

**Minutes**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**ICOM Costume Committee**

October 13, 2006, Lund, Sweden

**I. Call to order, apologies**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joanna Marschner. 53 voting members were present. Regrets and greetings had been received from: Alexandra Palmer, Ioanna Papandrou, Suzanne McLean, Rainer Y, Margot Schindler, Vicki Berger, Karen Finch, Isabel Alvarado, Christine Stevens, Lillian Kozloski, Heidi Rasche, Anne Moonen.

**II. Minutes of annual meeting 2005, Berlin.**

The minutes from the AGM in Berlin were printed in the *Costume News* no. 2005:2, dated 5 October 2005 and distributed by e-mail and on paper. They were also included in the information material in the meeting documents for the present meeting, and thus it was suggested that we dispense with reading the minutes.

Three corrections/suggestions were made before the minutes were approved:

Ann Coleman suggested that people introduce themselves by their full name when speaking from the floor, as new members might not yet be familiar with everyone present.

Inez Brooks-Myers suggested that we add the designation **action** to any passages in the minutes in which decisions were reached. There was general agreement to do so.

June Swann pointed out that Ann Resare's name was misspelled; the Secretary apologized.

With these provisos the minutes of the Berlin meeting 2005 were approved.

**II. Chairman's report**

Welcome to everyone! It is over a year since the meeting organised by our colleagues in Berlin, and during this time there have been some really good Costume Committee initiatives which have come to fruition.

Beata Slota who organised our annual meeting in 2003 achieved the publication of *Crossroads of Costume and Textiles in Poland*. It was an excellent meeting and the many excellent lectures have been collected here. Many congratulations and thanks to Beata. She has informed me that further copies of the publication are available, if one writes to her.

It was just a few weeks later that Adelheid, Christine and Regine achieved the publication of *On Men: Masculine Dress Codes from the Ancient Greeks to Cowboys* which included the papers presented at the meeting of the committee in Berlin. The publication was made possible by a very generous grant from ICOM Germany, and we must thank not only the editorial team but also Hans Martin Hinz, and Rosmarie Beier-de Haan of ICOM Germany. Extra copies of this publication are also available; please contact Joanna.

We must also say an enormous thank you to Britta Hammer and Pernilla Rasmussen

for masterminding the two newsletters which have been circulated since the last meeting. This a massive undertaking, and I know we are all very grateful for their hard work. Ann Resare has done a marvellous job circulating the hard copy to those without e-mail. Very many thanks to Ann, too.

As your Chairman I travelled to Paris to represent your interests at the meeting of ICOM's Executive Council.

ICOM has decided, as the number of international committees has grown over past years, to make an official survey of the committees and the terms under which they operate. This is to ensure a consistency of operation and by monitoring the successes and struggles of the committees provide (in theory) better support. The initiative is being masterminded by Yani Herreman, who is shortly to circulate a draft questionnaire to each committee for their comment. This will be circulated amongst our own officers. If we have concerns about what is proposed we will initiate a discussion with you all in the next newsletter.

Along with many other international committees I have been lobbying for a web site and web site support. You will know at the moment ICOM can only offer us a web page and extremely limited opportunity to updates. Little progress to report on this, I am afraid.

We have also seen very little progress from Paris on the plan to provide bank account support to facilitate our financial dealings. To be realistic I think we need to reconcile ourselves to managing our own business affairs for a while yet, and send enormous thanks to Rainer Y for his great work on this over the last years.

You should know that on this 60th birthday of ICOM it now has over 21,500 members representing 111 countries. A part of the fee you pay to ICOM goes to subsidise museum initiatives in 64 of these countries. Other present initiatives include the issuing of a new red list of antiquities at risk in Afghanistan and to support work to re-marshall collections which are part of the patrimony of Iraq.

### **III. Secretary's report**

Since our last meeting, in Berlin, I have written up the minutes so that they could be published in the *Costume News*, no. 2005:2, dated 5 October 2005.

An ongoing task is checking the membership lists from ICOM Paris and sending any corrections that have come my way. As of September 25 this year, we have 245 individual and institutional members of the Committee, an increase of 18 since last year (and 18 the year before!). This includes 2 new members from Belgium and 3 from France, as well as from Denmark, Japan, Latvia (a whole new country for us!), Netherlands, Norway, Spain, UK and US. We now have members in 35 countries.

Requests for information about the Committee and how to join are always promptly responded to, although it sometimes takes longer for new members to hear back from Paris. Another complication is caused by late-payment of the ICOM fee, which means members are shunted off the list, and only reinstated after some communications back and forth. This can mean that members are off the list for a year or longer.

