



**IFLA Section for Public Libraries Standing  
Committee**

**Meeting held in Gothenburg, Sweden**

**Minutes of the Meetings held on Tuesday, August 10  
and Saturday, August 14, 2010**

<b>Time and Location:</b>	<b>Meeting 1: Tuesday, August 10 14.30 – 17:20 Swedish Exhibition and Congress Centre Room F3</b>	
<b>Time and Location:</b>	<b>Meeting 2: Saturday, August 14 13:15 – 14:45 Swedish Exhibition and Congress Centre Room R2</b>	
<b>Members attending meeting 1, and 2</b>	Lorraine Jackson (LJ) Kent Skov Andreasen (KSA) Libuse Nivnická (LN) Annick Guinery (AG) Ruth Ørnholt (RO) Suzanne Payette (SP) Marian Morgan-Bindon (MB) Ljiljana Sabljak (LS)	Barbara Gubbin (BG) Mònica Medina-Blanes (MMB) Mats Hansson (MS) Rebekka Pilppula (RP) Neil Davies (ND) Ian Stringer (IS) Hannelore Vogt (HV)
<b>Members attending meeting 1 only</b>	Olga Ustinova (OU) Gloria Pérez-Salmerón (GPS)	
<b>Members attending meeting 2 only</b>		
<b>Apologies</b>		
<b>Absent</b>	Brendan Teeling Deming Zhou	Magdalena Reyes Jingxia Li
<b>Observers Meeting 1</b>	Elviera Sandie Frederick Noble N. Baada Kosi Kedem Maha Alwan Annette B. Lindgaard Lo Claesson Cay Corneliuson Karin Ohrt Sue Sutherland Steve Bergen, Gates Foundation	Charles Kamolem Turque B. Larsen Mona Hegazy Annie Dourlent Joanna Chapska Marzhan Valiulina Margaretha Eriksson Reidun Enoksson Pulveg Kakane Steve Witt
<b>Observers</b>	Annie Dourlent	Ingrid Bon

<b>Meeting 2</b>	
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### **1. Greetings and apologies for absence. (Payette)**

Suzanne Payette, Chair asked everyone to introduce themselves and to say which library they represent and if they are a member of the Committee or an observer. Barbara Gubbin sent round a sign-in sheet. SP indicated she had not received any apologies for being absent for the meeting from Committee members.

### **2. Welcome Visitors (Payette)**

Suzanne welcomed Steve Bergen from the Gates Foundation who was attending to report on the Access to Learning Award. Steve indicated that there was a booth in the exhibit hall if people had questions about applying for the award which will be announced at 4 p.m. on Thursday, August 12.

### **3. Opening, Announcements and Documents Check (Payette/Gubbin)**

Barbara Gubbin reviewed the documents which had been sent out prior to the meeting including the agenda, minutes of the annual meeting in Milan in 2010, and the strategic plan.

### **4. Approval of the agenda. (Payette)**

Marian Morgan-Bindon moved approval of the agenda; Lorraine Jackson seconded and the agenda was approved.

### **5. Approval and Follow-Up of the minutes of the mid-year meeting held in Milan, Italy on Saturday August 22 and Tuesday, August 25, 2009 previously circulated. (Payette/Gubbin)**

Ruth Ørnholt made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Kent Skov Andreasen. SP noted that Anna Torfadottir was informed that she could no longer serve on the Committee as a result of her lack of meeting attendance and Ian Stringer has been appointed in her place. This action was taken since the meeting in Milan.

### **6. Pre-Conference in Malmö “Building Strong Communities: Unleashing the potential of public libraries to build community capacity, engagement and identity.”**

Ruth Ørnholt reported on the pre-conference. Forty papers were submitted and 18 were selected for presentation plus two keynote speakers. Mats Hansson, Swedish Arts Council had assisted with funding the conference. RO also recognized and thanked the libraries/librarians in Sköne who helped to put on the program and volunteered a lot of time to make it successful. RO said that she and the committee had learned a great deal about putting on a pre-conference. There will be a link from the public libraries' page on the IFLA website to the papers and the PowerPoint presentations given at the conference.

### **7. Programs of Interest to Committee members at the WLIC 2010 (Payette)**

7 (i) Section programme with Metropolitan Libraries: Learning libraries, connected community. Powering an informed and involved community through user-driven library innovation. Scheduled for August 12 from 9:30 to 12:45 p.m. in H2 – it is session #89. MB listed the speakers and encouraged everyone to attend.

