Europa Forum Youth Exchange Meeting 2015

Meeting Minutes Friday 9th October 2015 at Augsburg

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| Agenda  Item Number | Detail | Lead Lion |
| 1. | *Opening & Welcome* – Lion Dieter Bug opened the meeting by introducing all members of the Board | Lion Dieter Bug |
| 2. | *Presentation of Board*   * YCE Chairperson Europa Forum 2015: Dieter Bug Germany * YCE President Europe 2015-2016: Dieter Bug Germany * Representing Oak Brook: Michelle Anderson * Secretary of Europa forum responsible for the minutes: Gerald Kreuwel * Secretary-webmaster all over the year 2015 – 2016: Paul Vanderhaeghen Belgium | All Board members by themselves |
| 3. | *Short Presentation of EU Project Concept Training of YCEC*   * Lion Rita Bella Ada explains the EU Project and sends the list of attendants around | Lion Rita Bella Ada |
| 4. | *Set-up of the YCE- Board & Functioning for EF 2015*,  Lion Paul Vanderhaeghen explains the Board and the Roll-Call again and gives the Voting Cards to each delegate per European country. 23 Cards were given in total.  Lion Mats Granath from Sweden supports the idea of 1 vote per European Country. He suggests however to make the amount of Votes dependent on Size. Next year a proposal will be set up that may be brought to voting in the Europa Forum 2016. Several countries are against it. | Lion Paul Vanderhaeghen |
| 5. | Lion Dieter Bug initiates the next topics for discussion. | Lion Dieter Bug |
| 6. | Projects and Reports part I: Questions and Answers, Statements from all MDs and Districts | All YCEC Moderation: Lion Paul Vanderhaeghen |
| 6.1 | *Acceptance form*  Compulsory use of the “Acceptance form”.  Use of the same acceptance form by all countries.  “Acceptance form” to be send within 14 days and after following documents have been send:   * Application form, all items have to be filled in, or mentioned “No” or “In request”. * Photo self head to shoulder * Letter to the host family * Scan of passport * Scan of page 3rd with all 5 signatures   The proposal can be used as a good general suggestion or recommendation. It is not to be used compulsory but flexibly.  Lion Paul Withers suggests that the acceptance process is in multiple steps, because some relevant information for the acceptance form cannot be filled out at the beginning. Knowing the airport is most important.  He stresses that the youths have to bring the form in order not to be waiting at customs.  Lion Dorit Nitzani from Israel asks to have the names of host families earlier, latest End of April.  Lion Gerald Kreuwel suggests also to fill out the flight number and flight time. Lion David Drobesch from Austria suggests to define an acceptable arrival and departure time. These should be mandatory. Lion Paul Wither from UK prefers to be flexible on this matter. | Lion Paul Vanderhaeghen |
| 6.2 | *Host family*  a) Should a student be guaranteed accommodation in a host family, if there is no spare room available; could we place them in a hotel, rent a room, etc. ?  b) Could a single person (male or female) be a host family?  c) Could a couple (same gender) be a host family?  Lion Ivan Nikolic suggests to have youths in a hotel during the night. This is not taken very well by the majority. This is to be solved by the organizing Lions Club.  The host family is an essential part of the cultural exchange of every camp.  Lion Paul Withers from UK again pleads for possible exceptions in case of an emergency.  Lion Michelle Anderson from LCI explains that the cultural exchange is the main goal of the entire program. A secured place in a host family is required. Host lions have to take measures in case of emergencies and difficult situations.  Lion Francesco Gomez from Mexico explains problems about insurances not being accepted in his country.  Lion Ivan Nikolic asks if a family can also be 1 person, or 2 persons of the same gender. Yes, General agreement to strongly recommend this. | Lion Ivan Nikolic |
| 6.3 | *Bazaar on Friday for the next Europa Forum?*  Lion Dieter Bug explains that this year the Europa Forum has started one day later (on the Friday) in order to have more people come to the event during the weekend. Therefore the YCEC program also started one day later, so the Bazar had to be on the Saturday. | Lion Urs Müller |
| 6.4 | *Camp Managers/Local culture work*  1. How do we point out our Camp Managers? Education?  2. How does the local culture work on our Lions camps according to equality?  Lion Mats Granath explains that in Sweden there is no official procedure for the assignment and education of YCEC. This may lead to problems. The next Board should develop a program for learning and educating camp managers. This will be available at the next Europa Forum 2016. Work on it has already started.  Lion Rita Bella Ada explains that it is now already a topic on the current agenda of this Europa Forum 2015. Both on Friday afternoon and on Saturday there are workshops to discuss these topics.  In some camps boys and girls are treated differently. This is not to be encouraged; however the specifics of each country’s traditions need to be respected. Future Lions activities and exchange must consider gender mainstreaming. | Lion Mats Granath |