As soon as new members appear on the committee address-list which is sent me from ICOM Paris, they receive an information packet from ICOM Paris and, from us, the first subsequent *Costume News*. I believe we have briefly mentioned before that it would be good to have an official letter of welcome for new members, and I would like to hear what the board and the members think would be suitable information in such a letter.

Beyond keeping track of the membership and correspondence with Paris, I have also been kept informed and a jour with committee matters, particularly in relation to Paris, by our chairman. I have also suggested applying for a special grant from ICOM Paris to design and establish a web site for the Costume Committee, in part because we have had great success with some web projects at my place of work. A Committee web site, for example with the possibility of posting announcements, questions, reports, etc., has a lot of potential, and it seems we might have a chance of getting some of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary jubilee money which ICOM Paris has decided to distribute. (We have subsequently submitted applications for funds from ICOM Jubilee monies.)

Submitted 13 October 2006, Katia Johansen, committee secretary

#### **IV. Treasurer's report**

Rainer Y's report had been distributed and will be printed in the upcoming *Costume News*. After it was read by Joanna, he was thanked for dealing very deftly with the complicated bank procedures and protecting the Committee's money.

#### **V. Newsletter – Editors' report**

One *Costume News* has already been circulated this year, while the next issue will be sent out after this meeting. Ann Resare suggests that everyone acquires an e-mail address to save postage costs. Bernard has contact to the French museums regarding the difficulties that the Committee has encountered in sending the Newsletter to French members. June Swann has had difficulties receiving the Newsletter, though Britta Hammar has sent it. Anthea Bickley had looked into options for setting up confirmation of receipt, but this is not possible for all browsers. Naomi Tarrant suggests that each member individually confirms receipt of the Newsletter so the Editors can see who has received it. Bianca du Mortier reminds us that it is each person's responsibility to make sure that one's mailbox is not too full. Joanna Marschner concluded as such: there are two Newsletters each year. If you have not received them, check your spam filters and contact the editors or Board members.

. The next deadline will be the end of November.

#### **VI. Subcommittee reports:**

A. Bibliography: Christine Stevens submitted the following report, read by Joanna:  
I thank members of the Committee for sending their contributions towards the bibliography, especially June Swann. I have moved jobs and am now head of collections at Beamish Open-Air Museum. My e-mail address is now [christinestevens@beamish.org.uk](mailto:christinestevens@beamish.org.uk) Mail to my old address is being forwarded, but please note the new information. The new, bigger and busier job means that I would like to pass the responsibility for the bibliography to another member. The information is held in Access, and can easily be downloaded onto CDs. The task is interesting and not very onerous, as long as members, especially those from Asia and Eastern Europe remember to include a précis of the book text, so that it can be listed in the appropriate category. Are there any volunteers?

Joanna asked that anyone who might be able to consider helping please to ask for further information from a Board member.

B. Terminology: The *Terminology* is on [www.ICOM.museum](http://www.ICOM.museum). Under information on the guidelines, click on *Terminology*. The Vocabulary of Basic Terms for the Cataloguing of Costume is held there, in French, English and German. It would be a good idea to begin to think about a translation to Spanish, as this is the next official language of ICOM.

C. Guidelines: Our *Guidelines* have been published on [www.ICOM.museum](http://www.ICOM.museum). Click on *information* about guidelines to see them. If there are any suggestions, please submit them to the Board and we will set a reappraisal in train.

## VII. Upcoming meetings

2007: ICOM Triennial, Vienna, Austria, 19-25 August 2007. Dorothea Nicolai presented a proposed program which an organizing group composed of Margot Schindler, Angela Vollker, and herself have been working on. It will be printed in the Newsletter. A Pre-conference tour will be offered 17-18<sup>th</sup> August, an informal reception the 18<sup>th</sup>, on August 19 the official opening, with Costume Committee meetings beginning on the 20<sup>th</sup> with a presentation of Austrian costume and lectures. In the afternoon visits to theatre costume and contemporary designers. On Wednesday lectures and excursions, in the evening a visit to the Museum of Applied Arts. Thursday are excursions for all the Committees, and on Friday the general assembly. The program for the general meeting is on ICOM-Austria's website ([www.icom-oesterreich.at/2007](http://www.icom-oesterreich.at/2007)). The post-conference tour may go to Salzburg and Innsbruck/Ambras, with Dorothea as one of our hosts. The meeting's theme is "Costume and Heritage", a very general theme in line with the whole Triennial meeting's theme; in short – anything!

