

The International Ringing Cedars Association

Committee meeting # 5 (via Skype)

Date: 11-30-08

Time/duration: 17:00 to 18:51 GMT

Committee: Chairman – Liz Ashley
 Vice Chairman – Nara Petrovic
 Seceretry – Steven Amey (minutes)
 Public Relations – Petris Spels

Apologies : Nara was able to hear the audio of the meeting, but could not be heard by the committee. Nara interacted sharing his input via the chat window.

No.	Subject	Action // Who / when?	Comments	Action
1.	Minutes of last meeting/date	It was concluded that after committee review of the previous weeks' minutes, Steven will send a corrected version of the minutes to the committee for final approval. The final approved version will then be released for public viewing.	Peteris expressed difficulty in receiving the minutes again.	From now on, Steven will send the minutes to Peteris via Skype instead of email, to ensure he receives them on time.
2.	Constitution	Liz collated everyone's comments from the first draft sent out 11-24-08. This first draft constitution was then discussed by the committee. Peteris suggested we should include our structure etc... in the final draft of the constitution.	The committee was in agreement that Nara's commentary and additions to the manifesto were especially good. Nara commented our efforts will be well served by allowing the formation of the constitution to grow more organically, taking note not proceed too hurriedly in its' formation. Peteris noted the importance of completing the Statutes.	Liz will again collate everyone's recent comments and suggestions into a 2 nd draft constitution. Everyone will continue to add their thoughts on each new refined version of the constitution as collated by Liz.
3.	Country of registration	It was agreed the country of registration will be in the UK. Liz commented we may need more than one signature to register. So, the logistics of signatures will have to be worked out.	Peteris noted that the committee's task is to organize the board elections. The board then takes over and the committee has completed its mission.	Liz will take care of the registration in the UK.

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			Nara commented we need approval from Megre. He is the authority that everyone will respect.	
4.	Goals	<p>Liz suggested getting feedback on the goals compiled by the committee by sending them out to people on the contact list from the conference in Turkey. Then, they will have one week to add their comments and suggestions on the goals.</p> <p>Nara suggested putting these files on the new Association website, as it will be operational very shortly.</p> <p>Peteris suggested we make the list of goals public and put them on the website along with an under construction message.</p> <p>It was decided that the goals will be posted on the new website.</p>	<p>Liz said she was glad that the goals would be posted on the website because now people will be able to participate in the creation of the goals.</p>	<p>Liz will compile the goal list and get it to Peteris as soon as they are ready.</p> <p>Peteris will then put out the list of goals publicly on our website.</p> <p>Nara sent the committee the latest list of contact info from the conference in Turkey.</p> <p>Nara and Marko will put the goals on the new webpage when all is ready.</p>
5.	Funding	Funding was only momentarily discussed. Nothing new to add.		
6.	Organisational structure of Association	<p>Liz broke down Peteris’s notes on the organisational structure, which were then discussed by the committee.</p> <p>It was agreed the structure of the Organisation needs to be fully transparent.</p> <p>The Organisation must know the backgrounds of people to be considered for senior positions in addition to their skills, experience and qualifications.</p> <p>The importance of ensuring that those who are elected have the interests of the Association at heart</p>	<p>Liz stated the importance of having safety valves, for protecting everything the committee has set up as best we can by writing everything into the statutes and membership criteria.</p> <p>Nara commented that as much as possible should be based on consensus and little to no hierarchy, but <i>not</i> consensus among <i>all</i> members. Such a democracy cannot work.</p> <p>Peteris said there needs to be a capable boss that will</p>	<p>Steven emailed Liz a copy of Nara’s Skype chat comments upon her request.</p>

