



Minutes of Pro Silva Annual Board Meeting 2017

Wednesday, 28th June 2017 - 8:00 -12:00 - Conference room at Continental Hotel, Sibiu

Attendance- Boudewijn Swart, René Olthof, Wouter Delforterie, Paddy Purser, Padraig O Tuama, Lucie Vitkova, Phil Morgan, Andy Poore, Neils Peter Jensen, Jan Klinkby Oestergaard, Alan Bukovnik, Anton Lesnik, Jurij Diaci, Nikolaos Grigoriadis, Ioannis Spanos, Willem Pleines, Anne Huerzeller, Massimo Stroppa, Eugenio Fasser, Roberto Luise, Nadia Da Ros, Florent Néault, Juao Carvallho, Pavel Bednar, Milan Hron, Antonín Martiník, Miroslav Červený, Florian Borlea, Mihail Hanzu, Bela Varga, Szilard Grédics, Balázs Garamszegi, Eckart Senitza, Franz Reiterer, Martin Pollak, Georg Frank, Scott Wilson, Alex Gilham, Jean-Francois Plumier, Christine Sanchez, Heinrich Barwald, Alexander Held, Valda Araminiene, Marc-Etienne-Wilhelm

1. Minutes of the 2016 Annual Board Meeting in the Scotland.

Minutes of Annual board meeting held in University of Sterling in Scotland on 23rd June 2016 were read by Phil Morgan. No matters arose from the minutes.

2. Presidents and vice presidents reports;

President - Phil Morgan

- A special mention was made to the memory of Hans-Jurgen Otto, a founding member of ProSilva who died in past year.
- Thanks to Florian and ProSilva Romania for organisation of the Annual meeting.
- Thanks to Bill Mason and Mandy Clinch from the Continuous Cover Forestry Group for organisation of last year's meeting in Scotland
- Phil outline a visit to Les Cottards near La Brévine in the Swiss Jura, the forest of Bernard and Claude Lavarini, long-time members of Pro Silva.
- Report on the great progress on establishment of ProSilva Romania and congratulated Florian Borlea and the dynamic group working under difficult regulatory conditions to achieve this goal. Mihail Hanzu was also congratulated for highlighting worst abuses of ecological forestry that are taking place in the country. Phil reported on a meeting with HRH Prince Of Wales, who is a patron of the Continuous Cover Forestry Group and is a strong advocate of

ecosystem management and of systems that integrate economic factors with environmental and social benefits.

- Reported on potential engagement with European Forestry Institute (EFI) and the possibility of joint ANW/ Pro Silva project applications.
- Update on the operations of the Executive board
- The Pro Silva website has been updated with a new domain name providing generic email addresses for the Executive Board members. The website is now a platform presenting Pro Silva which provides links to the individual national associations.
- Report on Continuous Cover Forestry Group's 25th Anniversary Meeting in September 2016 in Wales.
- Association Futaie Irreguliere (AFI) has set up a branch in the Great Britain and Ireland called Irregular Silviculture Network (ISN) with the aim is to provide the outputs of the AFI Network in English
- President outlined Executives Board's term of office ends at this Meeting and indicated intention not to seek re-election as president.
- Full copy of report attached these minutes.

Vice-president – Eckart Senitza

- Eckart outlined his desire for more functioning network for ProSilva and engagement with other organizations. Eckart reported on meetings attended
- FOWITA Meeting (scientific congress of German forest faculties) in Freiburg in September – made a presentation on ProSilva principles.
- Discussion at INTEGRATE+ meeting in Steigerwald in October on nature conservation issues with forest management
- Attended NATURA 2000 in Brussels in December – promotion of bottom up approach using Prosilva principles and not a top down imposition on managing NATURA 2000 forests. Also attended NATURA conference in Austria and participated at the bio geographical seminar NATURA 2000 for the alpine zone in Padova in Italy in 2017
- Meeting with ANW board in Kassel – discussion on plan for 2018 Prosilva conference in Germany (Weimar)

Pro Silva associations:

