



European Oncology Nursing Society General Meeting

Friday 27 April 2012
Geneva, Switzerland

MINUTES

Present:

Mrs. Birgitte Grube	President
Mr. Erik van Muilekom	President-Elect
Dr. Sultan Kav	Past-President
Dr. Lena Sharp	Board member
Mrs. Françoise Charnay-Sonnek	Board member
Mrs. Anita Margulies	Board member
Dr. Mary Wells	Board Secretary
Prof. Daniel Kelly	EONS Treasurer
Mr. Paul Trevatt	Board member
Dr. Clair Watts	Executive Director
Mr. Rudi Briké	Executive Secretary

Also:

Representatives of the national society members, associated members, individual members and members of the EONS National Oncology Nursing Societies.

Item 1 Welcome

Mrs. Grube welcomed everyone to the General Meeting and introduced the members of the EONS Executive Board and the EONS staff.

Item 2 Minutes of the previous meeting:

The members approved, and the President signed, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16 April 2011 during the EMCC in Stockholm, Sweden.

Item 3 President's report

At the November 2011 EONS Executive Board meeting, it had been agreed that each board member, besides being Executive Board member, would also have a specialized role.

Mrs. Grube informed the participants about the different Board roles and the 4 specialist roles linking to Communication/Advocacy/Research and Education (CARE). She outlined the WG Chairs' responsibilities and gave an overview of the CARE Working Groups. She invited the members to join one of these Working Groups.

Mrs. Grube also outlined the main action points which came out of a series of 'Expectations Talks' she had with the EONS Board members. She informed the participants that the EONS Board had performed a Risk Management exercise in order to measure potential risk factors and to put in place control measures. Mrs. Grube pointed out that risk factors were defined in 5 key areas which were scored in order to prioritise them. She stressed the fact that a number of risks were external and hence outside of EONS control to manage.

Mrs. Grube informed the participants that the current EONS Vision & Mission had been revised and updated, to express the sense of active engagement.

As part of the Advocacy work of EONS, Mrs. Grube reported that she and Mr. Van Muilekom are members of the ISNCC Executive Board. She also participated in the General Meeting of the EFN, which took place in Brussels on Wednesday April 18.

Mrs. Grube reminded the participants that the next meeting of the Advisory Council would take place on Saturday 24 November 2012 and she invited the EONS' Societies to apply if they would be interested in hosting this event. The invitation would soon be available on the EONS website.

Item 4 Treasurer's Financial Report

Prof. Kelly presented the final budget for FY 2010/2011. He confirmed that the finances were in good shape but he indicated we would need to take into account a number of financial challenges.

Prof. Kelly compared the difference in income with 2009-2010 and noted a reduced income from membership, mainly due to the fact that there are now fewer sustaining members. He also highlighted a significant difference between 2010/2011 regarding income from Conferences. Dr. Kelly pointed out this difference would be somewhat rectified when the profit from Stockholm 2011 EMCC is received.

Prof. Kelly outlined the budgetary strategy for FY 2011/2012, which had to take account of various challenges such as reduced funding due to the new restrictions regarding pharmaceutical support and the economic and financial crisis. As a result EONS had to be both realistic and careful in funding new activities and to cut down in project costs where possible. Prof. Kelly outlined also the budgetary strategy for 2012/2013.

Item 5 Treasurer role modification

Dr. Watts provided background information with regard to the Treasurer role and the EONS financial structure. She explained that Board members do not have always the appropriate level of financial knowledge and skills to act as a Treasurer, hence the need to have an expert and informed voice to advice and assist in Board discussions about EONS finances. She informed the participants that during the February 2012 Board meeting it had been agreed that finance professionals as well as nurses would be allowed to apply for the role as EONS Treasurer. She outlined the advantages of this change and invited the members to comment before end of May by email to the EONS secretariat.

Item 6 EONS activities

Dr. Kav gave an overview of the different Working Groups and Task Groups and their specific aims and activities. She re-iterated the President's invitation to the participants to engage in one of the EONS Working Groups.