7 (ii) IFLA Publications Announcements August 14 9:30-11:30 a.m. Room G3. SP noted that the new edition of the Public Library Service Guidelines would be launched and Ian Stringer noted that the revised Mobile Library Guidelines would also be launched and that these included colour illustrations for the first time.

7 (iii) SP noted a number of important programs and meetings to be held during the conference. These included a meeting for New Officers and anyone new to IFLA on Wednesday, August 11 at 13:45.

RØ noted that the Bergen Public Library was presenting a poster on multicultural library services in rural areas which included a toolkit for small libraries. (Poster session #134). IS recommended poster session #15 on the Section's Caterpillar project in Burkina Faso. SP noted poster session #110 on biblio-aidants, a program in 3 libraries in Quebec to assist people in taking care of elderly parents. Rebekka Pilppula noted a number of poster sessions on Youth Library Work, becoming a Superlibrarian and Arts in Reading. The poster sessions will be held in the exhibit hall both on Thursday and on Friday.

KS and Neil Davies highlighted Session 139 on Library Buildings and Equipment. Unfortunately the program conflicts with the public/metropolitan libraries session.

SP reminded everyone that the Gates Foundation would be presenting its Access to Learning Award on Thursday and later on Thursday, Ingrid Parent, President-Elect from Canada would be holding a planning session. She also reminded Committee members that the Committee will be asked at their second meeting to choose the best papers from the conference to be recommended to IFLA for publication so be prepared!

The Public Libraries Section will be getting together for dinner on Wednesday evening at Babar, a restaurant opposite the Gothenburg City Library.

7 (iv) RØ informed everyone that mobile libraries from all over Sweden would be outside the Congress Centre every day from Wednesday to Friday from 11 – 3 p.m. There will be different mobile libraries to tour each day. There is a website for more details.

IS reported on the Leadership Meeting held the day before which no other members of the Committee had been able to attend as they were not yet in Gothenburg. Points of interest:

- Conference badges have a bar code on them so there is no need for event tickets
- Computers and printers are available in the conference center for free and wi-fi is available.
- IFLA is promoting social networking
- Newcomers should look out for orientation events
- Committees will be asked to select the best papers of the conference for publication
- IFLA has divided the world into 7 regions and the 2013 conference will be in Asia.
- New guidelines have been approved for satellite programs; the program must be held no further than a 3 hour flight from the conference location. Decisions still need to be made as to profits if a satellite meeting makes money and who subsidizes it, when such a meeting loses money.
- Congrex is no longer the conference vendor; 40 companies bid on the contract and 6 have been short-listed.
- Job descriptions are being worked on for IFLA officers.
- There were a number of reports about the damage to libraries in Haiti.

## **8. Programmes for WLIC 2011 in Puerto Rico.**

8 (a) SP told the Committee that the school library section would like to plan a joint session with public libraries at the conference in Puerto Rico. She asked for everyone's response and any ideas

about this. MB indicated that she did not favor partnering with school libraries and BG wondered how successful joint school/public libraries are in terms of service. Lorraine Jackson proposed that a program about literacy could involve schools and that 2011 is the last year in UNESCO's decade of literacy. BG recommended considering the featured speaker at the Malmö preconference, Bart Mulder, as he was a provocative speaker and could address the topic of re-thinking libraries; he had addressed the question "If we did not have public libraries at this point in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, would we invent them?" Many committee members echoed the idea of a program on re-thinking libraries. Annick Guinery (AG) suggested joining with the Reading Section to explore the issue of reading, what it represents today and if it still lies at the root of what public libraries represent. SP suggested Committee members approach other sections with our ideas to find partners. LJ agreed to talk to the Reading and Literacy Section, RO will speak to the School Libraries section about joining us on our "re-thinking libraries" theme and MB will talk to Metropolitan Libraries about their interest in partnering. In response to a request from SP for volunteers to plan our conference program, the following people volunteered: Hannalore Vogt, Rebekka Pilpulla, Neil Davis and Ruth Ørnholt as chair.

