

SFPE EUROPE MEETING MINUTES

21/June/2019

Video-Conference

Attendees:

1. EUROPE PRESIDENT/CHAIR- Kees Both <kees.both@etexgroup.com>;
2. EUROPEAN DIRECTOR – Jose Luis Fernández <JLFernandez@sfpe.org>;
3. BENELUX - Peter van de Leur le@dgmr.nl
4. FRANCE-Armelle Muller <armelle.muller@cnpp.com>;
5. ITALY – Giovanni Cosma (in place of Luciano Nigro);
6. ISRAEL - Jacob Friedman <jf@jfpe.com>;
7. POLAND - Tadeusz Cisek <tadeusz@cisek.eu>;
8. PORTUGAL - Paulo Prata <presidente@sfpe.pt>;
9. SERBIA - Miroslav Gojic <miroslavgojic@gmail.com>;
10. SPAIN-Jimmy Jönsson <jimmy.jonsson@jvvafire.com>;
11. SWITZERLAND-David Grossmann <David.Grossmann@baslerhofmann.ch>;
12. UK - Karl Wallasch <KarlWallasch@hoarelea.com>;

Unable to attend:

1. NORWAY -John Utstand <JUT@cowi.com>
2. SWEDEN - Robert Jansson McNamee <robert.mcnamee@brandskyddslaget.se>;

1. LAST MEETING MINUTES

Agreements: Malaga SFPE Meeting Minutes prepared by Kees was approved.

Comments:

It is pending to upgrade the Governance document following the comments made and approved in Malaga. Jimmy will complete it.

2. EVENTS:

To discuss and agree date and location.

2.1. **Next Chapter leaders meeting:**

- Locations candidates: To confirm.
- Date: To confirm in Autumn 2019. Doodle will be submitted.

Comments: Miroslav proposed Belgrado but other options were preferred to make the travel easier. Armelle offered the CNPP offices in Paris downtown, and Kees offered his offices in Brussels next to the airport. Where possible, activities could be organized back to back with a leaders meeting, e.g. with students. We agreed that we should develop a simple ballot, based on transparent criteria with a view to avoid repetitive discussion on this topic.

Agreement:

A document will be prepared by Jose Luis, Karl and Peter detailing the criteria to select a location and making a firm proposal for the meeting. The date will be then agreed.

2.2. **2020. International Symposium:**

- First symposium 2020 Topic: Fire engineering solutions for heritage and cultural sites.

- Locations candidates: Lisbon, Paris and Rome
- Date: May/June 2020.

Note: It was explained by Jose Luis that SFPE requests that any international event be done through SFPE, that is, these must be organized and hosted by SFPE. It would be 1-1.5 days. SFPE is planning to launch this type of format around the world (“engineering solutions in xyz format”) to tap into specific verticals in the industry to grow our presence and membership as well as take a deeper dive around specific topics.

Also for this topic, we agreed that we should develop a simple ballot, based on transparent criteria with a view to avoid repetitive discussion on this topic. Upon receiving final candidates, we can send out a ballot, and simply choose on the basis of the returned votes.

Agreement: A document will be prepared by Jose Luis, Karl and Peter detailing the criteria to select a location and possible topics. The document will make a firm proposal of topic, place and date for 2020, 2022 and 2024.

2.3. 2021. European Conference.

- Locations candidates: UK (London or Edinburgh) and Berlin.
- Date: To be defined by May 2021.

Comments: Karl explained that both London and Edinburg are good options. David explained that Berlin would help to promote SFPE in Germany. Again, also for this topic, we agreed that we should develop a simple ballot, based on transparent criteria with a view to avoid repetitive discussion on this topic. Upon receiving final candidates, we can send out a ballot, and simply choose on the basis of the returned votes.

Agreement:

A document will be prepared by Jose Luis, Karl and Peter detailing the criteria to select a location and possible topics. The document will make a firm proposal for 2021, 2023 and 2025.

3. EUROPEAN FIRE CODE:

Paulo made a presentation about the need of being very active in the European project of a new Fire Code. He proposes to organize debates and workshops in each country to collect information about the needs.

David proposes to prepare a questionnaire and send to European SFPE members and non-members.

Kees added that the European Commission is very vocal about this topic, and have expressed on multiple occasions (including Malaga), that they see SFPE as a major stakeholder.

Agreement:

A new task group will prepare an action plan to try to lead the actions to develop a new European Fire Code. The action plan will include a questionnaire to be distributed to as many people as possible, and guidelines of actions to be done at each country. We decided that we should have proper engagement outside of the chapter leaders.

The group is composed by Jimmy, Kees, Paulo and Michael Stromgren will be invited to participate.

4. NEW CHAPTERS.

Ideas, proposal, news.

4.1. Germany, Finland, Iceland, Denmark, Baltic countries...

4.2. NEW Student chapters: Proposal to search at least universities where there are Fire Departments to contact them and promote Student Chapters.

Agreement:

Efforts will continue to create new chapters.

Tadeusz and Paulo said that they will try to reactivate their contacts in countries without a chapter. David has an action plan to create a Chapter in Germany in 2019.

5. INVOLVEMENT IN SFPE:

Discussion on how to promote participation of SFPE members in Europe to be more active in SFPE Standing Committees.

Discussion about **benefits of being member of SFPE vs Chapter supporter/friend.**

There is an open debate about the rights of being member of SFPE or friend/supporter of a chapter.

Agreement:

Kees and David will prepare a document detailing the benefits of being member of SFPE vs member only of the local chapter.

6. FINANCE SFPE EUROPE:

SFPE Europe has some costs (Salary of the "partial time" European Director) and will most probably increase in the near future ("Full time" European Director, secretary, office).

Incomes from European SFPE should be able to pay expenses.

David Grossman made a presentation giving different alternatives to finance SFPE Europe, with the participation of all chapters.

Jimmy explained that SFPE incomes are from Sponsors, member fees, events, courses, publications and donations

Comments: To be further discussed with BoD and internally.

7. START PROCESS CHAIR-ELECT:

Kees confirmed his willingness to continue in 2020 as Chair.

Agreements:

1. The election process for New Chair will be initiated. The elected Chair will cooperate with the actual Chair.

8. OTHER POINTS:

Kees proposed to ask the BoD to have a permanent seat for Europe in the BoD as succession of Jimmy and/or Armelle to guarantee that the Europe has voice and vote. Pros and cons were discussed. It was agreed that Kees would write to the BoD to express concerns.

The meeting finished at 17h.