Minutes

Standing Committee Meetings Oslo
2. Friday 19 August 2005: 14.00 – 16.50 Folkets Hus Kongresscenter Hall A

1. Welcome

Andrew Cranfield opened the meetings by welcoming all Standing Committee members and observers, in particular the recently elected new members. Agenda items to be discussed at the two meetings were agreed. All members briefly introduced themselves at the first meeting.

2. Attendance and Apologies

SC Members Attendance List Meeting I + II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alessandro Bertoni (I + II)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bertoni@unive.it">bertoni@unive.it</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barton Clark (I + II)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:b-clark@uiuc.edu">b-clark@uiuc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Cranfield (I + II)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:anc@horsholm.dk">anc@horsholm.dk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anders Dahlgren (I)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:anders@libraryplan.com">anders@libraryplan.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laure Delrue (I + II)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Laure.delrue@univ_littoral.fr">Laure.delrue@univ_littoral.fr</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Latimer (I + II)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:k.latimer@qub.ac.uk">k.latimer@qub.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ingvild Monsen (I + II)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ingvild.monsen@hib.no">ingvild.monsen@hib.no</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hellen Niegaard (I)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hn@dbf.dk">hn@dbf.dk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rieke Overbeeke (I + II)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:davidbroekman@hotmail.com">davidbroekman@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santi Romero (I + II)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:romerogs@diba.es">romerogs@diba.es</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janine Schmidt (I + II)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:janine.schmidt@mcgill.ca">janine.schmidt@mcgill.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joaquin Selgas (I)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:j.selgas@jccm.es">j.selgas@jccm.es</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kjartan Vevle (I + II)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kjartan.vevle@bibsent.no">kjartan.vevle@bibsent.no</a></td>
</tr>
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</table>
Observers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Akintunde (I)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:akins@unijos.edu.ng">akins@unijos.edu.ng</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birgitte Auren (I)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:birgitta.auren@vaasa.fi">birgitta.auren@vaasa.fi</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malamine Diouf (I)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mlbara@ugb.sn">mlbara@ugb.sn</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Goetz (I)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:goetz@hlb-wiesbaden.de">goetz@hlb-wiesbaden.de</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petra Hauke (I)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:petra.hauke@buchprojekte.com">petra.hauke@buchprojekte.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olga Kulish (I + II)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:o.kulish@nlr.ru">o.kulish@nlr.ru</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria Jose Moura (I)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mjmoura@iplb.pt">mjmoura@iplb.pt</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisbeth Tangen (!)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lisbeth.tangen@trondheim.kommune.no">lisbeth.tangen@trondheim.kommune.no</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meri Trifonenko (I)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mery@rsl.ru">mery@rsl.ru</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Apologies were received from Joan de Beer (I + II), Anders Dahlgren (II), Hellen Niegaard (II) and Joaquin Selgas (II).

The issue of current Standing Committee members was clarified as far as possible. Martin Goetz’ s status will be checked with IFLA HQ. It was agreed that copies of the minutes would be sent to observers.

3. **Election of Chair and Secretary**

Andrew Cranfield was unanimously elected as Chair. He had been Acting Chair since Francois Rouyer-Gayette had stood down at the Buenos Aires meeting and was still awaiting information from IFLA HQ as to whether his term of office would be deemed to start in 2004 or 2005. Lisbeth Tangen reported that, reluctantly, she was unable to stand for a second term as Secretary because of other commitments. Karen Latimer was elected to replace her.

4. **Adoption of the Minutes of SC Meetings held on 22nd and 28 August 2004 in Buenos Aires**

The minutes were adopted with the amendment that Maria Jose Moura attended as a Standing Committee member not as an observer. The spelling of Bertoni was corrected.

5. **Strategic Plan 2005 – 2007**

At the first meeting Andrew Cranfield proposed that a Working Group be established to look at the strategic plan and bring a draft back to the second meeting. Following further discussion at the meeting on 19 August some amendments and additions were made. The Strategic Plan (attached) will be added to the website and sent to IFLA HQ.

