



Zonta International District 13

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

Minutes of Meeting

District Conference

Akureyri Iceland September 9 – 10 2011

Agenda

1. Opening
2. Message from President Elect, Zonta International, Lynn McKenzie
3. Appointment of Chairman of the Conference, Parliamentarian and Credentials Chairman
4. Call on delegates
5. Confirmation that the requirement for “Call for Conference” is fulfilled according to Zonta International Bylaws
6. Approval of Conference standing Rules
7. Approval of Election Procedure
8. Approval of the Agenda
9. Election of Secretary, 2 keepers of minutes, 2 tellers, 1 time keeper
10. Approval of the Minutes of meeting from the District conference in Roskilde
11. A Proposal from the District Board
12. Approval of the reports from the period June 1st 2009-May 31st 2010
13. Report from the Nomination Committee for the period 2010-2012. Presentation of candidates for 2012-2014
14. Election of Candidates 2012-2014
15. Approval of reports for the period June 1st 2010-May 31st 2011:
 - a. Presentation of Governor’s and ADs’ reports
 - b. Questions to reports’
 - c. Approval of reports
16. Message from Zonta International President Dianne Curtis
17. Report from the District treasurer. Approval of balance sheet
18. Presentation and approval of the budget and the District fee
19. Ragna Karlsdóttir Chairman for OMC International Committee talks about membership
20. District 13 – Foundation Ambassador Aud Aakre
21. The District History – Eva Nielsen, District Historian
22. A Proposal from Sønderborg Zontaclub
23. YWPA District winner 2011
24. Invitation to the next District Conference in 2013
25. Any other business

The numbers in the Agenda and 'Call for Conference' do not correspond, because the 'Call for Conference' includes addresses, lectures etc., but the Minutes only deal with the Meeting.

Minutes of Meeting

1. Opening

Governor Ragnheiður Hansdóttir opened the Conference and welcomed Vigdís Finnbogadóttir former president of Iceland and honorary member of Zonta International, Lynn McKenzie, President Elect, Geir Kristinn Aðalsteinsson Chairman of Akureyri Town Council, Irma Ertman the Finnish Ambassador in Iceland, Past International Directors: Dögg Pálsdóttir, Maria Østergård, Ragna Karlsdóttir who also is the Chairman of the OMC International Committee, and Heddy Tangen Steffensen and past Governor Kari Vieth, the board, District Committee Chairmen and all the Zontians from Denmark, Lithuania, Norway and Iceland.

She quoted a poem of the 19th century local poet reverend Matthías Jochumsson, where the importance of women's education is emphasized, in the spirit of Zonta. Illiteracy is one of the problems Zonta wants to eliminate. In District 13 we focus on Zonta's mission to improve the status of women worldwide. Ragnheiður introduced and talked about the theme of the Conference: Gender and Climate Change. Women can have influence, it is our duty to preserve our planet and hand it down undamaged to our children and grandchildren. Finally she talked about the importance of friendship, and wished all the participants an efficacious and interesting Conference.

2. Message from President Elect, Zonta International, Lynn McKenzie

Lynn brought greetings from the Zonta International board and expressed her pleasure at being present. She emphasized that Zonta should be relevant, actively growing and socially integrated. She talked about the present situation regarding gender equality. Zonta works towards improved women's rights in the fields of literacy, education, health and safety. She reminded delegates of the importance of donation to the International Service projects – of HIV transmission prevention, fistula and safe cities.

3. Appointment of Chairman of the Conference, Parliamentarian and Credential Chairman

Official language of the Conference was approved to be English

Rationale for that are as follows:

“On page two of the Zonta International Protocol Manual, the section on language, it says that the international language of Zonta International, which is English, should be used when a program or event is attended by Zonta International dignitaries.”

Therefore the District Conference will be conducted in English. This provides an opportunity for all parties present to participate in the business transacted. Those who prefer to speak in the Scandinavian languages may of course do so.