- Romania – good progress, awaiting clearance for ProSilva Romania to be fully constituted within Romania. Members from a wide range of disciplines.
- Poland -No representative this year- a lot of interest and a lot of Close to Nature forestry practiced but little progress on forming national organisation .
- Baltic Nations –ProSilva supported Valda Araminiene from Lithuania to attend this meeting where there is strong interest in forming national organisation. Similar interest has been expressed from Latvia and Estonia

- Norway – Despite supporting attendance at last year’s meeting in Scotland very little follow up progress and interest.
- Spain – Still good interest, pays up membership fees but very little involvement over the last number of years. Translation of ProSilva principles into Spanish may re-invigorate interest and participation.
- Principle of Associate Membership is proposed for adoption at AGM for countries showing interest in becoming members of ProSilva and as an option for larger countries such as USA, India, China and Canada

3. Treasurer’s report – Anne Hürzeler

Anne presented ProSilva accounts for 2016. A deficit of € 2.508 in expenditure over income was reported but when interest of € 2.402 accrued on accounts is taken into account the difference in balance on accounts is a deficit of € 538 on annual running cost.

There was a query if there is a plan to have budget in place for 2018 and for future years. The opinion was expressed that expenditure should not exceed income despite have € 100.000 on account.

New annual subscriptions proposal were put forward by Eckart Senitza on behalf of Executive Board for discussion and to be put to AGM for approval. New proposal should provide € 9.300 income – this will provide baseline for formulation of budget for expenditure. A budget for 2018 will be presented to the Annual Board Meeting for 2018. The Review of subscription and fee structure (large, medium, small countries) presented by Eckart generated a lot of discussion- proposed changes from the meeting were taken on board and a revised proposal was agreed to be put forward to the AGM.

There was discussion on utilisation of €100,000 fund for use on projects, bursaries

Adoption of accounts for 2016 were proposed by Andy Poore (CCFG) and seconded by Florian Borlea (ProSilva Romania)

4. Secretary’s report -Pdraig O Tuama

Pdraig presented a report outlining number of meetings held during the past year through conference call and Skype facility and including topics discussed throughout the year. Pdraig stressed that he should be notified if there was election of new President to National ProSilva associations so that an up to date mailing list could be maintained.

5. PS Executive Assistant’s report – Lucie Vitkova

Website Update - Lucie updated board on new website developments. A new domain provider was put in place at cost of €5 50 – cost approved by executive board. All documents from old ProSilva Europe are being transferred to new website.

Events – Send any events to be held by national organizations to Lucie who will post them on the new website calendar of events- these will also be posted on Prosilva Facebook page. Any news items, published papers and documents should also be sent to build up library on website. There was suggestion that the executive board post updates on what is happening throughout the year on website. Christine Sanchez suggested using Facebook page for notifications on events.

Summary of PS associations annual reports – Of the 26 national membership organization's seventeen annual reports were submitted for 2016 and sixteen have been submitted to date for 2017. Lucie appealed to those who haven't done so to submit an annual report. Once annual initial report is completed the following year's reports will only require minimum updating and provide details of changes in national organization's personnel. Initial application form for countries wishing to join have similar layout to annual report and can be easily adapted for annual report.

6. Networking and organisation

Phil and Eckart outlined in their respective reports events that had been attended on behalf of ProSilva in the past year. There was a lot of discussion on involvement and attendance at events. It was generally agreed that we should have a presence as it is becoming more evident and more accepted at these meetings and conferences that it is Prosilva management is what is being required to integrate the multiple functions being demanded from forests especially with regard to maintenance and enhancement of ecological and biodiversity functions. Many countries have different approaches with some many still favoring the "do nothing" approach. It was agreed that we should get more involved as an organisation by continuing to have a presence at these events, and working with EFI on project applications to support research and developments in promoting ProSilva approach to forest management. Each national ProSilva organisation should also engage with national authorities especially with regard to NATURA 200 forest sites. Europe are looking for cost effective solutions to managing these sites.

Having Exemplary forest from each country on Prosilva website would provide example to demonstrate ProSilva approach to forest management. The AFI approach which captures the silvicultural, ecological and economic benefits can also be used as examples.

Hinrich Bärwald proposed creation of a video demonstrating ProSilva principles and approach to management for communicating message. Executive board will investigate further and develop proposal for project on a video production.