6. **Annual Report and Finances**

No annual report had been produced because of the resignation of the previous Chair. Andrew Cranfield reported on a change in the way finances would be handled in future with funds being held centrally at IFLA HQ and Sections requesting payment retrospectively unless a detailed submission was made for advance funding. Money could not be carried over and all money held currently would have to be returned in the Autumn.

Barton Clark asked if figures for the 2003 pre-conference in Paris had been provided. No report had been received but the Section funds stood at about 4,500 euros before the printing of the Newsletter for which funding would be required.
7. **Newsletter and Website**

The most recent Newsletter had been produced and distributed by Andrew Cranfield. Alessandro Bertoni volunteered to take responsibility for the Newsletter and would get labels for distribution from Kelly Moore at IFLA. It was agreed that the next issue would be published in November 2005. Content, to be provided by the end of October, will include information on the Venice Biennale (AB), a report on the satellite meeting in Finland (JdB), an article on learning spaces (AMcD), a report on the Section’s open session in Oslo (IM & KV), a report on some new library buildings in Oslo (AB & JS), and a review of “Library as Place” (AC). A call for copy for future newsletters should also be included. A further issue should be produced by the end of May with the deadline for copy being the end of April. Barton Clark suggested that architects or librarians might write reports on their new buildings.

The Website was also discussed at both meetings. Barton Clark volunteered to take responsibility for the Section Website. He hopes to get information up by the end of September and proposed to send a list of possible headings and topics to SC members for feedback. It was agreed that the minutes should be made available on the website and also good quality illustrations and a well structured bibliography. A long list of links should be avoided.

8. **Open Session, Oslo 2005**

Lisbeth Tangen reported on problems with the programme for the open session in Oslo. There had been planning and political problems with the Oslo Public Library project and as a result the architect felt unable to present a paper at the IFLA conference. Deborah Jacobs from Seattle Public Library was also unable to attend. Jens Lauridsen from Denmark kindly stepped in at short notice. The session was held on Wednesday 17 August from 8.00 – 10.30. Approximately 240 delegates attended the session which was interesting and informative and provoked much discussion. The session was chaired by Andrew Cranfield and papers presented were:-

- The new Oslo Public Library project  
  Liv Saeteren
- New trends in Danish library architecture  
  Jens Lauridsen
- Guidelines for library buildings  
  Hellen Niegaard

9. **14th Satellite Meeting in Finland 11-12 August 2005**

Section members who had attended the satellite meeting reported on an excellent event. There was much discussion about the pros and cons of publishing the papers electronically or in print. Because papers on library buildings often contain many illustrations which do not always reproduce well in print, there is much to be said for at least making them available on the Website as well as in print. It was noted that authors should follow the guidelines on the IFLA site, that they should have the opportunity to edit their papers and that material which has not been copyright cleared should be removed prior to publication.

At the second SC meeting, following on from a discussion between Andrew Cranfield and Sjoerd Koopman, it was agreed that the papers from the 14th satellite meeting should be published in printed form in time to be available at the IFLA booth in Seoul as well as being available on the web. Andrew Cranfield will contact Tuula Haavisto about this.
The Boston papers will be published on IFLANET and Barton Clark, as Chair of that meeting, will take responsibility for moving that forward.

At the first SC meeting a Working Group was set up to consider the programme for Seoul as the proposal made at the Buenos Aires meeting to hold a joint session with the National Libraries Section had not proved possible. The group reported back to the second SC meeting. It was agreed that Janine Schmidt would co-ordinate and chair the session. A broad theme encompassing the use and nature of space with an emphasis on interior issues was proposed. Janine Schmidt will approach the Korean organisers to identify a local speaker, or speakers, who could summarise trends in Korean library design or highlight specific projects. She also asked members for recommendations for speakers and Hellen Niegaard put forward Dr Sato on the Sendai Mediatheque. A call for papers for Seoul will go out in October.