Katalin Foldi-Dosza can offer a pre-conference visit of two days in Budapest, including new exhibitions at the National Museum.

2008: Santiago, Chile. A short presentation of a preliminary program had been sent by Isabel Alvarado with suggestions to visit their rich and varied collections. She asks for comments and suggestions. From the members' point of view it is important to learn which time of year Isabel suggests, as well as the duration of the meeting. Joanna will contact Isabel for more information (**action: Joanna**).

2009: Phoenix, Arizona, USA. Vicki Berger had previously invited the Committee. A suggestion from the floor was put forth that perhaps a European venue might be considered due to the extensive travelling involved to both Chile and China. The Chairman will inquire about more information (**action: Joanna**).

2010: Shanghai, China. In a very close vote (48-43) in the Executive Council, China won over Russia for the next Triennial meeting. This will be officially approved in Vienna.

## VIII. Nominating Committee

Ann Coleman, advisor to the Nominating Committee's working group, emphasized that all candidates should be asked whether their institution is willing/able to support them in Committee work. In addition she advises that the Nominating Committee be an uneven number, and not too large. Geographical diversity is also important.

Britta reported on the practical procedure for the coming nominations and election. It will be printed in *Costume News*, with calls for suggestions and nominations before February 1, 2007. After that a final proposal will be made, and a vote will take place before the Vienna meeting.

Inez Brooks-Myers moved that Ann Coleman remain on the nominating committee to make an odd number – but as the committee is already an odd number (Britta Hammar, Sandy Rosenbaum, Nina Gockerell, Margareta Nockert, Alexandra Palmer) the motion was withdrawn.

Joanna Marschner asks that people think carefully about their proposals.

The following report submitted by Britta Hammar and Naomi Tarrant was included in the participants' information packet, and Britta had requested that everyone read it before the annual meeting:

**The ICOM Costume Committee's Nomination Committee** was appointed at the annual meeting held in Berlin in June 2005:

- Nina Gockerell, Oberkonservatorin, Bayerisches Nationalmuseum, München, Germany
- Britta Hammar, senior antiquarian (retired), Kulturen, Lund, Sweden,
- Margareta Nockert professor, University of Uppsala, Sweden
- Alexandra Palmer, senior curator, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada
- Sandra Rosenbaum, curator in charge (retired), LACMA, Los Angeles, USA

We advise all members to read the advisory group's recommendations carefully before voting.

### **Procedures for Nominating the Board of the Costume Committee**

At the last annual meeting of the Costume Committee in Berlin it was agreed that although ICOM laid down the ground rules for committee procedures it did not detail a specific procedure which should be followed for nominating and selecting members of the Board of the Committee, and therefore it was felt that the Costume Committee should draw up a set of procedures for our Committee. A small working group consisting of Aagot Noss and Naomi Tarrant and headed by Ann Coleman was appointed to look at this and their recommendations are presented below.

It is imperative that members read these proposals carefully because we shall have to elect a new Board at next year's triennial of ICOM in Vienna. Each member of the Board can only serve for three years, with one extension of three years in any one position. Because of the dispersed nature of the membership a postal ballot will be held before the triennial.

### **Proposed procedures and Timetable– ICOM Costume Committee Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee should be composed of an uneven number of voting Costume Committee members, should serve one term (with the exception of one member), should be composed of a broad geographical representation, and should have a broad knowledge of committee members.

#### Appointment:

Two years prior to annual meeting of the year the elections are to take place the Chair of the Costume Committee shall appoint the Chair of the Nominating Committee who shall confirm that they are not interested in being considered for an elected position on the Board of the Costume Committee in the current rotation.

The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall select the remaining members of the Nominating Committee, being an uneven number between 3 and 5 and including one member from the previous Nominating Committee. The candidates for the Nominating Committee members should be polled to make sure they are not interested in being considered for an elected position on the Board of the Costume Committee in the current rotation. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall also line up at least one committee alternate who can step in in case a regular member must step down. The list of Nominating Committee members should be supplied to the Costume Committee Chair prior to the appropriate annual meeting.

#### Committee Confirmation

The Nominating Committee will be approved at the annual meeting two years before the election of Board members to the Costume Committee is required.

#### Committee work:

Because of the complications of distance it is advisable to accomplish as much of the committee's work as possible at the annual meetings. This includes particularly the lining up of candidate officers and board members. The Nominating Committee should have access to job descriptions of all positions to be filled which can be shared with potential candidates.

