

MINUTES MAYORS MEETING OF THE CHARTER OF EUROPEAN IN STRYZOW (POLAND)

Friday June 11th 2010 4.30 PM
Sunday June 13th 2010 4.00 PM

1. Welcome

- a) The president welcomes all who are present. He compliments Strzyzow. In spite of the terrible floods, they organise a wonderful meeting. The film of the flood is shown.
- b) The president memorises that the aim of the Charter is to stay in host families and that it is not done to refuse a host family and stay in a hotel. That's not the way the Charter works and that is certainly not the way to treat a host family.

2. Minutes of the mayors meetings on June 13th and 14th 2009 in Stary Poddvorov

DECISION:
Approved

3. Member from Bulgaria

In July 2009, Frans Ronnes and Helma van Drunen visited the municipality of Maglizh and seven of its villages. In February, a delegation of Maglizh participated in the conference on local democracy in Bucine. They were very enthusiastic. The delegation of Maglizh presents its community. Proposal of the presidium to the mayors meeting is to appoint Maglizh as the Bulgarian member of the Charter.

DECISION:
Maglizh is appointed as the Bulgarian member of the Charter.

4. Involvement of Charter members

In spite of the statement of the presidium, which was send to every member in December 2009, there are still members who do not respect the agreed rules concerning the number of participants, the kind of participants and the agreed age. The presidium stresses that meetings with grants from Brussels are obligated. Everyone has signed for it. The organising villages get grants depending on the number of people participating.

5. (Too) Many Charter activities

The Charter organises the meetings within the multi annual project. Moreover Charter members organise other bi- and multilateral meetings. There have to be made appointments about the different meetings.

DECISION:

- a) It's a very good and commendable initiative to organise a Charter meeting besides the meetings within the multi annual project. However this meeting has to be planned very carefully. Organising members should consider the multi annual meetings and avoid planning other meetings on almost the same time.
- b) If members have to make a choice between different meetings, participation in multi annual meetings is an obligation, entered by signing the project.

6. The last part and rounding of the Multi Annual Project

a. There are still 3 meetings to go of the multi annual project 2009 / 2010:

- Conference on participation in local democracy. September 10th – 12th 2010 in Moravce. Invited are: Nagycenk, Lassee, Stary Poddvorov, Medzev, Desborough, Nadur (5 persons from each of these members), vice president and executive treasurer.
- Workshop of the youngsters. October 29th – 31st in Kandava. Invited are: Lassee, Naestved, Esch, Bucine, Lefkara, Troisvierges, Nagycenk (2 youngsters from each of these members), president and executive secretary.
- Conference on elderly people. November 12th – 14th in Lassee. Invited are 2 persons from each Carter member. Karl Grammanitsch and Sandra Hengl give information about this conference, particularly regarding the kinds of participants. It is a conference about the way elderly in Europe live. The conference is meant for policymakers and people who work with elderly.

b. Evaluation of the multi annual project till so far.

The members think the main advantage of the programme is that organising members are in advance sure about the fact that they will get grants. Besides that, it is valuable to be able to talk with other about the local democracy, about friends of Europe organisations and about elderly. Also for the youngsters, it is good to have structural meetings with each other.

c. Accountability

During the summer Frans Ronnes and Helma van Drunen will make a start with the accountability fro Brussels. That includes a financial overview, the signed participation lists of all meetings and a report of the content. The president asks all members to give full cooperation if needed.

7. Progress of the applications "networks of twinned towns".

The municipality of Haaren applied for the networks of twinned towns programme 2011 / 2012 in Brussels. It concerned two applications: one for the charter and one for the youngsters of the Charter. The results were published on May 20th 2010. The European Commission has approved the Charter application and rejected the application for the youngsters. Helma van Drunen had contact with Brussels about the reason for rejection. The reason is that they do not want to give two approvals to one municipality. However, Brussels says the content of the application is very good and there are several other possibilities for the Charter to apply again.

The presidium proposes to the mayors meeting to let Lassee do another attempt with the same application to get the youngsters programme approved.

DECISION:

The municipality of Lassee will do another attempt with the same application to get the youngsters programme 2011 / 2012 approved by the European Commission

8. Finance of the Charter

Sandra Hengl provides the mayors with an overview of the current situation regarding the finances of the Charter.

The findings of the audit committee are positive.

DECISION:

- a) Approval of the financial overview
- b) Agreement with the findings of the audit committee

9. Guideline "Friends of Europe" organisations

During the workshop "Friends of Europe" in Hepstedt from November 13th – 15th 2009 the participants made guidelines for the establishment of such an organisation. This document needs the approval of the mayors meeting.

DECISION:

Approval of the Friends of Europe guideline.

10. Charter youngsters

The Charter youngsters give a report of their activities.

11. Website www.europeancharter.eu

Members of the website team, present in Strzyzow, provide the mayors with a questionnaire regarding improvement of the web site.

12. Contacts in Brussels

a. **European Movement International.**

- After some appointments in Brussels, the president and Helma made a proposal for a joint project with European Movement International. The project should take place at the beginning of 2011. There is no inconclusive from EMI yet about this proposal.
- The Charter is invited to introduce itself to the new secretary-general of EMI, mr Diogo Pinto. On August 30th the president, vice-president,

Sandra Hengl and Helma van Drunen will meet mr. Pinto in Brussels.

- Mr Diogo Pinto or Mr Charles Kleinermann (second secretary general) from EMI will participate in the Charter meeting in Moravce in September 2010. (Moravce agreed).

b. Claudia Mondino / Europe for Citizens program.

Claudia Mondino from the Europe for Citizens Program (our grant giver) has participated in the Charter meeting in Bucine in February 2010. It was valuable to both sides to get to know each other.

c. Golden Star Award.

Each year chosen projects from the Europe for Citizens Program get a Golden Star Award for their project. The president and Helma van Drunen really tried hard to find the right person who can nominate our Charter. Until now we did not really succeed. Lucien Majerus will inquire his contacts about the possibilities for the Charter to get a golden star.

13. Presentation of Cashel

Since Cashel is the member to organise the big meeting in 2010, they present themselves in this mayors meeting.