



SOCIETY FOR VETERINARY EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

SVEPM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NO. 32

MINUTES

Date: Thursday 21st March 2013
Time: 12:00pm
Location: The Illustrious Official College of Physicians of Madrid, Spain

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Lothar Kreienbrock, Fraser Menzies, Gareth Davies, Mathias Greiner, Richard Newton, Louise Kelly, Dominic Mellor.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting No. 31 held on Thursday 29th March 2012 Glasgow, UK

Kristien Verheyen proposed and Christine Fourichon seconded acceptance of the minutes of AGM No. 31. The minutes of AGM No. 31 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the business conducted with no alterations required.

3. Matters arising (not otherwise on the agenda)

The president honoured Prof Dan Collins past president (97-98) of SVEPM and organiser of the 1998 SVEPM conference in Ennis, who had passed away on 25 April 2012. The president cited a paragraph prepared by Fraser Menzies, John Griffin and Simon More:

"It is with great sadness we that wish to inform you of the death of a stalwart of ECVPH and SVEPM, Professor Dan Collins, University College Dublin (UCD). Dan was a past president of SVEPM (1998/99) and a founder member of ECVPH. Indeed, Dan played a key role in having population medicine integrated into ECVPH as a subspecialty. This epitomises the man, as he was always a key mover and shaker. Another example of this was his motivation in relocating the UCD Veterinary Faculty to a new green field site with state of the art facilities. Even in retirement, Dan was still active and chaired the EFSA Biological Hazards Panel and was a Board member of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland. Above all, his openness and typical Irish manner meant that he could talk to anyone and set up an instant rapport, with always a word of fatherly advice to hand if the need arose. A true gentleman and scholar."

Kenton Morgan thanked the AGM for providing the recognition of the SVEPM life membership. He reflected on a 30-year professional career and proposed a need for change: considering the '-omics' specialties, engineering, increasing computer power and rethinking the posters.

4. President's report

Tim Parkin (TP) President of the Society reported the following to the AGM:

TP thanked the delegates for attending the conference and especially thanked both José Manuel Sánchez-Vizcaíno and Andreas Hensel for accepting the invitation to provide respectively the opening plenary and the Gareth Davies lecture.

TP also thanked the organisers of the six workshops for their excellent work, as there had been a lot of positive feedback on the workshops.

TP especially thanked Beatriz Martínez-López and Rachel Vargas Alvarez and their team for the excellent organisation of the 2013 annual conference. He also thanked all the sponsors listed in the front cover of the conference proceedings.

TP thanked the 204 delegates for attending the 2013 conference. The Committee was able to select an interesting scientific programme out of 99 submitted abstracts. Ninety posters were presented at the conference of which one-third was printed on-site.

Again this year, three conference bursaries had been awarded to two Portuguese and one Spanish delegate; 12 applications were received. This year also three poster prizes will be awarded during the conference dinner and the SRUC prize for the best oral presentation will be awarded at the end of the conference due to the numerous applications.

TP thanked Executive Committee members for their excellent work and finally reserved special thanks for the outgoing Senior Vice President, Christine Fourichon and Teresa Martinez for their long service on the Committee.

Koen Mintiens, as Honorary Secretary, requested that members from the floor propose and second acceptance of the President's report. Liza Rosenbaum Nielsen proposed and Ed van Klink seconded acceptance of the President's report.

5. Secretary's report

Koen Mintiens (KM) reported that he had fielded correspondence from a number of sources on behalf of the Society. These were mostly related to conference organisation and registrations, and enquiries for copies of past proceedings.

KM reported that the SVEPM LinkedIn group currently includes more than 1500 members and invited everyone to join and submit announcements and other information to the LinkedIn group.

KM reported on a limited number of bouncing email addresses when sending out SVEPM correspondence. He invited to membership to contact him when they suspect that they are no longer receiving the correspondence.

TP requested that members from the floor propose and second acceptance of the Secretary's report. Jeroen Dewulf proposed and Soren Saxmose Nielsen seconded acceptance of the Secretary's report.

6. Treasurer's report

Marnie Brennan (MB) presented the accounts for 2011/2012, which were approved and had been signed off by the auditors. Total income had been £119,954.19. Total expenditure had been £113,537.99. Net income for the year had been £6,416.20. The total balance for the Society, as of November 2012, was £62,157.88.

MB reported that there were currently 240 members of the Society from 28 different countries.

MB proposed to keep the membership fee at £20. MB reminded the membership that the membership fee was due on or around the 1st May annually.

TP requested that members from the floor proposed and seconded acceptance of the Treasurer's report along with keeping the membership fee at £20, which was proposed by Hans-Hermann Thulke and seconded by Joey Ellis-Iversen.

