

**DIAKONIA WORLD FEDERATION (DWF)
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC) MEETING
November 12 – November 17, 2019
DiaLog Hotel Neuendettelsau
Wilhelm-Löhe-Straße 22, 91564 Neuendettelsau, Germany**

PRESENT:

Members: Sandy Boyce (President); Ted Dodd (DOTAC Regional President); Marianne Uri Øverland (DRAE Regional President and Vice-President DWF); Gordon Pennykid (DRAE); Jan Cherry (DOTAC); Sr. Elisabeth Maier (DRAE); Christa Megaw, Advisor (DAP); Birgit Banzhaf (DRAE); Alternate Judy Knowling (DAP);

Officers: Diane Kaufmann, Web Manager; Traude Leitenberger, Secretary; Thorsten Walter, Representative for finances and legal support;

German Editor: Ulrike Kellner, November 16, 2020;

Apologies: Meresiana Kuricava (DAP Regional President); Anne Russell-Brighty (DAP Vice-President); Ibronke Oworu (DRAE Vice-President);

Sandy Boyce welcomed the Executive Committee. She led us in a reflection on saints of every time and place, asking us to remember our saints who have died. We noted the Rev Deaconess, Dr. Gwen Sayler and Deac Ingrid Vogt in particular.

Sandy outlined the EC agenda and explained how to use the colored cards during the meeting.

She reminded us to hold these questions in our minds, while we do our work:

- How are we doing our work?
- What do we continue to do?
- What do we stop doing?
- What do we start doing?
- What do we do differently?

Approval of the minutes

The minutes from the 2018 EC meetings at Berlin, Germany were approved.

Marianne noted that it is important to us to review the minutes in order to be sure that we have not forgotten any task.

1. Reports

1.1 President *(See report.)*

1.2 Finance Report: Thorsten Walter

Thorsten Walter gave a preliminary report, asking questions he needed answered by the EC members, and asking for questions and concerns in return, see report

1.3 DRAE Region Report: Marianne Uri Øverland *(See report.)*

1.4 Secretary Traude Leitenberger *(See report.)*

1.5 DOTAC Regional Report: Ted Dodd *(See report.)*

1.6 DAP Regional Report: Christa Megaw *(See report.)*

1.7 Report of Webmaster: Diane Kaufmann (See report)

We want to update the website with more pictures and stories. We looked at examples to get ideas. We want the first impression more lively and informative. The regions decide what they want to have posted. With this new website let us hope there will be not as much repetition. We are asking the writer of the monthly prayer to look at the website to take a look if it needs to be updated.

Action: Each region has agreed to provide material to be uploaded.

2. Other reports

2.1 RE-DI Ted Dodd (see report)

The EC agreed maintaining a connection is important, suggesting DWF might be able to help with the practical side of their research. Ted agreed to work on that.

Action: Marianne will attend the next meeting in Norway.

2.2 International Diaconate Center (IDZ)

We still need to appoint a representative from DRAE.

The meeting in March 2020 in Stuttgart, Elisabeth and Traude will attend.

2.3 World Council of Churches (WCC)

It is important to continue this connection. Marianne will attend the next meeting.

3. DIAKAID and Emergency Funds

No new applications came in.

We discussed the difficulties of getting the information to the people who need it. The question was raised about the theme of education. The discussion continued around the idea that these projects might focus on ways to strengthen diaconal understanding and work.

Concern was expressed about the paperwork that is needed to access funds when needed for DIAKAID projects and Emergency support of members.

We talked about new guidelines what new issues for DIAKAID could be.

Action: The guidelines will be revised at the next meeting and then discussed in detail at the Darwin World Conference.

4. Election of President and appointment of new Secretary 2021

We began to look at the process that is needed.

Jan, Elisabeth and Christa agreed to serve as the nominating committee.

5. World Assembly in Darwin 2021

See Report from the DAP representatives.

We had a discussion about cost of translation into German. There was a suggestion that the translator from DRAE might be available. The idea was made that translation might be paid through sponsorships.

6. English editing

Diane, Jan, Christa and Sandy agreed to review and edit English translations.

7. DIAKONIA News

We have revised the format of DIAKONIA News, see report for details.

8. Budget 2020

INCOME	2020
Member fees	20000
Interest	1000
Donations	5000
Assembly	0
From general fund	8200
From DIAKAID	3000
	37200
EXPENDITURE	
Executive Committee	14000
Contract Diakoneo	8000
Honorarium	4000
Professional services	4000
Presidents fund	2000
Ecumenical	1200
Admin	0
Miscellaneous	1000
Assembly	0
Grants (DIAKAID)	3000
	37200

The budget was approved.

The appointed treasurer is Gordon. He will receive a monthly report from RFL Thorsten Walter concerning the account movement.

9. DIAKONIA Prayer

New guidelines for the prayer have been created, see report.

Writers who are not on the EC need to get the new guidelines. Prayer letter assignments were made.

Action: Each writer is asked to add a statement at the end: I belong to / participate in DWF because.....

10. Logo

The current logos need to be updated, so colors are set to professional standard and we have the proper resolutions for all our uses. Gordon will talk to his graphic department to see if they can help. Conversation was held around the idea that we could use the Berlin 2013 logo as a new logo. We were told that we own the copyright. There was a lot of interest to pursue **this idea next year**. We found the explanation of the logo.

11. Discussion “What are the benefits of belonging to DWF”?

See report

12. Justice – Advocacy

A long discussion on how we help/encourage/choose justice issues for DWF.

We discussed how we take part in activities and how we stay connected.

In several assemblies there was a focus on justice issues e.g. Human Trafficking, Thursdays in Black, Break the Silence Sunday (the fourth Sunday of April each year, see <https://breakthesilencesunday.org/what-we-are-about/>).

With the pin and the black clothes on Thursdays we take part in the worldwide action of the WCC against rape and violence.

Action: The pin “Thursdays in Black”

13. Bylaws

Jan was asked to put Constitution, Bylaws and Guideline next to each other for the EC members to check if all the important points are noted and to avoid repetition.

Action: EC will receive this draft version before the meeting in Frankfurt. The approval of the Bylaws will take part during the EC meeting 2020 to be presented by the delegates in Darwin 2021.

14. Thanks to our hosts

Thanks to the Deaconess community for the meeting room in the Motherhouse.

Thanks to Sr. Roswitha Buff and the members of the Diaconal Community for assistance during the meeting and the invitation to Heilsbronn. A highlight was the cultural visit to the Monastery Heilsbronn including the musical guided tour of the church.

15. Date for Executive Committee Meeting 2020

The next DWF Executive Committee meeting will be held from Tuesday, July 14, to July 19, 2020 in Frankfurt/Main, Germany. The first and the last days are travel days.

Mössingen, March 12, 2020



Sandy Boyce, President



Traude Leitenberger, Secretary