

WNF Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE: August 11, 2018

4:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time

Attendees:

Canada – Iva Lloyd
Argentina – Claudio Esteve
Australia – Natalie Cook
Chile – Jorge Neira Bravo
Czech Republic – Kate Boesenberg
Nepal – Dr. Karki
New Zealand – Jill Dunn
Slovenia – Erika Brajnik
Spain – Tina Hausser

United Kingdom – Tom Greenfield
Zambia – Lawrence Chanza

Jon Wardle – Secretariat
Daria Parsons – Recorder

Regrets:

South Africa – Stephen Farrugia
United States – Moira Fitzpatrick
Dave Deeley – Assistant Secretariat

Next Executive Committee Meeting - Sat, November 10, 2018, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
EDT

WNF Agenda Items

1. Approval of May 2018 Executive Committee meeting minutes

Tom Greenfield inquired if the Naturopathic Root Committee document will be sent to members for feedback as indicated in the previous minutes. Iva reported that the document will be sent in the fall.

Tom Greenfield asked for an update on Wikipedia. Iva reported she has been in touch with the group and is awaiting information. Iva assured the Committee that the page will be protected.

Motion to approve the May 2018 minutes: Natalie Cook

Seconded - Jill Dunn

Motion carried

2. Membership

a. Renewal update

WNF membership has rolled over except for the following:

- The Associate member from India (INO) did not renew
- The Full member from Saudi Arabia did not renew because there was one ND in the country and he was leaving the country.

The non-profit sponsor 'Foundation of Naturopathic Medicine FNM' re-joined the WNF after a year of absence.

b. Approval of new members

i. Full: Greece: Panhellenic Naturopathic Association

Tina reported that they sent invitation letters to associations to join WNF over the last three months. An association from Greece has applied for full membership. Greece has 20 members and their bylaws are in order.

ACTION: Tina will clarify that the name on the membership form aligns with the signature.

Motion to accept the new Full members are presented: Iva Lloyd

Seconded by Tom Greenfield

Motion carried

ii. Associate: Canada: British Columbia Naturopathic Association BCNA

Motion to accept the new Associate members are presented: Erika Brajnik

Seconded by Claudio Esteve

Motion carried

*iii. Educational: EUNAM Institute, Italy**

This organization has a three year program including 1560 hours (400 hours of clinical practice). The full member in Italy supports the EUNAM Institute joining. They are accredited by state law in Italy and have 44 students.

Motion to accept the new Educational member: Jill Dunn

Seconded by Tom Greenfield

Because the application was submitted last week and Italian contacts are on holidays, the paperwork is not yet complete.

Decision – The Executive Committee provided approval in principle to accept EUNAM Institute in Italy as an educational member with the understanding that the paperwork will be circulated to the Committee when available.

*iv. Educational: Škola Klinické Naturopatie, Czech Republic**

The application has been reviewed by the Membership Committee but was not distributed with the agenda package. The WHO minimum standards are met and there are no legal issues. They have 102 students currently. The program is over 1500 hours plus 400 clinical practice hours.

Motion to accept the new Education member: Jill Dunn

Seconded by Tom Greenfield

Motion carried

Iva reported there were four new members in this period which is excellent. Iva has received an enquiry from Russia. There are 3-4 applications currently being reviewed which are expected to be approved for membership.

ACTION: Executive Committee members should contact Iva if there are countries that should be approached to join WNF.

3. Strategic Plan Progress

Iva reported that WNF is on track with respect to the Strategic Plan. The educational standards project is a significant accomplishment.

4. General Assembly 2019

a. Marketing piece (attached)

A one-page backgrounder has been developed for the General Assembly theme of *Bridging the Gap*. The General Assembly discussions will include research and regulations. The meeting will include a 1.5 day workshop. Two people can attend for each organization/sponsor. There is no charge to attend the meeting itself.

The General Assembly will take place in two schools, and participants will have the opportunity to visit both.

ACTION: Executive Committee members can provide input on the draft agenda for the General Assembly meeting.

ACTION: Iva will request that the poster be edited to read Federation instead of Foundation in the website address on the poster.

ACTION: Executive Committee members should contact Dave Deeley if they have any questions about the General Assembly.

ACTION: Natalie Cook from NHAA will send a formal letter of invitation for the WNF General Assembly.

ACTION: Jon Wardle will send information on accommodation to WNF members.