7. Exemplary forests – Eckart Senitzka and Lucie Vitkova

Eckart and Lucie have produced a standardized form for capturing details for Exemplary forests that will be posted on the website. This form is more a description rather than a prescription as it is recognized that exemplary forest will be different in each country. Form is available in English, German and a French version will be available very shortly. Copy of form will be sent to each national organisation and each organisation is asked to complete a minimum of three – ensure permission of forest owner is secured before submitting example. Include contact details for managers and others involved but ensure permission is approved here also. Each country is to decide themselves which forests to put forward. AFI sites may be used as exemplary forest in the selected countries

Examples from different countries - Austria are proposing including ten sites at different stages of development in transformation from even aged structure to irregular structure. AFI protocols have been adopted and this detail will be available to view in the exemplary forest site. PS Bohemica requested if AFI protocols could be made available.

EU funding for collaborative projects: Interreg, COST, LIFE. Alex Held, guest from EFI outlined how EFI were willing to liaise with ProSilva on acquiring funding for projects.

8. Translations

Pro Silva Europe Principles – Spanish. Executive Board reported that ProSilva principles have been translated into Spanish. These have been reviewed and accepted by the board. These will be uploaded onto website and included along with German, English and French versions in when next print run of principles are produced.

Pro Silva Wallonie – Pdraig O Tuama, on behalf of ProSilva Ireland, reported completion of translation to English of "La Sylviculture Pro Silva En Wallonie". Pdraig thanked Christine Sanchez and ProSilva Wallonie for assistance on translation project and Forest Service in the Department Of Agriculture, Food and Marine in Ireland for kindly sponsoring the cost of the translation and production of the book. Copies were made available to meeting

Translation of Bela Varga book from Hungarian: "Forest Management Basics - Maintaining Continuous Cover Forestry" . Szilard Grédics from ProSilva Hungary spoke

on behalf of Bela Varga who sent apologies for not being able to attend. Translation to English is progressing and is at the proof reading stage.

9. Public Relations

New Logo – Eckart presented new design of Logo in different green, greyscale and black + white formats. Each country will have ability/facility to input respective organization's name into the bottom half of logo. There was general approval for new logo from Board.

Website and Social Media – These items were covered in Lucie Vitkova's report

Wikipedia – Executive board to progress updating ProSilva page on Wikipedia this year.

Scientific publications – Executive Board to consider and develop proposal on using existing funds to fund PhD. Individual Prosilva organization's may also come forward with proposals that could be sent to Executive board for consideration.

Press releases – Press Release on Annual Meeting to be created by Executive Board and forwarded to each ProSilva organisation.

10. Pro Silva Annual meeting 2018

2018 Annual meeting – Proposal From Germany; Hinrich Bärwald presented outline of program for annual meeting to be held in Weimar in Germany from 20th to 23rd of June in 2018. Details of proposals and any updates will be available on website <http://www.anw-deutschland.de/pages/pro-silva-2018.php>

2019 Annual meeting – Proposal from Slovenia. The Executive Board of ProSilva received a proposal of a jubilee meeting of its 30th anniversary in 2019 to be held in Slovenia, namely Radlje ob Dravi. This proposition is also centred on the establishment of a Centre for close to nature, sustainable and multifunctional forest management in Radlje ob Dravi. Anton Lesnik presented the proposal to the meeting outlining the rationale behind the establishment of the centre for close to nature management and where they envisaged the important role ProSilva will have in that centre.

The proposal for Annual conference to be held in Slovenia in 2019 was accepted.

President asked that if any organisation wished to host ProSilva Annual Board meeting in 2020 that they bring proposals to 2018 meeting in Germany.

11. 2017 Annual General Meeting

Florian Borlea outlined programme of forest excursions for the next two days.