8(b) In discussing a pre-conference proposed by a group of librarians at a private university in Bogota it was pointed out that Bogota would be able to offer a conference at a low cost but that there is only one direct flight a day to Puerto Rico and that costs \$600. According to SP, the team who had proposed Bogota had already been told by Sjoerd Koopman that they could not hold a pre-conference in Colombia and needed to find an alternative location. GPS agreed to talk to them and will report back at the second meeting. SP then raised the possibility of a satellite conference before the conference in Helsinki in 2012; applications are due in January 2011. Olga Ustinova suggested Lithuania as a location prior to the conference and RP suggested Finland. Further discussion will take place at the Committee's second meeting.

### **9. Mid-Year Meeting in 2011.**

SP expressed the sentiment of the entire Committee that it was disappointed at not being able to meet in Brno in 2010 because of the fallout from the Icelandic volcano. Libuse Nivnická wanted to host the meeting in 2011 although she was not certain if she could get the same grant as she had done earlier that year. It was decided that the meeting should take place in late April.

SP reported that she had attended the Metropolitan Libraries conference in Croatia, which had been a great success and that she and BG were proposing that the two Standing Committees hold a joint meeting/conference in 2012 in Barcelona. SP had talked to Christine Mackenzie with the Metropolitan group and they had agreed.

### **10. Report on condition of country/libraries in Haiti and Chile.**

AG reported that there are huge challenges to re-establishing libraries and library networks in Haiti and the international community is going to need to be there for a long time. Bibliothèques sans frontières has been evaluating the destruction and has begun to re-build some libraries but the bigger issue is helping 1.5M people who are homeless. These people need mobile library service. In addition, there are only 20 professional librarians in the country so more need to be trained; some have gone to France for training to work in the camps to provide books, reading programs etc. Money remains an issue as there is a need for more books in Creole. For more information go to [www.bibliosansfrontieres.org](http://www.bibliosansfrontieres.org). AG noted that IFLA's focus has been largely on the national library and preservation of materials and little attention has been paid to the public libraries or getting them re-built and re-opened.

Steve Witt, Chair of Division I joined the Committee and was welcomed by Suzanne Payette. She informed Steve about the issue regarding the pre-conference and its distance from Puerto Rico and ability to fly to PR. Ian Stringer was able to sell and autograph the first copy of the new Mobile Library Guidelines which he edited!

We moved on the item 12, the **Chair's Report**. SP congratulated Christie Koontz and Barbara Gubbin on the publication of the revised edition of the Public Library Guidelines; she also congratulated Ian Stringer on the publication of the Mobile Library Guidelines. She recognized Marion Morgan Bindon on what is sure to be an excellent joint program with Metropolitan Libraries and Ruth Ørnholt on her leadership which resulted in an outstanding public libraries pre-conference.

#### **14. Financial Report**

LN gave the financial report for the Committee dated November 2009. A transfer of funds had been made to Ghana in support of the Caterpillar project and she was waiting for the final invoice from Christie Koontz. There was E1,000 still available to re-format the Public Library Guidelines into the DAISY format. Mats Hansson said he would investigate transferring the print format into DAISY and that E 1,000 would be sufficient to do this. IS indicated that he needed to be reimbursed for some printing costs and requested funding to attend the Nordic Mobile Libraries meeting. A payment of 220 Euros was approved for this. BG requested that the Committee consider an additional payment to Christie Koontz of \$750 in the euro equivalent to reimburse her for the research she had paid a graduate student to do in testing the hyperlinks and updating the bibliography. This was also approved.

#### **13. Report on Membership of the Committee and Section**

SP commented that the amount of revenue assigned to the Committee is directly related to the number of members and that the Committee membership is down; there are now 185 members which is significantly fewer than in the last few years. She also reported that the IFLA office had contacted her about corresponding members. Rashidah Bolhassan can no longer serve as a corresponding member and Raquel Flores Bernal from Chile will take her place. Other people who have expressed interest in serving as corresponding members include Safiqul Islam from Bangladesh and Colence Chisita, a faculty member of the LIS at Harare Polytechnic in Zimbabwe.

SP reviewed the names of those members of the Committee whose terms would be ending in 2011. In addition GPS is resigning because of a change in her position and LJ said she would no longer be able to serve on the committee.

There were some questions from people who were attending the meeting as observers about the Caterpillar project in Ghana; Lorraine Jackson agreed to meet with them when the meeting was adjourned to answer their questions.

The meeting was adjourned.

