future plans, but we have to take confidence that the committees remain the major active arm of ICOM by which their objectives and targets are achieved, and they would be unwise to set anything in train to destabilise them.

The current board for the Costume Committee was presented: Chairman Joanna Marschner, Vice-Chairman Elizabeth Jachimowicz, Secretary Katia Johansen, Treasurer Rainier Y, Board Members Britta Hammar and Alexandra Palmer (Bianca du Mortier was absent due to illness). In addition the co-opted members Pernilla Rasmussen and Anne Resare are responsible for the Newsletter.

IV. Secretary's report

Katia Johansen read the following report: ACommittee members as of 20th May 2005 number 227 individuals and institutions (as of January 2004 there were 209). New members - or new to the list! - are from Austria, France, Greece, Israel, Korea, Netherlands, Switzerland and the UK. There always seems to be some confusion when memberships lapse and are then reinstated, or perhaps people have just been a member of ICOM without being a member of the Costume Committee. Or perhaps just didn=t make it onto the right Paris list... ICOM Paris= membership office suggests that this might be a general problem which should be addressed by the Advisory Group. I would encourage you all to check that your committee membership is in order, and that you keep Paris or me informed of changes in your membership information. Please check the member-ship list which will circulate to see that your contact information is correct. Make a mark next to your name so that we know you have seen and approved your information. At the same time, this will mean that we can use this information to send the Newsletter to the address you have given.

Confusions about membership would be eliminated if we again could have a membership directory available for Committee members. I repeat my request that a membership directory be made available, even while we are waiting for a decision from ICOM as to the legalities.@

The report was approved.

After the Secretary's report the membership directory was discussed, partly as a device for finding missing persons. As they are missing because they are not on the list, it becomes a catch-22. Anyone not receiving the Newsletter or other communications from the Committee should contact members of the Board to correct misinformation. Newsletters unsuccessfully sent by e-mail are then turned over to Ann Resare, who sends out hard copies by regular mail. It is assumed that if a mailing does not return, then it has been received. In the same way, sending the Newsletter to e-mail addresses has been assumed to have worked unless the e-mail has been returned. Anthea Bickley offered to look into how e-mails might be sent requiring an acknowledgment of receipt.

One possible explanation to missing Newsletters may be that institutional memberships do not have individuals' names on them. Institutions receive 3 ICOM cards and information from 3 Committees - and the Newsletter from this committee - and this information may not reach the right individuals.

The board will continue to press ICOM Paris for details regarding the international aspects of the data protection act which until now has prevented our printing and circulating a membership directory.

V. Treasurer's report

Rainer's report was distributed (reprinted here). It was noted that it is very expensive receiving checks in , and _ and it is hoped that a central ICOM internet bank will alleviate that. Joanna thanked Rainer for his work, and the report was approved.

VI. Newsletter

Britta Hammar reported that there were difficulties with some French e-mail addresses and Bernard Berthod offered to check the addresses for colleagues. It was mentioned that computer firewalls may stop incoming mail such as the Newsletter. Batches of mailings are grouped according to country for sending. Large groups of mailings may be seen as spam and blocked, requiring Britta and Pernilla to send the Newsletter in many rounds - a time-consuming job.

The next deadline is 15 August 2005.

The Chairman thanked Pernilla, Britta and Ann for their hard work with the Newsletter.

VII. Subcommittee reports

A. Bibliography. Christine Stevens had sent the following:

The ICOM bibliography has relocated to the north of England! Christine Stevens has moved to Beamish North of England Open Air Museum, as Head of Collections and can be reached at

christinestevens@beamish.org

No new entries have been sent in for some time, except from the usual faithful June Swann. Christine has tried to keep up with notices of new books and journals, but Christine would appreciate some help with European, USA and worldwide entries. The Access database is working well and is still JUST exportable to floppy disk, but is easier to cd.

Costume is no longer central to Christine's post, and it may be that there is a volunteer out there who would like to take over this task; otherwise she will be able to keep

up adding entries on her home computer, but no longer has access to a specialised costume library.

It is a huge help if entries can be e-mailed or sent typed, and include:

Full name of author, full publisher details, title, date of publication and short synopsis; a translation into English or French of the title would be really useful!

Wishing all well in Berlin!@

Trying to ensure that through ICOM main web site development we can at best hold on a Costume Committee webpage a copy of the terminology, or at least the link to the terminology which continues to be maintained by the MDA in Great Britain. Heidi Rasche kindly offered to establish a link on the Lipperheidesche Kostümbibliothek. website to the Committee=s bibliography.

B. Terminology. To appear on an ICOM website in time. One of the main efforts of the Committee, initiated by Anne Buck.

C. Guidelines. Suggested that the Costume Committee=s *Guidelines for Handling Costume* be printed on the ICOM Webpage.

VIII. Upcoming meetings

2006: Copenhagen/Lund. Coordinators Britta Hammar, Pernilla Rasmussen, Katia Johansen. See presentation in the *Costume News*.

2007: (Triennial) Vienna. Margot Schindler is looking into presenting various costume collections, art history, court uniforms and young fashion designers. There will be a call for papers already this fall, as ICOM wants to have a finished program in place a year ahead of time. The post-conference tour may go to Budapest.

2008: Chile. Isabel Alvarado suggests that the visit might also include Argentina.

2009 Arizona, USA. Vicki Berger suggests that the Committee could visit many of the unique museum collections in the American Southwest.

2010 (Triennial) Moscow or Beijing are being considered, decision to be made by ICOM in June 2006. Joanna reported: At the recent meeting of the Executive Board, both national committees made good presentations. If anything, the one from Beijing was rather better, the costs lower, the hotels/accommodation well thought through (Nb: the provision being built for the Olympics). As we have few contacts there, I asked the representative for the Asian Pacific region how we could sort out a programme. He said that there were many curators of costume and textiles, and many things to see. Conservation laboratories in the main institutions were of very good quality. He felt confident that we would be allocated a team of local curators who would help put together a once-in-a-lifetime programme.

IX. Report on election

Naomi Tarrant reported on last year=s difficulties with forming a new board, primarily due to a lack of nominations, which resulted in asking the existing board to continue, which it agreed to do. A new nominating committee of senior members of the Committee consisting of Margareta Nockert, Alexandra Palmer, Sandy Rosenbaum, Nina Gockerell, Britta Hammar (chairperson) will begin putting together a ballot for the next election. It was suggested that the nominating committee begin by drawing up a procedure to be approved at the next meeting, concurrent with ICOM practice (referring to the ICOM Handbook of Administrative Procedures, April 1999). Advisors to the committee are Ann Colemann, Aagot Noss and

Naomi Tarrant. It was suggested that some continuity in the board was important. The new board was approved.

X. Other business

Beata Biedronska-Slota informed the Committee that the postprints of the meeting in Krakow 2003 will be sent out in about one month. A question about the revision of the ICOM Statutes will be responded to in the next Costume News.

XI. Adjournment

Joanna Marschner adjourned the meeting.