12. AOB

William Plaines and Christine Sanchez gave outline of a project to set up a Centre for Training and Education on CCF for French speaking countries i.e. France Luxembourg, Wallonia, and Switzerland. The project has three main action

1. Training programme for Foresters and forest owners
2. Centre for Research in CCF
3. Communications towards general public, politicians and the forest industry



Pro Silva Annual General Meeting 2017

Conference room at Continental Hotel, Sibiu, Romania

Wednesday, 28th June 2017 – 12.00-12.30 pm

Attendance - Boudewijn Swart, René Olthof, Wouter Delforterie, Paddy Purser, Pdraig O Tuama, Lucie Vitkova, Phil Morgan, Andy Poore, Neils Peter Jensen, Jan Klinkby Oestergaard, Alan Bukovnik, Anton Lesnik, Jurij Diaci, Nikolaos Grigoriadis, Ioannis Spanos, Willem Pleines, Anne Huerzeller, Massimo Stroppa, Eugenio Fasser, Roberto Luise, Nadia Da Ros, Florent Néault, Juao Carvallho, Pavel Bednar, Milan Hron, Antonín Martiník, Miroslav Červený, Florian Borlea, Mihail Hanzu, Bela Varga, Szilard Grédics, Balázs Garamszegi, Eckart Senitza, Franz Reiterer, Martin Pollak, Georg Frank, Scott Wilson, Alex Gilham, Jean-Francois Plumier, Christine Sanchez, Heinrich Barwald, Alexander Held, Valda Araminiene, Marc-Etienne-Wilhelm

1. Minutes of AGM in Switzerland 2014 – matters arising

Minutes of meeting were read out by Phil Morgan. No issues arose from the minutes. Hinrich Bärwald proposed that the minutes were accepted and Pdraig O Tuama seconded.

2. Election and ratification of Executive Board.

As notified to the Annual Board meeting, Phil Morgan stood down as President of Prosilva after serving for five years. The Board expressed its gratitude to Phil for the work and commitment given to the role as President during his term.

Notification that the current Executive Board would reach the end of its three year term at this Board meeting was sent to each member association in May. Each association was invited to nominate a person for the role of President and for other roles on the Executive board. Existing members who wish to continue in post are required to put their names forward for re-election.

Eckart Senitza, vice-president on outgoing Board was the only nomination for the Role of President. On a show of hands, there was unanimous vote in favor of Eckart to take on the role of President.

Phil Morgan was nominated and elected as vice-president.

Pdraig O Tuama, secretary and Anne Hürzeler, Treasurer, had indicated to the board that their wish to continue in their respective roles for a further term. As there were no other nominations for the roles the Board agreed that Pdraig and Anne should continue in the roles for the next term.

3. Proposed extension of membership of officers to the Executive Board

Eckart Senitza proposed that there should be an extension of membership to the Executive Board. The meeting agreed with the proposal. Eckart proposed that Jurij Diaci become a new member of Executive Board – meeting agreed with proposal.

4. Ratification of change of subscription rates PS associations

Eckart put forward new formula outlining the change of subscriptions rates for PS organizations. Meeting agreed with new proposed subscription rate changes. These will come into effect in 2018 and will be reviewed in three years.

5. Ratification of ProSilva Logo design

Eckart put forward proposals for new ProSilva Logo. Board agreed that the new logo should be adopted. Copies of new logos to be forwarded to each association and respective organizations' name can be inputted into the logo.

6. Requirement for PS associations production of Annual reports

The Executive Board expressed the importance that each association forward their Annual Reports each year.

7. Associate Membership

A Proposal for Associate Membership of the Board of ProSilva was put to the Board by the Executive Board for acceptance. This was accepted by the Board with a request for adjustments to final sentence. See below definition for Associate Membership with adjustment.

Associate members are individual persons or associations that have a strong interest and commitment in the work of "Pro Silva". They agree to establish an association in their country, in which the constitution is a set of fundamental Pro Silva principles. They are not allowed or licensed to use the trademark of Pro Silva. Associated membership is approved by a decision at the annual meeting of Pro Silva administrators. If, after a matter of time, they fulfill the regulations to incorporate the Pro Silva principles in their constitution and can demonstrate their commitment to these principles, they may become regular members of the association (within 1-3 years). Associate members pay no membership fee and have no vote at the general meeting; they participate as guests until elected as full members. The Executive Board have authority to provide financial support of these organisation.

Padraig O Tuama