



## **2017 SBSP General Assembly Minutes**

**June 9, 2017**

**Riga, Latvia**

### **Board Members Present**

**Jakob Skov (JS)**  
**Pikka Jokelainen (PJ)**  
**Vaidas Palinauskas (VP)**  
**Gunita Deksnė (GD)**  
**Andrea Miller (AM)**  
**Age Kärssin (AK)**  
**Rebecca Davidson (RD) (absent with notification)**

**Number of members present: 16.**

#### **1) Election of a meeting chairman**

JS was nominated and approved as meeting chairman.

#### **2) Acceptance of the agenda**

The GA approved the agenda as presented by JS.

#### **3) Election of Secretary of the meeting**

AM was nominated and approved as meeting secretary.

#### **4) Election of two members who shall ratify the minutes of the GA**

Elisabeth Dorbek-Kolin and Giulio Grandi were nominated and approved as members to ratify the minutes.

#### **5) The Board's business report for the previous period (2015-2016)**

JS summarized business from the previous period. Significant accomplishments included updating the webpage and Society logo, active use of the Facebook page, and the fusion of all local bank accounts into one SBSP account. SBSP hosted EMOP XII. In addition, SBSP together with DSP are preparing a bid for the next ICOPA meeting to be in Denmark. JS reported our current number of members to be 136. However, it was also noted that there are some discrepancies in the numbers



between the treasurer report and the president records which need to be corrected in the upcoming period.

**6) The Treasurer's report of the financial situation and the auditors' report**

The full Treasurer's report was prepared by RD and presented by JS at the GA. The report was reviewed and approved by Johan Höglund and Inger Sofie Hamnes. It will be made available in full on the SBSP website.

After fusion of all local accounts into one SBSP account, the estimated total balance of the SBSP - account is 6082,54 Euros. During the last period the income was 2917 Euros. The major expenses included grant awards (10000 Euros), marketing costs (1100 Euros), and website development (2424 Euros).

RD indicated some areas of concern. Number of members who pay on time has decreased which has decreased the income. As a result, the Board may need to re-evaluate the number and/or value of the grants given. Membership records (who is coming in and who has paid) have been challenging to account for also with the new online payment system. RD suggested the creation of a Membership Officer to help solve these issues in the next period. RD also suggested sending invoices to registered members for membership renewal instead of reminder emails to encourage all members to pay on time. These ideas were supported.

**7) The GA's approval of the business report and accounts, and release of the Board and auditors from related liability**

The GA approved the business reports and accounts, and released the Board and auditors from liability.

**8) Election to fill vacant positions in the Board**

The GA elected the new Board:

Pikka Jokelainen, President/Representative Finland; Vaidas Palinauskas, Vice-President/Representative Lithuania; Rebecca Davidson, Treasurer/Representative Norway; Gunita Deksnė, Secretary/Representative Latvia; Andrea Miller, Membership Officer/Representative Sweden; Andrew R. Williams, Representative Denmark, Gudny R. Palsdottir, Representative Iceland. Moreover, it was indicated that Brian Lassen is willing to continue as Webmaster.



**9) Election of two auditors**

Dovilė Bukauskaitė and Jakob Skov were nominated and approved as the auditors for next period's financial report.

**10) Establishment of annual fees for the next period (2019-2021)**

The GA voted to keep the annual fees the same as before, as suggested by the Board. Full members will continue to pay 50 Euros and students 20 Euros for two years.

**11) Establishment of place and time for the next GA and Conference of the SBSP**

JS announced that Maria Vang Johansen (University of Copenhagen) has invited SBSP to host the CSBSP8 2019 in Copenhagen as a joint event with the meeting of the European Veterinary Parasitology College (EVPC). The GA supported this.

**12) Other matters brought to the attention of the Board:**

**a) SBSP conferences every third year instead of every second year?**

The Board has considered increasing the time between conferences, to every third year. However, for now, it was decided that the conference will remain every two years.

**b) Establishment of a Treasurer apprenticeship**

RD suggested the establishment of a treasurer apprenticeship to ensure overlap between the old and new treasurer. This would be to ensure continuity with the bank and to provide support for the incoming treasurer as he/she learns the position. This person would be chosen from within the Board.

**c) A new board position (Membership Officer) responsible for keeping track of memberships**

This position would be to help organize existing membership records and to clarify dues- and non-dues paying members. In addition, this person would have a specific responsibility for attracting and welcoming new members into the Society. AM will take on this role for the next period.

**d) Awarding the Young Scientist Awards and the Audience Award**

Aurelija Miliūtė was awarded a Young Scientist Award for her poster presentation entitled "Molecular data confirm the taxonomic position of *Hymenolepis erinacei* (Cyclophyllidea: Hymenolepididae), with notes on host switching in the family Hymenolepididae".



Kärt Must was awarded a Young Scientist Award for her poster presentation entitled “*Toxoplasma gondii* seroprevalence in breeding pigs in Estonia”.

Katarzyna Tołkacz was awarded the Audience Award for her oral presentation entitled “Pathological changes in the course of vertical transmission of *Babesia microti*”.

All awards were for 500 Euros. For the Young Scientist Award, poster and oral presentations were grouped together as there were fewer than four students with oral presentation in the competition.

**e) Nomination of honorary member(s)**

The Board nominated Antti Oksanen, Finland, for honorary member. The GA approved the nomination and elected Antti as a new honorary member. Antti has contributed significantly to the parasitology field in this region. In particular, the Board recognized his wonderful personal input in organizing EMOP XII in Finland last year.

The agenda and Powerpoint for the GA will be made available on the SBSP website.

These minutes are read and approved by

Date 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2017

Date 12.10.2017

Place UPPSALA, SWEDEN

Place TARTU, ESTONIA

Signature

Signature

Giulio Grandi

Elisabeth Dorbek-Kolin

National Veterinary Institute (SVA)

Estonian University of Life Sciences

Sweden

Estonia