-ESO-EONS Masterclass

Mrs. Margulies updated the participants about the successful ESO-EONS Masterclass, which took place from 17-22 March 2012 in Ermatingen, Switzerland. She also announced that the 6th ESO-EONS Masterclass would take place from 16-21 March 2013.

She pointed out the online application for this Masterclass would soon be available at the EONS website.

-PEPs Project

Mrs. Margulies also informed the participants about the EONS PEPs project as part of the EONS involvement in the EPAAC Work Package 7: Healthcare. She outlined the different phases in this project and informed the participants about the 2 day Implementation workshop which would take place in Brussels on 21-22 September 2012.

-Research Workshop 2012

Dr. Wells updated the participants about the 2nd EONS Research Proposal Workshop which is planned to take place in Stockholm, Sweden from 29-31st August 2012. She pointed out the deadline for applications had been extended until the end of April 2012.

Item 7 Grants & Awards

-EONS-8 Spring Convention registration awards

Mrs. Charnay-Sonnek provided an overview of the Societies and Individuals who received the EONS-8 Registration Award.

-Lifetime Achievement Award 2012

Mrs. Charnay-Sonnek informed the audience that Prof. Nurgün Platin would receive the EONS Lifetime Achievement Award 2012 to acknowledge her role as a leader and pioneer in oncology nursing in Turkey.

-Clinical Travel grant 2011

Mrs. Katja Rasch, oncology nurse/research nurse at the department of Neuro-oncology at the University of Bonn, Germany, reported on her clinical visit to the British Columbia Cancer Agency (BCCA) regional centre in Vancouver, Canada. She outlined the goals of her visit and stressed the importance of the psychosocial and psychooncological support and the role of the nurse practitioner as a mediator and primary contact.

-EONS Major Research Grant 2009

Dr. Sharp updated the participants with regard to this research project, for which she received a grant from EONS. She particularly mentioned the difficulties she encountered regarding receiving recognition for a nurse-led trial and the costs of preparing packs of topical cream for the radiation skin reaction study.

-Open Grants & Awards 2012-2013

Mrs. Charnay-Sonnek gave an overview of Grants and Awards that would become available in 2012 and 2013.

Item 8 Upcoming events

-EMCC 2013

Mr. Van Muilekom informed the participants that the Nursing programme for EMCC 2013, to take place in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, from 27 September to 1st October 2013, would be prepared by mid-June.

-EONS 30th Anniversary celebration

Mr. Trevatt provided an update with regard to the EONS 30th Anniversary Celebration which would take place in London in Spring 2014. This would be a one day event, aiming at about 200 invitees and focusing on the development of EONS over the last 30 years and outlining plans for the future.

-EONS-9

EONS-9 would take place in Autumn 2014. Mr. Trevatt pointed out this would be a 2 day event for around 300 participants, preferably taking place in the southern or eastern region of Europe. He informed the participants that an invitation for bids to host the event would soon be launched.

Item 9 Open Discussion forum

A question was raised from the delegate of the Swiss Oncology Nursing Society (SONS) with regard to the status of the EONS financial reserve. Dr. Watts replied by pointing out EONS has a very strong reserve of over ½ million Euros which is required by charity regulations. She also referred to the fact that every alternate year EONS income is low, because our income from conferences is received during the next financial year and therefore does not show on our accounts. For example, this year the Stockholm EMCC 2011 income is still to be received. Dr. Watts admitted that this pattern of 1 larger income every 2 years could be a risk for EONS, hence she stressed the importance of having this extra support from the financial reserve. Dr. Watts informed participants that the finances have been signed off and are now published on the Charities website.

The Swiss delegate also raised a question with regard to the possibility of voting during the meeting in order to agree on specific issues. Mrs. Grube replied this would be taken into account for the next meeting.

Item 12 Date, time and place of next meeting

The next General meeting would take place during EMCC 2013 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Exact time and location would be communicated in due course.

Signed:

Date:

The presentations during the meeting are available in a separate document.