|  | Coffee Break |  |
| 7. | Projects and Reports part II: Questions and Answers, Statements from all MDs and Districts | All YCEC Moderation: Lion Paul Vanderhaeghen |
| 7.1 | *Host family in Application form*  Lion Loris Baraldi from Italy suggests changing the Application Form with an extra line to ask the Family if the family of the out-going youth agrees to become a host family for the next year.  Discussion on the level of details.   * In some countries this is compulsory and therefore it doesn’t need to be asked. * It is unclear what to do in case the answer is NO. * Lions Clubs that are sponsoring are not able to answer this question. * Every LC has an obligation (“we serve”) * In some cases this kind of information is added to the own local information and agreement between parents, youth and the club.   Lion Dieter Bug from Germany explains that it only serves as a way to find more host families. Each country should handle it as they like and prefer.  Lion Marie Johansson suggests leaving the year and the number of weeks out.  Lion Michelle Anderson asks how many countries require reciprocity: the majority does.  The Board recommends to add the line to the Application Form; however to remove the year and the number of weeks. It will be tried out for the coming year. | Lion George Everdij  &  Lion Loris Baraldi |
| 7.2 | *Adapt international website*  Lion Loris Baraldi suggests to change the website of LCI in order to emphasize the goals of the entire program and so avoid misunderstandings (e.g. host families expecting payment for meals, or for organizing excursions).  Agreement to ask Lion Michelle Anderson of LCI to take these requests for changes in the website for consideration by LCI.  Lion Paul Withers from UK suggests adding a line that the youths have to be prepared to participate in a Lion service activity.  Lion Michelle Anderson of LCI agreed to take the suggestions into consideration. | Lion Loris Baraldi |
| 7.3 | *Follow up items Birmingham*   * Any problems with deleted camps? *NO* * Any problems with late answers from YCEC? *YES* * Do not correspond directly with students and all interested parties always in CC? *NO, but keep YCEC on CC* * Especially not in case of host families. Use of e-mail groups in your e-mail program * AF can only be sent by an YCEC listed in the list of Lion Paul Vanderhaeghen, any problems this year? *YES unfortunately* * Send all documents in 1 mail and only when all documents are available? *YES, agreed. Only 4 are mandatory. Passport may come later as agreed in Birmingham. However the ID is necessary for checks and for letters to the embassy* * Alcohol. In the announcement of camps by Oak Brook and in the list published by Paul it should be mentioned when a camp is alcohol free. *YES there were problems in some camps with the use of alcohol. Use of alcohol must be addressed in the camp rules* * Allow fees? We notice that in some countries the fees are becoming higher and higher (e.g. Hawaii). Can Oak Brook do something about it? It has to be in the directory with a recommendation about the level or the fees. *YES, Lion Michelle Anderson of LCI will take into consideration*   New LEO Seminar from Israel (15.04.2016 for 5 days)  Seminar “Bridge for Peace”. The seminar will be focussing on matters of accepting und understanding others. Lion Ilana Tempelhof from Israel will send the relevant information.  There will be a fee of 100-150€.  In Italy there will be a winter camp, including host family stay. There will be a 200€ fee. Information will follow later.  Lion Larisa Osinska who could not come, but did mention a camp in Ukraine 2nd – 16th of July 2016 | Lion Paul Vanderhaeghen |
| 9. | Lunch Break |  |
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| 10. | Welcome and presentation PDG Lutz Sass | Lion Dieter Bug |
| 11. | *Standards and Safety in Youth Exchange Part I:*  *Presentation of the German YCEC Manual*  Lions have a large responsibility when providing youth exchange camps. Parents have expectations regarding quality and completeness of information as well as security for their children. Unified standards help to sustain a high quality. Furthermore Laws enforce quality standards for working with youths. The Board of German Governors declared the quality standards binding for all camps.  In Germany there is a special certificate for working with youths (mandatory by law). Teachers have such a certificate through their job. Lions camp crew should also have such a certificate.  For every youth an extra insurance is arranged (health and liability). This is needed because not everybody has an appropriate insurance or they are not sufficient. It is and will be the responsibility of the outgoing YCEC to make sure that the youths have their insurance organized.  The idea of a collective insurance for all youths is appreciated as a general recommendation for all other countries. Such a collective insurance is negotiated by Lions of the country on behalf of participating clubs that organize a camp. | PDG Lutz Sass |
| 12. | Coffee Break |  |