Chairman of the Conference was approved Governor of District 13, Ragnheiður Hansdóttir.

Parliamentarian was approved Past AD, member of Zontaklúbbur Akureyrar, Ingibjörg Elíasdóttir.

Credential Chairman was approved District 13 Secretary, member of Zontaklúbbur Akureyrar, Ragnheiður Gestsdóttir.

4. Call on delegates

Roll-call was made, total 53 votes, delegates were present as follows:

Area 1: Esbjerg, Frederiksberg (proxy to København 2), Hillerød, Ikast, København 1 (2 votes), København 2, København 3, Køge, Nordvestsjælland (proxy to Roskilde), Næstved, Odense, Randers Area, Roskilde, Silkeborg, Skagen, Sydhavsøerne, Sønderborg (2 votes), Vestsjælland, Viborg, Vejle Area, Thy, Aalborg, Århus, Århus 1996 (proxy til Århus):

24 clubs with 26 votes

Area 2: Alytus, Mariampole (proxy to Alytus), Vilnius:

3 clubs with 3 votes

Area 3: Akureyri, Akureyri Þórunn hyrna, Embla Reykjavík, Fjörgyn Ísafirði, Reykjavík, Selfoss, Sunna Hafnarfirði:

7 clubs with 7 votes

Area 4: Bergen, Egersund and Area (2 votes), Haugesund and Area , Oslo 1, Sandnes and Jæren, Sauda and Area , Stavanger and Area , Trondheim 2, Ålesund and Area :

9 clubs with 10 votes

Board: Governor Ragnheiður Hansdóttir, Lt. Governor Brit W. Haave, AD Denmark Lisse-Lotte Rosenkilde, AD Lithuania Evalda Jakaitiene, AD Iceland Bryndís Bjarnarson, AD Norway Randi Lium, Treasurer Fjóla Björk Jónsdóttir:

7 votes

Votes: 26+3+7+10+7 = 53 votes

5. Confirmation that the requirement for “Call for Conference” is fulfilled according to Zonta International Bylaws

Adopted unanimously

6. Approval of Conference standing Rules

Adopted unanimously

7. Approval of Election Procedure

Adopted unanimously

8. Approval of the Agenda

Adopted unanimously

9. Election of Secretary, 2 keepers of minutes, 2 tellers, 1 time keeper

Secretary: Ragnheiður Gestsdóttir
Keeper of minutes 1: Anna G. Thorarensen
Keeper of minutes 2: Helen Teitsson
Teller 1: Guðríður Gyða Eyjólfsdóttir
Teller 2: Ásdís Ásmundsdóttir
Time keeper: Ingunn Helga Bjarnadóttir

Adopted unanimously

10. Approval of the Minutes of meeting from the District Conference in Roskilde

Adopted unanomously.

Governor Ragnheiður Hansdóttir asked if the Conference agreed that the minutes of this conference would be approved by the board and then put on the homepage and sent to all presidents. If we could avoid sending it to everybody with the papers of the next District Conference we would save paper, which would be in the spirit of the Conference.

This was unanimously adopted.

Then the Governor asked if reports from last biennium could be put on the homepage zontadistrict13.org and referred to from there.

This was also unanimously adopted.

11. A Proposal from the District Board

Ragnheiður Hansdóttir presented the following proposal for approval

A Proposal from the District Board 2010 - 2012

The Board of District 13, 2010-2012, proposes that English shall be the official language in District 13.

Rationale: At present it is stated in the rules of procedures for District 13 Conferences that all papers for the Conference shall be distributed in English and one Scandinavian language. The number of papers distributed to delegates at the conference are therefore doubled. Only a few of the Lithuanian members understand Scandinavian languages and many Icelandic members prefer English. Members from Denmark and Norway understand English and the International Director prefers English

Fjóla Björk Jónsdóttir added an amendment to the original proposal the words: 'hence at the district level all material shall be written in English at all meetings and conferences conducted in English . Therefore article 3 of the supplementary rules for Zonta international district 13 no longer applies´.

