



Genealogy and Local History Section

Minutes

Standing Committee Meeting 1, 22 August 2004

Participants:

Melvin Thatcher, Genealogical Society of Utah
Janice McFarlane, National Library of Scotland
Ruth Hedegaard, Vendsyssel Historical Museum, Denmark
Paul Smart, Family History Library
Elisabeth Melrose, North Yorkshire County Council Libraries
Lee, Gui-won, National Library of Korea

Richard E. Huws, National Library of Wales
George Ryskamp, Brigham Young University
Joyce Jelks, retired public librarian
Joel Plassard, Versailles Library, France
Sok Hyeun Lee, National Library of Korea
Soo Eun Lee, National Library of Korea

From Geography and Map Libraries Section:

David C. McQuillan
Anita K. Oser

1. Presentation of Committee Members

All persons present introduced themselves

2. IFLA HQ and Division business (Mel and Ruth)

Mel and Ruth reported from the Coordinating Board meeting on the previous day:

- a. Concerning the planning review of IFLA's sections. Volunteers have been found to act in pilot projects, and the Professional Committee will approve the final review schedule and appoint Review Committee in December 2004.
- b. 2005 is an election year, so election procedures will commence at the beginning of 2005.
- c. Coordinating Board has requested highlights from the work of each section.

Mel considered that the invitations extended after our Open Session in Berlin to Elizabeth and Ruth to speak at conferences and the publication of their papers in the journal, *New Library World*, could be considered highlights. Mel will send these proposals to Coordinating Board. If anyone can come up with any other highlights from the work of the section, please report to Ruth, who will pass them on.

Later: IFLA Journal accepted for publication Prof. George Ryskamp's paper on European immigration sources that he delivered at the Buenos Aires Conference Open Session 2004 for the genealogy and Local History Section. Another sign of accomplishment for our Section!

3. Financial report (Janice)

Janice gave the financial report.

4. Open Session status report (Ruth)

Ruth reported on the Open Session, there would be five speakers, two in Spanish, two in English and one in French. George Ryskamp promised to assist with the Spanish speakers.

5. Study Tour status report (Mel)

Mel reported that he had made the appointments with the Buenos Aires Immigration Museum and the National Archives.

6. Future conferences

Oslo 2005:

David and Anita from the Geography and Map Libraries Section participated, and agreed that we should discuss plans for a joint Open Session in Oslo. Many ideas were put forward: Several proposed themes were discussed including "Navigating the World of Our Ancestors" and "Voyages of Discovery." We agreed on the first theme, and a variety of topics for the session papers were discussed:

- a. Automated passenger lists
- b. Emigration letters
- c. The African diaspora
- d. Mapping the migration patterns of three continents
- e. A demonstration of an online map creator, on which migration could be plotted
- f. Molecular genealogy and maps of origins

The Standing Committee also considered the possibility of an off-site workshop on map related

websites and their applications for genealogy and local history librarianship.

It was agreed that the discussion of the proposed themes would be continued at the second Standing Committee Meeting.

Seoul 2006:

Lee, Guiwon reported that the National Library of Korea would be interested in hosting a pre conference for the Section in 2006. It was agreed that preparations for such an event might prove too onerous for our small number of committee members. However, the Section would like to have an off site visit or workshop in cooperation with the National Library on for example Korean genealogy and publishing companies. Korea hosts many extremely active genealogical publishing companies, both print and digital. Christian missions in Korea could also be a subject of interest.

7. Section's strategic plan and action plan review (Mel)

Mel will put some suggested changes into the strategic plan and Action Plan Review and send it to IFLA and IFLAnet.

8. Any other business

Mel will ask British Library and National Library of Wales to nominate Elizabeth and Richard for our Standing Committee

Ruth will send notes from officers' training session to the committee

Standing Committee Meeting 2, August 28, 2004

Participants:

Melvin Thatcher, Genealogical Society of Utah

Janice McFarlane, National Library of Scotland

Ruth Hedegaard, Vendsyssel historical Museum, Denmark

Elizabeth Melrose, North Yorkshire County Council Libraries

1. Open Session Review (Ruth)

Ruth reported on the Open Session. Despite the absence of one speaker who had not given any explanation for her non-attendance (Marija Vranic-Ingjacevic), the session worked very well with the four remaining speakers. There were about 85 participants, interesting papers and good discussion in several languages. Ruth will thank the speakers and the Standing Committee thanked her for her efforts in putting the program together.

Elisabeth will investigate the possibilities of publishing conference papers from Genealogy and Local history Section.

2. Study tour review (Mel)

The study tour organized by Mel was most interesting. Around 20 people from several countries joined the party visiting the Immigration Museum and the National Archives - from among other countries: England, Wales, Scotland, USA, Denmark, Russia, Korea, Sweden, Peru, Russia, Czech Republic, Germany, Brazil, Argentina and Ireland.

In future, it was agreed, the Section should explain clearly who we are, our specific interests and how much time the group can spend at any one site.

3. Section activities for Oslo 2005

The Committee agreed that there should be a joint session with Geography and Map Libraries Section and a workshop on aids for librarians working with map material for genealogy and local history.

Ruth will invite Frode Bakken, Chair of the Norwegian Library Association, to encourage the Norwegian Library Association to join the Section and to suggest places of interest for the Section Study Tour

Mel will take prime responsibility for the Open Session and Ruth will investigate possibilities for the Study Tour.

4. Communications

Elizabeth will edit the Newsletter with the help of Richard Huws. The first step is to send a call for articles to Genloc.

5. Strategic plan and action plan review.

Several issues were debated and changes proposed. Mel will insert the proposed changes in the strategic plan.

Action Item 2.3. Recruit new section members

Target 1. National library associations

Target 2. National libraries

Janice will send an information packet containing a couple of newsletters, a leaflet and a letter, in the first instance to national library associations that are already members of IFLA but not members of GenLoc. Everyone is urged to take initiatives in their own country.

Action Item 2.4. Survey national library associations

We would like to send a survey to national library associations about how they support genealogy and local history. This will give us information for planning our work with these associations to encourage

and improve support for genealogy and local history librarians.

Janice will continue the project to encourage non-IFLA national library associations to join IFLA and GenLoc, and to set up relevant subgroups as required, after the initial mailing to IFLA members.

Action Item 3. Promote cooperation between archives, libraries, and museums

Ruth will write an article on collaboration between archives, libraries and museums.

Action Item 3.1. Survey national libraries

Richard will ask national libraries if they have genealogical and local history sections and services and try to collect contact names and addresses for a follow-up.

Action Item 3.2. Collect guidelines

Several guidelines were distributed by Mel, who will send others out to the committee. Elizabeth will ask Colette to work on them and send material to her.

Action Item 4.2. Work with FAIFE

Develop a code of ethics or guidelines for responsibly providing access to genealogy and local history indices and source documents on the Web.

Mel will write a paper on data privacy for FAIFE that he will send around for discussion.

[Since the Committee meeting, FAIFE was persuaded to take on the matter of Data Privacy. Mel has been asked to serve on a committee of four to draft a position paper to be presented to Council at the forthcoming meeting in Oslo next August.]

6. Seoul 2006.

The issue was discussed in our first meeting.

7. Any other business

Nothing in particular.

Reporter
Ruth Hedegaard

December 14, 2004