| 13. | *Standards and Safety in Youth Exchange Part II: Workshop: development of training concept for YCEC*  3 Groups: N1. How are you prepared as YCEC   * Starting as a co-assistant * Learn in the field from the predecessor * Workshops with other YCEC (2-4 per year) * Standards and Safety manual (Germany) * Learning by doing * Learning by visiting a camp your self * Perhaps a training similar as DG training * Need of a planning time line * Getting the training ahead of practice * Interchange of best practices * Historical database of information w. consideration of data protection   No.2 What shout a YCEC training look like   * Need of historical information * Experiences from other camps, or he should have been a youth in a camp, or a host family * Mentorship from a predecessor for 1 year * Model for being a YCEC similar to the Schweizer Modell * YCEC exchange meetings * At least 1 day in a camp * YCE yearly conference * YCE exchange to get experience from other countries * Collect and share best practices * Meet the people involved in the district / camps   No.3 What would you make better? What to expect from training   * Mentoring * Providing tools * Job manuals * Job description * Motivation * More international exchange * Financing information * Common platform * Long term vision and structure   Lion Rita Bella Ada and Juliane Meißner will aggregate all Information that was provided. This will be send to all participants.  Lion Michelle Anderson from LCI thanks all. She also explains that the Board Policy has undergone smaller changes. The deadline for submittal of camps to the international directory was 30th September, but can be extended a little bit.  Report of statistics of all camps per country is due in December 15th 2015.  Lion Dieter Bug thanks Michelle for her presence today. | All YCEC Moderation: Lion Rita Bella Ada  & Juliane Meißner |
| 14. | *Presentation Europa Forum Sofia 2016*  is postponed for the next day, because the relevant speakers were not present. | YCEC Bulgaria |
| 15. | *Closing*  Lion Dieter Bug thanks all participants for their enthusiastic and constructive participation in the discussions and invites everyone for the workshops on Saturday as well as the Bazaar. | Lion Dieter Bug |
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|  | Refugees as youths for a camp in Austria |  |
|  | Heini Brushane from Finland is rewarded for her outstanding work as a YCEC |  |
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| **TOP** | **Saturday 10th** |  |
| **1.** | *Welcome & Presentation of Peter Sicking & Mr. Buschschuster*  Lion Dieter Bug introduces Mr. Peter Sicking for a presentation on the topic “inclusion” | Lion Dieter Bug |
| **2.** | Inclusion Part I - A theoretical and practical Approach  Mr. Buchschuster  Lion Mats Granath mentions that it would be better talk about HBTQ (Homo- Bi- Trans- and Queer-Sexual)?  Including disabled people in youth camps is recommended even with their standard trainer.  There is a suggestion to integrate it into the new training to be setup.  Can we take up an Asberger sick person: YES  Visit special companies for disabled people as part of the camp program.  Mr. Buchschuster does not feel “neglected” in anyway.  Interacting with disabled people makes life “happier” sometimes, because they seem to take the stress out of a hectic life.  In Turkey an Asberger Patient was part of a camp in a very successful way.  10.10.2015 is Mental Health Day!!  Could interaction with disabled people cause problems with youths and/or their parents?  Taking part in a Lions activity must be part of the acceptance procedure for youths.  Don’t be afraid about the reactions of youths, because they are much more flexible then one would expect. | Dr. Peter Sicking  & Mr. Buchschuster |
| **3.** | Coffee Break |  |
| **4.** | *Inclusion Part II - A theoretical and practical Approach*  Conclusion | Dr. Peter Sicking  & Mr. Buchschuster |
| **5.** | Welcome and Presentation | Lion Dieter Bug |
| **6.** | Pantomime | Claudia Weyel |
| **7.** | Presentation: *How much Inclusion can a Deaf Person Do with?* | Gerald Mielke-Weyel Ms. Mueller |
| **8.** | *Clip Music* | Gerald Mielke-Weyel Ms. Mueller |
| **9.** | *Inclusion and Lions Youth Exchange -The Italian Way*  Italy has a Camp “Solidarity” with disabled mixed with “normal” people already for 8 years now. |  |
| **10.** | Meet the IP, the EF Chairman Dr. Manfred Westhoff and the CC of MD 111 | All YCEC |
| **11.** | Lunch Break |  |
| **12.** | Approval of Meeting Minutes  Minor enhancements were made. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously. | Lion Paul Vanderhaeghen  & Lion Gerald Kreuwel All YCEC |
| **13.** | *Closing*  Lion Dieter Bug thanks all members of the Board for their work. He also thanks all participants for the lively discussions and active participation. Lion Paul Vanderhaeghen in return thanks Lions Dieter Bug for being the YCE Chairperson of this year’s Europa Forum. He also points out that Lion Dieter Bug will be the YCE President Europe for 2015-2016 | Lion Dieter Bug |
| **14.** | *Bazaar* | All YCEC |
| **15.** | *Closing*  Introduction to Fuggerei for Excursion on Sunday  End of day | Lion Dieter Bug |