

Minutes PCE Board Meeting – Skype

Monday 11th May 2015 (20:00 EU – 7pm GB)

Those present: *Angelique T., Annie T., Clair H., Daniela R., Simone A., Sylvia R-O.*

Apologies: *n/a*

The Board decided on a Chair and a Minute taker for the day's meeting

Chair: *Clair*

- **Community Check-in**

The Board members took turns to say a few words about their current feelings/lives. Clair joined the meeting after some technical problems were resolved. Overall feeling was that it was good to be a full Board again.

- **Minutes of the Meeting (10-11. April 2015) were agreed**
Matters arising

Sylvia had asked the GwG's General Secretary to investigate with their lawyer the possibility of PCE Europe becoming a Registered Organisation in a European country. She waits for the result of the talk between GwG's General Secretary and the lawyer.

Action: ongoing, Sylvia will keep the board informed.

Simone reported that the cost of the Bielefeld face-to-face meeting was less than she had estimated and therefore, although PCE finances are still in a difficult position it is not a catastrophe. This means that PCE Europe membership fees may not have to rise this year.

Some member organisations have yet to respond to PCE Europe's request for individual membership numbers. Di E. is on holiday, but may have some responses in the membership reapplication data. This will be an item for the 2016 GA as we have to decide on the fees in case we do not get these numbers from our member organisations.

Action: Clair to contact Di upon her return

- **Functioning of PCE Europe Board**

The Board agreed to try the suggestions discussed during the last meeting; these are recorded in the previous (April 2015) minutes.

- **2016 Symposium - Switzerland**

Simone had written to Jean-Marc and asked our questions. His initial response was that that PCE Europe would probably share the symposium profits and that the Board members would have a free symposium place. However, he needed to check this with the rest of the symposium organising group. The overall feeling was a lack of connection between the symposium organising group and PCE Europe, for example; although requested a PCE Europe Board member had not been invited to join the symposium organising group's Skype meetings. There was also concern that the symposium was not yet being advertised – it was

noted that marketing material needed to be designed and distributed and a website set up as soon as possible. It was felt, as a matter of urgency, that a stronger connection and collaboration needed to be developed if an effective working alliance was to be made and maintained.

Action: Angelique will draft a letter on behalf of the PCE Europe board to Jean-Marc and outline our concerns and ask again if Simone as our representative could join the Skype meetings.

Angelique agreed to be back-up to Simone in this work for consultation, which means that she has to be informed about important decisions. Consequently the PCE Europe Board pairing for the 2016 Symposium is Simone and Angelique.

- **European Association For Counselling (EAC)**

Sylvia felt that the response from EAC about the voting rights of PCE Europe was unsatisfactory, thus she suggested that PCE Europe pays the same lower fee as last years. The other board members rejected that proposal and instead proposed to wait with paying the fees until the question of full voting rights is cleared in a Skype Meeting with Jesmond, Seamus and Yvonne (EAC). If the structure of PCE Europe means that PCE Europe cannot vote, then the Board is unsure how it can represent the member organisations at the EAC. Consequently the next Skype meeting is likely to inform PCE Europe's future as an EAC member. Simone, as treasurer, already works with Sylvia on EAC matters. However, it was agreed that Angelique, as Chair, should also join them to form a substantial working group.

Action: Sylvia to contact EAC and inform them that Sylvia, Simone and Angelique are happy to join the proposed Skype meeting to discuss matters of collaboration, voting rights and fees.

- **European Association for Psychotherapists (EAP)**

Sylvia informed the Board that there were only 6 other (plus PCE Europe) European Wide Organisations with only organisational members (no individual members). She received a response from Ken Evans of the Metanoia Institute that supported PCE Europe's proposal for fairer voting rights. Sylvia suggested that she ask KE to second the letter before sending it to the minister of EAP and requested help from another Board member to help word the letter. Simone agreed to do this.

- **Preparation next meeting**

Angelique and Annie agreed to liaise and put together the Agenda for the next June meeting.

The Chair closed the meeting at 21:02 (EU).

Date of next Skype meeting:

8th June 18:00 (EU) 5pm (GB)

Date of following 2015 Skype meetings:

6th July 20:00 (EU) 7pm (GB)

3rd Aug 18:00 (EU) 5pm (GB)

14th Sept 20:00 (EU) 7pm (GB)

12th Oct 18:00 (EU) 5pm (GB)

9th Nov 20:00 (EU) 7pm (GB)

7th Dec 18:00 (EU) 5pm (GB)