All Costume Committee members (voting and non-voting) should be polled, either in person, or through notices in the committee's communications with members for candidate suggestions.

Six months prior to the election of Board members to the Costume Committee the Nominating Committee should "meet" via phone, or e-mail, etc. to:

- a) confirm that all potential Costume Committee Board member candidates are active voting members of the Costume Committee
- b) confirm that all potential Costume Committee Board candidates can offer a reasonable commitment to attend upcoming annual meetings and work for the Committee
- c) to prepare either a slate (single candidates for each position) or ballot (multiple candidates for one or more positions)

Four months prior to the election of Board, members to the Costume Committee the Nominating Committee should present their slate/ballot to each voting Costume Committee member either by e-mail or by post for appropriate response/responses. A deadline for the return of the slate/ballot must be given, suggested at six weeks from date of mailing.

One month prior to annual meeting the Chair of the Nominating Committee should report the results to the Costume Committee Chair and prepare a report for ratification by the Costume Committee membership at the appropriate annual meeting.

**The ICOM Costume Committee Board presently consists of:**

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Chair      | Joanna Marschner, senior curator, Kensington Palace, London, UK   |
| Vice Chair | Elisabeth Jachimowicz, Chicago, USA   |
| Secretary  | Katia Johansen, textile conservator, Rosenborg Castle, Copenhagen, Denmark  |
| Treasurer  | Rainer Y, curator, Wurttembergisches Landesmuseum, Stuttgart, Germany   |
| Members:   | Britta Hammar, senior antiquarian (retired), Kulturen, Lund, Sweden;<br>Alexandra Palmer, senior curator, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto<br>Canada |

**All board members have served six years in their present positions. Britta Hammar and Alexandra Palmer, having accepted to sit in the Nomination Committee, cannot be re-elected.**

Important considerations:

- Please remember that **continuity in the board is important.**
- Remember **ICOM is a museum organization** and the Costume Committee is a forum where colleagues meet, discuss problems and work issues, and exchange ideas.
- It is important that the candidates for the position of Chair especially, and also of Secretary and Treasurer are supported actively by their directors and museums and can attend all necessary meetings.
- All board members must be prepared and able to come to the annual meetings.

We ask all members to send their suggestions for the board due to be elected at the general meeting in Vienna, Austria on the 19 -24 of August 2007 to Britta Hammar, Chair of the Nominating Committee **before February 1st 2007**, either by e-mail to [hammar.britta@telia.com](mailto:hammar.britta@telia.com) or by mail to Britta Hammar, Kvarnkroken 6, S-226 47 Lund, Sweden.

The Nominating Committee will then work according to the procedures proposed by the advisory group and report the election results at the annual meeting of the Costume Committee to be held during the triennial meeting of ICOM in Vienna in 2007.

For the Nominating Committee  
Britta Hammar

## **IX. Other business**

New members were welcomed and asked to introduce themselves and describe their work and areas of interest: Anne Moonen, Alexandra MacCulloch, Dorothea Nicolai and Andrea Joosten introduced themselves. It was suggested that next year we incorporate presentations of new members into the meeting at an earlier time (**action: secretary to table this as agenda point for AGM 2007**).

As regards the Members' Directory, Joanna explained that an initiative from ICOM Paris is underway, perhaps in the form of an on-line directory available to members through a

password which might include their ICOM member number. More will be forthcoming.

Bianca du Mortier suggests that the Committee work towards recruiting younger members and clarify how one joins. Katia Johansen reminded that she had previously suggested working up an introduction brochure with such information; Bianca and she will work up a prototype (**action: Katia and Bianca will produce a draft leaflet**). Bianca suggests also that a sub-theme to the Vienna meeting might center on how to attract younger colleagues to the heritage theme.

There was some discussion about the proposed theme, and in general there was a desire that it be specified or exemplified by the organizing committee. It was suggested that, translated to French, the heritage theme might be unclear.

Kirsten Toftegaard suggested that we continue to stress the value of the Committee's work for museums' personnel, making it easier for some to attend the meetings.

Dorothea Nicolai found that a Costume Committee web site would be a good network resource.

June Swann took the opportunity to thank Christine Stevens for her work with the Bibliography.

Naomi Tarrant reminded us that there has previously been a wish that first-time participants present a short talk on their collections (rather than personal research). This might be incorporated as a regular part of each meeting and needs to be addressed by the organizers of each meeting.

## **X. Adjournment**

As there was no further business to be discussed, the Chairman thanked the Board and organizers of this meeting, and adjourned.