11. Future Conferences and Events
Further Working Groups were set up at Meeting I to bring forward proposals for the Durban conference and pre-conference and for a proposed event in conjunction with the Venice Biennale. The Durban Working Group focussed mainly on the pre-conference and it was proposed and agreed that this, the XVth Library Buildings Seminar, should be held in Johannesburg and be organised by Joan de Beer with help from Rieke Overbeeke. The meeting will follow the usual format of a day of visits followed by a day of talks on the two days prior to the main conference. Possible topics identified were a) sources of information including the guidelines, portals and websites; b) interiors; c) the nature of meeting and learning spaces/ the third place. It was agreed that the programme for the Durban open session should be discussed in detail at the next SC meeting in Seoul. A possible topic might be library buildings in multi-functional complexes. Janine Schmidt suggested it might be worth considering holding more workshops and fewer papers.

The Venice Working Group examining the proposal to hold a library buildings event during the 2006 Biennale reported that Alessandro Bertoni would approach the Director of the Biennale. Andrew Cranfield would write an official letter of support from the Section and Alessandro Bertoni would obtain similar letters from the Liber Architecture Group and the Italian Library Association. Possible events could include an exhibition on library buildings and the new urbanism, and a one day seminar. It was hoped that sponsorship and some funding from the Biennale or the regional authorities would be available. Alessandro Bertoni will report back on progress to the Chair and Secretary in October.

12. Guidelines for Library Buildings
Hellen Niegaard reported on progress on the guidelines and explained that it had been impossible to convene a meeting during the year. However the Working Group did meet in Oslo between Section meetings and a revised draft would be sent out to all SC members after Christmas for comment. Hellen Niegaard stressed that few members had responded to previous requests for information on library standards in use in their countries and she stressed the urgent need for a response this time. The format of the guidelines was described and the following timetable agreed:-
• present draft guidelines to SC meeting in Seoul
• have a meeting in Seoul devoted entirely to the guidelines
• final version to be presented at the Durban open session
• disseminate and update guidelines via the web, listserves, weblogs, and other means nationally and internationally.

13. IFLA Booth Schedule
Karen Latimer and Janine Schmidt agreed to staff the IFLA booth on Tuesday 16th August from 16.00 – 17.00 hours.

14. Professional Resolutions
There were no professional resolutions to be submitted to the IFLA Secretariat.

15. Review of Section: Questionnaire from IFLA HQ
The questionnaire relating to the review of sections was discussed. Andrew will draft a response based on comments made and circulate it to SC members for feedback in October. The final copy must be returned to IFLA HQ by 15 November.

16. IFLA Journal
As requested by Ramon Abad, chair of the IFLA Journal Editorial Committee, the section chose a paper for consideration for inclusion in the Journal. After discussion it was agreed to submit the paper by Jens Lauridsen from Denmark and Andrew agreed to forward the proposal to the editor Stephen Parker, zest@bart.nl after the conference.

17. Any Other Business
• Janine Schmidt proposed, and it was agreed, that the Secretary write to the organisers of the Finnish meeting to thank them on behalf of the Section.
• Laure Delrue offered to translate conference papers into French but stressed she needed time in advance to do this.
• Barton Clark drew the attention of those present at Meeting I to the Preservation and Conservation Section’s session at Oslo on sustainable buildings.
• The need for a flyer to promote the Section was discussed. Janine Schmidt with help from Laure Delrue will prepare and circulate a draft by the end of September.
• Andrew Cranfield reported that Sjoerd Koopman had suggested that the IFLA Journal could regularly include reports on new libraries in the developing world.
• It was also noted that Sjoerd has a collection of over 7000 postcards of library buildings that could form the basis for an exhibition or be used for illustrations.

Karen Latimer
Secretary