



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PEDESTRIANS

General Assembly in Vienna

Meeting minutes

Wednesday October 21, 2015, 5-7pm

Location: Wiener Planungswerkstatt, Vienna, Austria

1. Welcome by the President Geert van Waeg

The General Assembly was attended by 27 persons, 14 of whom represented a voting member. The list of attendees is attached in Appendix 1.

2. Election of Chair and Note Taker for this Assembly

Chair for the General Assembly: Geert van Waeg

Note taker for the General Assembly: Tom Dhollander

3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2014 General Assembly in Sydney

The Minutes of the 2015 General Assembly were confirmed.

4. President's report on last year's activities

The draft activity report was discussed. The final version can be found on the website. A few additional comments were mentioned:

- OECD and International Transport Forum (ITF):
 - The potential of pedestrians is underexposed. It could be valuable that IFP would organize a side event at a next meeting, but current organizational and budgetary constraints make this very unlikely for 2016
 - Anyhow, as the theme of the ITF 2016 Annual Summit is "Green and inclusive transport", we should attempt that pedestrians will be better represented.
- ACTION ITEM: The members agreed that Ole Thorson and Bronwen Thornton should continue to work with ITF in the coming year;
- Digital media
 - We make regular posts on the IFP Facebook page. The page now has over 1,400 followers (likes), and increase in 307 from last year. The top four

countries where followers reside are: Portugal (237 likes); Brazil (147); USA (108); and Mexico (71). The most popular posts related to on: public health; walking benefit/cost-analysis; traffic deaths as a public health issue.
ACTION ITEM: Members are asked share, invite and post on Facebook;
ACTION ITEM: The Executive will look at setting up an IFP twitter account

- o IFP Website: Members acknowledged and thank Geert and Steven van Waeg for their work on refreshing the IFP website.

ACTION ITEM: Members to visit and test the IFP website and use it as communication tool to other members.

- Other presentations:
 - o UN: working group (Latin America) on vulnerable road users; input by Ole Thorson;

5. Special topics:

Since 1995 the pedestrian community shared ideas and communicated with a mailing list called Pednet. This mailing list was discontinued, partly because internet attacks on it, partly because there was limited activity. The General Assembly discussed whether it would make sense to set up an alternative list.

ACTION ITEM: Mario Alves will set up a new Google-list for mailing similar to the PedNet concept (he is already in contact with the people that ran the old mailing list). This is in addition to the forum on the website. It was agreed to test this way of working during next year. The aim is to get more interaction between the members. All members should take any responsibility for this occurring.

6. Projects 2016 and beyond

- A campaign idea was proposed: Many countries have regulations on a distance that needs to be respected by car drivers when they pass a cyclist. What about if cars need to pass pedestrians on roads without sidewalks. Should they be legally forced to leave enough space (1.5 m) to pedestrians? Is this something IFP could work on?
ACTION ITEM: The point was taken as interesting, but no specific actions items were associated at this moment.
- Living sidewalks: the issue of obstructed sidewalks comes up quite often, such as (but not limited to) parked cars on sidewalks. It was recognized that undertaking action on this is not easy as: police are too tolerant of this in many countries; many drivers consider it as normal; and it is seen as an unimportant or a negligible offence. The possibility to develop an IFP-backed concept (graphic + strategy) to help members to tackle this issue was discussed. The exact form and tone (neutral versus complaining or cynical or legal) were not decided on, but several members would be interested.
ACTION ITEM: IFP Executive to propose campaign idea, members to provide input, via forum on the website or e-mail (this Google docs could be used to communicate this once the initial framing has been done).
- A concept of cartoons to talk about pedestrian issues was presented by a guest (Beatrice Stude, an illustrator who also presenter at the WALK21 congress). She asked whether IFP would like to get involved and distribute these on a larger scale.

She could not provide any clarity on the copyright aspects in case an organization such as IFP would want to work with these cartoons.

ACTION ITEM: Lacking a more specific proposal, no steps taken at this moment.

7. By-laws of IFP, need for a change?

- Previously, there has been some discussion whether it made sense to keep IFP as a Swiss NGO. Further investigation by the Executive led to the proposal that IFP remain a Swiss NGO. This proposal was accepted.
- There is however a need to adapt the bylaws in order to make them compliant with updated regulations and evolving technology. The changes that will need to be introduced are minor. For example, it was agreed that virtual participation to the General Assembly should be allowed in the bylaws.

ACTION ITEM: In the coming months the Executive will propose some changes to the bylaws. An extra General Assembly can be called to discuss and accept changes.

8. Board of IFP – update on membership of the board / resignations / new candidates?

- Christian Thomas resigned as secretary of IFP since he retired from Fussverkehr Schweiz. He will still represent Fussgängerverein Zurich on IFP. Given his many years of active and valuable contribution to the IFP, the General Assembly would like him to remain on the board, and consequently gladly accepted Christian as board member. The General Assembly thanked Christian for his many years of active work.
- Mario Alves was the only candidate for Secretary. The General Assembly appointed Mario as Secretary
- Ellen Vanderslice (representing America Walks) resigned as board member and Vice-President. While she currently represents America Walks, she will work with America Walks to identify a new representative. The General Assembly thanked Ellen for her many years of active work.
- Dieter Schwab resigned as Vice-President but will remain on the board.
- Ben Rossiter (Victoria Walks) was nominated and elected as Vice-President.
- Geert van Waeg was re-elected as President.
- Several NGOs have expressed their interest in becoming members of IFP:
 - Kathmandu Walks
 - Bangalore
 - Sampapé (Sao Paolo, Brazil)
 - Liga Peatonal (Mexico)

ACTION ITEM: the Executive to follow up with these NGOs

9. Finances

IFP has no finances so there is not a lot of work to do. The General Assembly hopes that in the future the association will be able to attract funds.

Appendix 1: List of Participants of the 2015 General Assembly

name	affiliation	country	voting
Ellen Vanderslice	America Walks	US	Y
Paul Bickelbacher	FUSS e.V.	Germany	Y
Paolo Nardi	Associazione Pedoni di Roma e del Lazio	Italy	Y
Alain Rouiller	Rue de l'Avenir CH	Switzerland	
Anne Faure	Rue de l'Avenir FR	France	
Ole Thorson	Catalunya Camina	Spain	Y
Ben Rossiter	Victoria Walks	Australia	Y
Tom Dhollander	Voetgangersbeweging / FEPA	Belgium	Y
Bronwen Thornton	Walk21	UK	Y
Thomas Schweizer	Fussverkehr Schweiz	Switzerland	Y
Dieter Schwab	Walk Space	Austria	Y
David Vale	Fac Architecture / Univ Lisboa	Portugal	
Beatrice Stude	Urban planner Vienna	Austria	
Eileen McCarthy		USA	
Jenni Wiggle	Living Streets UK	UK	Y
John Wetmore	Perils for Pedestrians	USA	
Jose Luis Gisbert	Arquitectura.org	Spain	
Mario Alves	ACA-M	Portugal	Y
Mariano Reano	Amics de la Terra Mallorca	Spain	
Tanzia Islam	Avandgardes	Germany	
Kamana Manandhar	Resource Center for Primary healthcare	Nepal	
Maria Cifuentes	A Pie	Spain	Y
Mateus Porto	A Pie	Spain	
Manju George	ESAF	India	
Veronica Martinez	A Pie	Spain	
Rob Methorst	SWOV / MENSenSTRAAT	The Netherlands	Y
Geert van Waeg	johanna.be	Belgium	Y