7. Election of officers and Committee members

TP clarified that the positions of Senior Vice President and President are automatically filled by the President and Junior Vice President from the previous year. Therefore, for 2013 – 2014 the following positions will be occupied by:

Position	Holder 2013-2014
Senior Vice President	Tim Parkin
President	Kristien Verheyen

All Officers of the Society with the exceptions of President and Senior Vice President are elected or re-elected annually at the AGM. Nominees for the forthcoming year were elected unopposed as follows:

Position	Holder 2013-2014	Proposer	Secunder
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Honorary Treasurer	Marnie Brennan	Koen Mintiens	Kristien Verheyen
Honorary Secretary	Ann Lindberg	Tim Parkin	Rob Christley
Junior Vice President	Koen Mintiens	Tim Parkin	Ann Lindberg

Acceptance of these nominations were proposed by Lis Alban and seconded by Keith Howe.

TP stated that with Christine Fourichon and Liza Rosenbaum Nielsen completing their term on the Committee and Koen Mintiens becoming Junior Vice President, two positions as ordinary member of the Committee were vacant. TP stated that the Committee has decided to re-open the position of a fifth ordinary Committee member, as prescribed in the constitution, meaning that in total three positions as ordinary member of the Committee were vacant. Three nominations were received by the deadline of 21 days prior to the AGM. They were:

Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by
Liza Rosenbaum Nielsen	Ann Lindberg	Soren Saxmose Nielsen
Bart van den Borne	Liza Rosenbaum Nielsen	Mirjam Nielen
Marie McIntyre	Gina Pinchbeck	Peter Cripps

The three nominees introduced themselves to the AGM. Acceptance of these nominations were proposed by Tim Parkin and seconded by Peter Cripps.

TP congratulated the nominees on their election to the Committee.

Stuart Reid questioned the actual number of ordinary Committee members as the version of the constitution printed in the conference proceedings only states 4 ordinary Members. TP replied that he verify the actual number of ordinary Members in the latest version of the constitution.

8. Election of auditors

TP reported that Dominic Mellor and Fraser Menzies had both agreed to continue to act as auditors of the Society accounts. Kristien Verheyen therefore proposed and Stuart Reid seconded their nominations. No objections were received from the floor and Dominic Mellor and Fraser Menzies were elected to serve as auditors for the forthcoming year.

9. Production and editing of the proceedings

TP commented on the timeliness of the production and editing of proceedings. He clarified that the guidelines for authors now include instructions for evaluating the outline of the manuscripts when transferring to a pdf-format.

TP stated that he remains keeper of antiquities (Tim Parkin in 2012) and will help with printing, archival and distribution of proceedings.

TP commented on progress toward the publication of PVM special edition from last year. All manuscripts were transferred to PVM in August and are already published on line. This years' PVM special issue has 10 papers currently under review. TP thanked the authors, reviewers and editors for their contributions.

10. Changes to the constitution

TP presented potential changes to the constitution. In accordance with the constitution and rules of the Society, the Executive Committee wishes to notify the membership of following proposed changes to the constitution:

Art. 4 - *Membership is conditional on the return to the Honorary Treasurer of a completed application form and subscription equivalent to the rate for two calendar years at first application or subsequent application following an elapsed subscription. Subsequent annual subscriptions fall due on the first day of May each year.*

Art. 10 - *The Honorary Treasurer will receive, for the use of the Society, all monies payable to it and from such monies will pay all sums payable by the Society. The Treasurer will keep account of all such receipts and payments in a manner directed by the Executive*

Committee. All monies received by the Society will be paid into such a bank as may be decided by the Executive Committee of the Society and in the name of the Society. All cheques will be signed by either the Honorary Treasurer or an elected Committee member.

Both changes were accepted, as 63 members were present at the AGM (> 20% of the membership) and 62 voted in favour of the changes (> 2/3rds majority).

11. Information on future conference venues

TP indicated that next year's conference organiser will present details of the next conference at the end of the current meeting. In addition he stated that Ghent was originally selected for 2014 but that the conference venue was not available for the selected dates. Therefore, the Committee decided to select Dublin for 2014, local organisers to be Simon More and Dan Collins. The application for Dublin was received in 2011. The conference will take place on 26 – 28 March, 2014 at Dublin Castle. TP stated that the Committee has selected Ghent as venue for 2015, Jeroen Dewulf to be local organiser.

TP clarified that the non-selected applications will remain valid for future conference, unless the applicants wish to withdraw, which should be noted to the Secretary before 31st August.

TP invited the membership to submit applications for future conference venues before 31st August to the Secretary.

12. Re-design of the SVEPM logo

TP clarified that the Committee has opened a competition amongst the membership for submitting the best re-design of the SVEPM logo. Members and delegates will receive an invitation for submitting a new design to Rob Christley before 31 May. The Committee will decide on a shortlist of the best submissions and will invite the membership to vote on the best logo, including the current logo. The designer of the winning logo will receive free registration to the 2014 conference in Dublin.

13. Any other business

No further business was tabled.

14. Date and venue of next meeting

TP noted that the next AGM (n°. 33) will take place on **Thursday 27 March 2014, Dublin Castle. Ireland.**

He thanked the members for their attendance and participation and closed the meeting.

Koen Mintiens (Honorary Secretary)