5. WHO

a. Updating naturopathic WHO benchmarks

WHO has asked WNF to participate in developing benchmarks for cupping education standards and yoga training standards. It is anticipated that this will require \$75,000-\$100,000 in funding. WNF members will have the opportunity to review the report when available.

b. Health Technology Assessment document

The HTA is the gold standard in outlining the cost, safety, effectiveness and practice in a profession. The WNF is conducting a HTA on the naturopathic profession. The results will likely be a 400 page document written by 25 people. Some WNF members will have an opportunity to review the document. This will be an important document for naturopathic medicine. It is anticipated that the document will be translated into Spanish.

c. Global Usage Survey

The Global Usage Survey will identify the conditions that patients have who seek Naturopathic care and the modalities that Naturopathic Doctors use e.g. hydrotherapy, herbal medicine, nutrition, homeopathics to treat patients. The criteria to participate in the Global Usage Survey are:

- Naturopathic Medicine/naturopathy must be practiced in a country for at least 10 years
- Participants must be Naturopathic Doctors/naturopaths who have practiced for at least 5 years

WNF will fund this \$10,000 project and also fund translation for countries that participate. The project will include all world regions except Eastern Mediterranean.

ACTION: Iva will send an invitation asking seventeen full WNF members to participate.

6. Call-to-Action Initiatives – Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR)

The World Health Assembly has identified AMR and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) as two of the top priorities. Seroyal has agreed to fund \$5,000 for an antimicrobial resistance poster promoting the role of NDs. WNF will develop a social media campaign to promote the project. If all goes well with this project, WNF will conduct a project for non-communicable diseases next year.

ACTION: WNF will develop a poster for Naturopathic clinics by December 2018. The WNF will establish a committee of 2-3 people and a website for the project. If members would like to be part of the program, they should contact Iva.

7. Committee Reports

a. Education Committee – Tom Greenfield

i. Correlation between Education and Credentials document (attached)

The Education Committee developed and approved in principle a working document outlining education and credentials. One issue that has been contentious that will be addressed by the Education Committee is the minimum recommended hours in class or clinic for full time study which varies across regions as to whether it is contact hours or total study time. This is the first document with extensive input from members that includes recommendations to be formally approved by the Executive Committee.

Iva reported that at the meetings in Mexico and Slovenia, participants requested a breakdown of regulations. The regulation document is a summary report without recommendations so does not need approval by the WNF Executive.

Executive Committee members agreed that this document will be helpful for countries to assess where they stand globally, can help new schools establish guidelines and can be used by countries to facilitate discussion with government to extend hours.

Motion to approve the Correlation between Education and Credentials document in principle: Tina Hausser

Seconded by Erika Brajnik

Motion carried

ii. Global Affiliations Committee – Iva Lloyd
Reported above.

iii. Naturopathic Roots Committee – Tina Hausser
The goal of the Naturopathic Roots Committee is to establish consistent language for Naturopathic Medicine/Naturopathy. The Committee has met four times since November 2017 and reviewed and discussed 14 terms. Six terms are still being discussed.

This project was initially introduced by the WHO because different areas use the same terminology with different meanings. The intention is to release the report from the Naturopathic Roots committee before WHO requests a formal working group.

ACTION: Results from the Naturopathic Roots Committee will be summarized and circulated to all WNF members for review by December 2018.

iv. Professional Mapping Committee – Jill Dunn
The Professional Mapping Committee is examining policy frameworks. The survey was opened between May and July 2018 and there have been 55 respondents from 25 countries. Nine out of 18 education institutions and 14 professional associations have sent documents to date.

ACTION: Executive Committee members should communicate with their networks to increase the survey response rate.

ACTION: Jill will let the Executive Committee know if she needs assistance.

v. WNF Regional Support Groups

- *African Support Group (Lawrence Chanza)*

Iva reported that Zambia will reopen their school in September.

- *European Support Group (Kate Boesenberg)*

The first meeting of the European Support Group was held in June and the second meeting is being held in September.

- *Latin America Support Group (Claudio Esteve)*

Latin America will hold a second meeting next month. Claudio is working to improve communication in Latin America.

Iva reported that WNF does not sponsor conferences.

ACTION: Iva suggested that Kate and Claudio encourage attendance at the National Assembly meeting during their Support Group meetings.

- *Western Pacific Support Group (Natalie Cook)*

The Western Pacific Support Group will meet on Monday, August 13th, 2018.

8. *Financial Update*

Iva reported for Jorge who had audio difficulties. The assets are \$82,982.78 and total expenses are \$54,516.65 according to the Profit and Loss statement. The amount of \$10,741.70 includes the cost for the General Assembly. WNF has kept administrative support costs low intentionally to increase sustainability. Officers are very active as a result. WNF has a part-time fundraiser and a part-time secretary and is a virtual organization to control costs.

Motion to approve the 2017/2018 financial statements: Natalie Cook

Seconded by Tom Greenfield

Motion carried

9. *Marketing Update*

Deferred to next meeting.

10. *Other Business*

a. WNF Volunteers

Iva has received a number of requests for volunteers e.g. Health Technology Assessment. Volunteers can be students or NDs with an interest in the work of WNF with areas of expertise such as translation, writing etc.

ACTION: WNF Executive Committee members should notify Iva if people want to volunteer.

b. Support for document collection

ACTION: WNF members should send international articles and books written by Naturopathic Doctors. The only criterion for books is that they are written by an ND. Articles must also be peer-reviewed publications.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm.