



DEMHI ST General Assembly 2011

Wednesday, 19 October 2011, 5:00-7:30 p.m.

Antwerp, Museum aan de Stroom, Beaufort Zaal

Minutes

Present Voting Members:

Tuula Airola

Thomas Köstlin

Daniela Ball, Chair

Rauni Laukkanen

Ana Christina Berreto de Carvalho

María Inés Madinaveitia Ramírez

Hetty Berens, Board Member

Maria de Jesus Monge, Vice Chair

Thijs Boers

Carl Nold

Jurn Buisman

Cecilia Pallini, Board Member

Marcio Doctors

Claudia Pazzini

Hartmut Dorgerloh, Board Member

António Ponte

Ingalill Jansson

Elsa Rodrigues

Carmen Jiménez Sanz

Ann Scheid

Gianluca Kannès

Ruiling Shi

Daniela Karasová

Luc Vanackere, Board Member

Peter Keller, Secretary Treasurer

Jeanne Watson, Vice Chair

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomes the DEMHIST Members at the Museum aan de Stroom in Antwerp and thanks the organizers of the DEMHIST conference.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the General Assembly in Shanghai in November 2010 had been distributed in advance by e-mail to all members.

2.1. Approval of the minutes of Shanghai

The minutes are approved by all present members.

3. Report of the Chair

3.1. Report of the Chair 2010-2011

The report of the Chair for the period from November 2010 to October 2011 had been distributed to all members in advance by e-mail. The Chair summarizes the report, in particular the conference in Shanghai with the International Committees ICDAD, ICFA and GLASS.

3.2. Approval of the Report

The Report is approved by all present members, no one disapproves.

4. Report of the Secretary-Treasurer

4.1. Report of the Secretary-Treasurer 2009-2010

The report of the Secretary-Treasurer for the period from October 2010 to September 2011 – a month before the meeting respectively - had been distributed to all members in advance by e-mail. The Secretary-Treasurer explains the payments, particularly an ICOM grant for translation in Stavanger, received in 2009 and handed over in 2010, as well as an ICOM grant for young members, received in June and handed over in October 2011. The minutes of the General Assemblies are now published on the DEMHIST website.

4.2. Approval of the Report

The Report is approved by all present members, no one disapproves.

5. Budget

5.1. Budgets 2011-2012 and 2012-2013

ICOM has changed its internal regulations, the International Committees are not allowed to accumulate reserves, and they have to spend all funds before they receive any new subvention. Moreover, ICOM asks the International Committees for triennial budgets. Therefore, the Secretary-Treasurer has prepared a budget for 2011-2012 and a provisional budget for 2012-2013. The General Assembly must vote on the budget of the forthcoming year and take note of the budget of the following year.

Replying to a question of a member why the interest rate is so low, the Secretary-Treasurer explains that for legal reasons the account isn't a DEMHIST account but the personal account of the Secretary-Treasurer. If it was a DEMHIST account, DEMHIST would have to register in Austria as association according to Austrian law, and two members would have to sign all remittances.

The draft budget for the period from September 2011 to October 2012 had been distributed to all members in advance by e-mail. The Board has discussed the projects (cf. 10. Projects) and hence modified the budget. The revised budget is distributed to the present members; it is attached to these minutes.

Key Note Speakers:

A well known, interesting key note speaker has turned out to the best advantage of the annual conference, for the public attention as well as for the internal discussions. Therefore DEMHIST will take over the costs of a key note speaker at its annual conferences. 2011 the costs will be € 2.400,-, 2012 € 2.000,-.

Scholarships:

As ICDAD, DEMHIST will offer two scholarships to colleagues who are DEMHIST members, haven't attended a DEMHIST meeting before and will give a lecture. DEMHIST will bear the conference fees and subsidize the travel costs. The conference fee is estimated € 250,-. The travel cost subvention is allocated according to the classification of ICOM member countries; the list is attached. A member from a cat. 1 or 2 country can receive € 500,-, a member from a 3 or 4 country € 1.000,-. All in all, € 2.500,- are budgeted for the scholarships.

Publication/Studies Series:

ICOM has changed its publication policy and is planning to continue the Studies Series (see 10.2.). Therefore, DEMHIST goes back to the initial project of a common issue of the ICOM Studies Series with ICFA, and abandons the book project. For the editor of this issue, € 1.000,- have been reserved.

Website:

In order to make lively debates possible, DEMHIST is planning an open forum on its website. The Secretary-Treasurer will ask the web administrator for an offer. € 2.500,- are budgeted for this new tool.

Tools for Professionals

A sum of € 1.000,- is reserved in the budget to complete the list of trainings.

Thus, the expenses will increase to € 15.828,00, the result will decrease to € 16.445,93.

5.2. Approval of the Budget

The present members approve the revised budget.

6. Statutes

6.1. Amendment of Article 7: Management of the International Committee

The Chair and the Secretary-Treasurer had suggested an amendment of § 7 of the Statutes of DEMHIST, to split the jobs of Secretary and Treasurer: Instead of „one Secretary-Treasurer and five Councillors“, the first sentence of § 7 should refer to „one Secretary, one Treasurer and four Councillors“.

The Board has discussed this amendment and found further amendments which have to be made: The General Assemblies of DEMHIST have to be annual, not triennial, the reports as well. The Chair has suggested a simplification of the election procedure: The General Assembly shall elect nine Board Members without determining their functions, and then the Board Members shall decide who becomes Chair, Secretary-Treasurer etc.

