



**Board Meeting
24th January 2013 – Brussels
Minutes**

Attendees:

Cathy McGlynn, EFTBA – European Federation of Thoroughbred Breeders' Associations
Roly Owers, WHW - World Horse Welfare
Florence Gras, EPMA - European Pari Mutuel Association
Stefan Johanson, HNS - Swedish Horse Council Foundation
Bo Helander, EEF - European Equestrian Federation
Jesper Moller Nielsen – FEEVA, Equine Veterinarians
Pierre Lekeux, Hippolia, French Horse Cluster

Invited:

Josh Slater, FEEVA
Benedicte Ferry, IFCE (French Horse Institute)
Constance Popineau, FFE

Excused:

Klaus Miesner, World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses

1. Agenda and Minutes from the last Board meeting and AGM

Agenda was validated.

Minutes of the last Board meeting (4/09/2012) and AGM (17/10/12) were also approved.

2. Debriefing from the MEP Horse Group meeting on Health & Research

4 MEPs attending but important ones – Vicky Ford (UK, Conservatives) and Kent Johansson (SW, liberal) are both fully aware and dedicated to research issues.

MEPs involved are now contacting us for all political issues discussed in the Parliament.

EHN needs to contact and convince more MEPs in order for the group to gain credibility and visibility (other nationalities and other political groups).

All Board members must dedicate some time to the mission.

Cathy writes the Press Release.

On research issues, EHN could play its role of competence centre by gathering opinions/projects proposals of various European Research centres (INRA, Hippolia, Wageningen...).

Roly and Josh will prepare an online questionnaire/call for proposals – asking for priorities and projects.

Florence will contact the European Animal Technology Platform possibly in March to have an update of future call and planned projects.



3. New members

- EAAP (animal production, linked to research) – Stefan will contact them
- EEN (National Riding schools) Small association – Klaus will contact them

Florence informed members about her recent meeting with IFCE (French Horse Institute) interested to become members.

4. Next MEP Horse Group meeting

Next lunch could be in May or June – Date proposal to Julie Girling 28/29 May 2013 (was not accepted and changed to 18 June).

Topic: Health and Welfare

Roly will suggest an agenda

Leaflet on Horses & welfare could be prepared in spring to be distributed at next MEP Horse Group meeting.

5. Next EQUUS conference

- Ireland 2013 – EHN abandons the idea of organising a seminar in Dublin – Irish government will not support it.
- WEG 2014 – Stefan and Florence will soon meet the organising committee of WEG in Caen to validate the idea of Equus 2014 (end of August 2014).

6. Leaflet – updates

Horses & Welfare coordinated by Roly – Spring 2013

Horses & Environment coordinated by Florence – spring 2013

7. Discussion – Survey results presented at the AGM

Board members discussed results of the survey in order to find ways and tools to improve the information provided to EHN members.

Newsletter – In order to increase the number of Newsletter sent, Cathy suggested to re-organise the editing team – All members will be asked to send input by Stefan and Florence will write and format the Letter – Cathy will review and improve it.

Website – Roly and Cathy will share the regular update of the web pages.

Report from MEP Horse Group – Julie said she will send Conclusions to colleagues MEP. All EHN members should send it to their own network. Both actions will greatly improve the visibility of our meetings.

Increase events – Cathy suggested organising meetings with EU Commission officials and asking EHN members to participate.

8. Key discussions/ developments within the EU Commission 2013

Regulations and debates with an impact on the Horse sector:

Animal Welfare – no sign of any launch of the consultation process (end 2013?)

Animal Health Law – invite EU Commission at our next lunch meeting to have an update

Online Gambling and financing of sport – Debate starts in EU Parliament – Ashley Fox (UK, Conservatives) is rapporteurs and other MEPs such as Yvo Bellet (EPP, BE) wishes to insist on the financial return to sport.



Sustainable Financing of Sport (Irish Presidency) – Conference in Dublin on 8 March – Bo will ask if EEF participates.

Court Case with an impact on sport sector:

Court Case in Sweden for Car Sport Federation – Ruling: non members can organise competitions, it is an economic activity so cannot be restricted unless good motives (necessary and proportionate).

9. Action plan 2013

Updated Action Plan is attached

Constance will contact Pascal Bioulac to obtain information on COPA Horse Group.

Bo will ask Hanfried for the complete programme of Aachen Horse Show on 21 June to evaluate the possibility to invite EU officials.

10. Dates for Board meetings 2013 and the AGM

Board meetings – 28 May and 4 September 2013

AGM – 17th October 2013

Next steps:

- **Online poll/questionnaire on research – Roly, Josh, Jesper**
- **Meet Animal Technology Platform - Florence**
- **Next EHN Leaflet on welfare – Roly**
- **Next EHN Leaflet on Environment - Florence**
- **Newsletter May 2013 – All send input in April to Florence – Cathy will finalise content**
- **Contact new members – Stefan and Klaus**
- **WEG 2014 – Stefan to call back the organising Committee to meet them in March**

Next Board meeting – 28 May 2013 in Brussels

Next MEP Horse Group meeting in EP Brussels: 18 June 2013