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		<p>was a point agreed on by all.</p> <p>Liz stated the need to look strategically with foresight, for possible future needs or changes that may need to take place so that they can be written into guide-lines.</p> <p>Membership criteria was discussed, in regards to what grounds a membership can be terminated. For example- the inclusion of criteria for a vote of no-confidence that can be precisely written into the Organisation guidelines.</p> <p>Liz suggested the idea of including some prohibitions to help safe-guard the Association by somehow incorporating them right into the membership criteria.</p> <p>It was suggested that those wishing to be chairs or vice-chairs, should write their manifestos, and have those manifestos voted in.</p> <p>It was agreed that the creation of a proper list of unacceptable management examples is very important.</p> <p>Peteris suggested a separate internal document for voluntary workers for the organisation stating their duties and rights. This should be legal as long as it is written in the statutes that all internal documents and everything the Organisation does is in line with the rules of that particular country.</p>	<p>be leading the company. We should have a plain hierarchy and if he's the boss he's really the boss. And if he is doing a bad job then all the members have the right to dismiss him.</p> <p>Nara noted that sometimes internal documents can have negative, unfavorable, connotations, and it is something to remain aware of.</p> <p>Peteris said there should be plain and simple rules for everybody.</p> <p>Liz stated for now we must prepare the organizational chart as best we see fit, as this is the role of the committee.</p>	
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		<p>Nara suggested the idea of group circles on various levels, of which a member moves up through hierarchy, and all of them work in consensus. (This will be difficult to implement for the first elections, as no prior positions or circles will exist – thus the importance of having a probationary period of office!)</p> <p>Nara’s idea was unanimously favoured by the committee.</p>		
7.	Website	<p>Things are progressing nicely. No new business.</p>	<p>Nara commented that Marko is very happy to be helping with the website. Marko is awaiting more info so he can continue to do what is necessary. Steven commented on Logo. Nara said that color and creativity are still necessary but can be added easily later on.</p>	<p>Steven sent a list of potential logo fonts to the committee.</p>
8.	Volunteers / Help	<p>Liz stated the value in volunteers being multi-lingual speaking both Russian and English, for the purposes of keeping communications clear and open. Peteris suggested a questionnaire for the homepage that asks about the skills of the volunteers. Nara informed the committee that Misha wishes to help but he does not want to be part of the Organisation. As well, Misha’s friend from Russia is an expert on international</p>	<p>Peteris commented that Misha promised to help us as a second opinion on items we have already come up with ourselves. And we should ask him again when his life allows for it. Peteris said polishing up the goals a bit is the only thing that is holding us back from asking for volunteers. Nara shared his experience with peoples difficulties in being able to volunteer due</p>	<p>Peteris offered to include Liz’s multi-lingual request in the volunteer announcement. Liz will work on a few headings for the skills data base that can be added to by the other committee members.</p>

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		<p>law and also wishes to help.</p> <p>Peteris suggested sending Misha’s friend our work and getting his comments.</p>	<p>to the myriad of everyday responsibilities people have these days that take over peoples free time.</p>	
9.	Conference	<p>It was agreed to remain aware of the conference deadline of July 23rd.</p> <p>It was also agreed that we need to get Vladimir booked in Advance for the conference. His presence there is very important. We need to book him now.</p> <p>Peteris suggested that we must inform Vladimir what we have done since the conference in Turkey.</p>	<p>Liz mentioned that we need to know if Vladimir will be available for the date of the conference, and if he is not available then we need to change the date of the conference to accommodate his schedule, even if it is not on the day of the Earth.</p>	<p>Peteris will include something about booking Vladimir in the letter to Vladimir.</p>
10.	Any other business	<p>Meeting in person :</p> <p>The committee discussed meeting in person in Europe in 2009.</p> <p>It was agreed to leave the point of where to meet open.</p> <p>Communications with Megre:</p> <p>The importance of direct communications with Vladimir Megre was agreed on. He was the one who suggested the creation of an International Organisation to begin with.</p>	<p>Nara noted that it is less expensive to book plane tickets for our coming meeting if booked in advance.</p>	<p>Nara will send Peteris the contact information of the Croatian translator.</p>
	Next meeting	<p>Conference call – Sunday 7th December 2008, 5pm GMT</p>		