7. Annual Meetings

7.1. Conference Guidelines

Daniela Ball and Hartmut Dorgerloh have written conference guidelines for those colleagues who organise a DEMHIST conference. These guidelines are at the disposal of the colleagues and available on the website (http://demhist.icom.museum/shop/data/container/DEMHIST_ConferenceGuidelines.pdf).

7.2. Report and Previews 2012-2014

Conferences 2012:

Ruggero Ranieri is organising a conference “Historic Houses and their Collectors” in Perugia. It will take place on April 18-20, 2012. The call for papers is on the website

http://demhist.icom.museum/shop/data/container/DEMHOST_Perugia2012_CallForPapers.pdf.

For the annual conference 2012, DEMHOST will co-operate with three working groups of the International Committee for Conservation and Restoration (ICOM-CC): the working group for Sculpture, Polychromy and Architectural Decoration, the working group for Textiles and the working group for Wood, Furniture and Lacquer. Ann Scheid will represent DEMHOST, Jonathan Gratian ICOM-CC. With Carl Nold, they have written a draft of the Call for Papers. The three topics of the conference will be: the house as an artifact, artifacts in the house and the conservation as part of the story of the house. The draft is attached to these minutes. A DEMHOST member suggests to contact the Attingham Trust.

Conference 2013:

In 2013, the General Conference of ICOM will be held in Rio de Janeiro, and DEMHOST will go there, too. Ana Cristina Carvalho and Marcio Doctors present the projects. The General Conference will last eight days, four of which are assigned to the International Committees. Ana Cristina Carvalho suggests two days of lectures, one day of excursions and one day for Board Meeting and General Assembly. She will ask ICDAD and ICFA if they are interested in a common conference as in Shanghai. The topic of the General Conference is "museum + creativity = social change". The topic of the DEMHOST conference could be sustainability.

Conference 2014:

In 2014, the DEMHOST conference could be held in France. DEMHOST has many members there, but they hardly attend the annual meetings. The topic could be "Empty Houses", houses emptied during the Revolution or at a later moment, and refurbished as house museums.

8. Board Elections

The Chair gives sincere thanks to those members who are leaving the Board: to Jeanne Watson, Hartmut Dorgerloh, Cecilia Fernandez de Pallini and Beatriz Quevedo, for their continuous support and their commitment. The Board thanks the leaving chair Daniela Ball for her continuous work and her commitment to DEMHOST.

8.1. Election of the Board 2011-2014

Candidacies as Board Members:

The election was difficult to prepare. Two candidacies, by John Barnes and Ingalill Jansson, have arrived after that the Secretary had sent the candidacies and ballots to the members. The Chair asks the General Assembly if it accepts these two candidacies. The present members accept this amendment of the list of candidates.

Candidacies as Chair:

A week ago, Giovanni Pinna has withdrawn his candidacy so that Aysen Savas has been the only candidate as Chair. The Board and the DEMHIST members have extensively discussed this situation during the conference, having doubts about a candidate who isn't present and whom no present member knows. The Board thought that a second candidate is needed. Since none of the Board members was willing, Peter Keller finally has offered his candidacy under the condition of sharing the tasks with the two vice-chairs. The General Assembly shares those doubts and approves this candidacy.

According to these decisions of the General Assembly, the ballot is revised, and Luc Vanackere prepares the ballots for the election. The revised ballot is attached to these minutes.

26 voting members are present. 7 proxies and 5 ballots had been sent to the Secretary; 2 proxies were given to members who weren't present, one by a person who isn't member; one ballot wasn't valid because all candidates were marked, one ballot arrived after the election.

Hartmut Dorgerloh and Astrid Arnold count the votes. The result of the election is:

Chair: Peter Keller, 27 votes

Vice-Chairs: Maria Monge, 34 votes

Hetty Berens, 27 votes

Secretary-Treasurer: Elsa Rodrigues, 29 votes

Ordinary Members: Ana Cristina Carvalho, 24 votes

John Barnes, 23 votes

Carmen Jiménez Sanz, 24 votes

Ann Scheid, 28 votes

Luc Vanackere, 25 votes

9. Strategic Plan

9.1. ICOM Strategic Plan 2011-2013

ICOM has published a new Strategic Plan for the period 2011-2013. The Advisory Committee has discussed this plan in June in Paris. The plan lists four strategic objectives:

1. increase membership value and transparency for ICOM members,
2. develop museum and heritage expertise,
3. strengthen ICOM's global leadership in the heritage sector,
4. develop and manage resources to implement the Strategic Plan effectively.

As time is running out, the Chair asks the members to send suggestions by mail.

10. Projects

10.1. Categorization Projects and National Working Groups

Mexico: Maria Lourdes Monges has sent a report. Mexican house museums have had a national meeting and published a calendar in 2011. The house museums in Mexico City work well together; outside the capital, collaboration is more difficult.

Portugal: In view of the 2013 conference in Brazil, the 2012 issue of the national Portuguese review of Museums will be edited by Maria Monge and Antonio Ponte and treat of house museums. Portuguese isn't an official ICOM language. An English version would therefore be helpful.

10.2. ICOM Studies Series DEMHIST/ICFA issue

ICOM having changed its publication policy, DEMHIST and ICFA shall publish the texts which were gathered under the title "Art in Context" in a common issue of the ICOM Studies Series. Linda Young could be editor for DEMHIST (see 5.1.).

10.3. "Tools for Professionals"

The former project "Tools for Teachers" is repositioned and oriented to historic house museum professionals.

11. Miscellaneous

The Board asks the members to send suggestions and questions.