**IFLA Section for Public Libraries Standing Committee Meeting**  
**Saturday, August 14 13:15 – 14:45 p.m.**  
**Gothenburg Convention Center, Sweden**

The Committee meeting was resumed and called to order by Chair Suzanne Payette who reviewed the key agenda items for this, a much shorter meeting than the first.

SP reviewed who would be leaving the Committee in 2011 and 2013 and those who would be eligible for re-election. Some of the names of people who had expressed interest in joining the Committee included Collence Chisita, Zimbabwe; Safiqul Islam, Bangladesh; Helen Ladron de Guevara, Mexico; Raquel Flores Bernal, Chile as a corresponding member, and Annie Dourlent, France.

It was decided that the Section would recommend the papers from Singapore and Denmark given at the joint Metropolitan/Public Libraries Section program for inclusion in the IFLA publication on the conference.

**8.** RO reported on plans for a joint program with the Metropolitan Libraries Section at the Puerto Rico conference entitled “Re-thinking the role of public libraries.” Bart Mulder, who had keynoted the public libraries pre-conference in Malmö will be invited to key-note this program. If he is unable to join us they will invite the director of the Malmö City Library Elizabeth Tank. There will be 6 sections: Library as cultural center; as problem solver; for convenience and self service; for fun and recreation; for training and teaching; and the virtual library. Each topic presenter will give a short presentation followed by a roundtable discussion on each topic with the chance to change tables and topics. There will be flip charts for notes but no simultaneous translation; there will be designated facilitators at each table.

BG introduced the idea of holding two programs with the Metropolitan Section of 2 hours each to have more programs for public librarians. Ingrid Bon, representing the Children’s Services Section joined the Committee and proposed a joint program with the Public Libraries section which would focus on social media, making connections with young people, explore the question of whether reading today is still the same as it was, and how to staff libraries to serve young people today. There was a lot of discussion as to whether there could be 3 sessions using all three sections allotted hours and how the topics would align. Ingrid proposed calling for papers which the joint Public/Metropolitan Libraries program did not intend to do. There was a general preference for one 3 hour program as outlined with Metropolitan Libraries rather than 2 with 2 hours each. KS said that Spanish speaking presenters should be sought especially given the location of the conference.

## **11. Strategic Plan for 2010-2011.**

SP reported that we needed to provide 3 measurable action items. Projects were reviewed and it was decided that we would ask for Euro 3,000 to 4,000 for these including the translation and promotion of the revised Guidelines.

SP discussed a new format for the Section newsletter with the representative from each country on the committee providing a 200 word article for the newsletter. The first would be due by the end of October and this would also be the conference report issue and the other by the end of April. MB confirmed that there would be only 2 newsletters each year, both electronic. MB also talked about a focus on mobile libraries with links to their websites with a major article on the mobile library meeting in Finland in late 2011.

IS reported that the Mobile Library Guidelines have been or will be translated into Polish and Spanish. Promotion is expected in a number of countries. HV promised a German translation of both new publications, LN a Czech translation and a Spanish translation will be completed by the Spanish National Library. BG will follow up to see if the new Chinese IFLA Center will commit to doing a translation. KS and MH agreed to follow up on how the Public Library Guidelines can be re-formatted in DAISY.

MB agreed to coordinate the addition of content to the new IFLA website to ensure it has a coordinated “look and feel.” SP would investigate what it would take for a banner advertising the new Guidelines to be designed and made available to put on local library association websites. Section Committee members were asked to promote the publications with their country associations. SP asked for a volunteer to provide a standard abstract for the publications with a graphic and poster so that they could be advertised. KS agreed to do this.

MB will re-write the Strategic Plan to reflect the request to have only three areas of focus – membership, promotion and translation of the new guidelines and the newsletter.

#### **9. Mid-Year Meeting.**

LN invited everyone to come to Brno, Czech Republic in hopes that the meeting will not be beset by an erupting volcano! The dates will be agreed upon soon.

**New Projects:** IS passed around a proposal for a new project which would encourage libraries in Europe, Australia and North America to help provide access to online databases to libraries and their users in African and Asian countries.

BG noted that the Section’s informational leaflet needed to be translated into Finnish for the 2012 conference.

#### **15. Report from IFLA.**

LJ said that she had heard that all of IFLA’s attention in Haiti was on the National and university libraries and there was little attention being paid to getting the public libraries back into operation. She said that she felt the Public Libraries Section should work to bring more attention to this.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Barbara A. B. Gubbin  
Secretary.