After an exchange of views a vote was taken and the motion was defeated.

For: 21 Against: 29 Abstentions: 7

A new amendment was proposed by members from Sauda. The word 'English ' was replaced by 'Scandinavian and English' and the rationale was deleted.

It was agreed by 40 votes to 11 (no abstentions) to vote on the proposal with this amendment.

The amended proposal was passed by 48 votes to 1 (4 abstentions).

That means that article 3 in Supplementary rules for Zonta International District 13 is now as follows:

“ District 13 official language is Scandinavian and English. Motions to the District Conference have to be available both in Scandinavian and English.”

12. Approval of reports for the period June 1st 2009 – May 31st 2010

Governors report was approved unanimously.

AD Area 1's report was approved with 52 votes, 1 blank

AD Area 2's report was approved with 52 votes, 1 blank

AD Area 3's report was approved unanimously

AD Area 4's report was approved with 52 votes, 1 blank

Ragnheiður Hansdóttir asked if delegates would agree to put this material on the homepage next time, to save paper. This was approved, 53 votes for and 0 against

13. Report from the Nomination Committee for the period 2010 – 2012.

Helga Finnsdóttir, chairman of the nomination committee, presented candidates proposed by the committee and asked for nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor.

Presentations of candidates for 2012 – 2014

The following candidates for the District introduced themselves:

Governor: Brit W. Haave, at present Lt. Governor, previous AD in Norway, Zontaclub of Sandnes og Jæren, Norway

Lt. Governor:

a) Eva Nielsen, previous AD in Denmark, Zontaclub of Esbjerg, Denmark

b) Dorte Olesen, Zontaclub Copenhagen 1, Denmark

Treasurer: Fjóla Björk Jónsdóttir, at present treasurer of District 13, Zontaclub of Akureyri, Iceland

Auditor: Sigríður Jónsdóttir, previous treasurer of District 13, Zontaclub of Akureyri, Iceland

Vice treasurer: Karen Bredgård Lassen, Zontaklub of Vejle, Denmark

Vice auditor: Jonna Roth, Zontaclub of Hillerød, Denmark

The following candidates for the nomination committee were presented:

Britta Brandt, Zontaclub of Ikast, Denmark

Helle Bovbjerg, Zontaclub of Viborg, Denmark

Kari Ormstadt, Zontaclub of Oslo 1, Norway

Sólveig Jónsdóttir, Embla Zontaclub, Reykjavík, Iceland

Elisabeth Solbakken, Zontaclub of Egersund, Norway

14. Election of candidates 2012 – 2014

Governor: Brit W. Haave, 52 votes, 1 blank

Lt. Governor: Eva Nielsen, 35 votes

Dorte Olesen, 16 votes

1 vote illegal, 1 blank

Treasurer: Fjóla Björk Jónsdóttir, 52 votes, 1 blank
Auditor: Sigríður Jónsdóttir, 51 votes, 2 blank
Vice auditor: Jonna Roth, 52 votes, 1 blank
Vice treasurer: Karen Bredgård Lassen, 51 votes, 2 blank

International Nomination Committee (the elected in bold characters):

Britta Brandt: 40 votes
Helle Bovbjerg: 22 votes
Kari Ormstadt: 42 votes, Chairman
Sólveig Jónsdóttir: 29 votes
Elisabeth Solbakken: 16 votes

The Governor declared the election legal.

15. Approval of reports for the period June 1st 2010 – May 31st 2011:

a) Presentation of Governors and AD's reports

Governor's report:

Governor Ragnheiður Hansdóttir has visited all 4 areas during her time of office. She felt that everyone was working together in the spirit of Zonta. Unfortunately membership is not growing but 3 new clubs have been founded in the district.

There are 24 clubs in Denmark. In Denmark Ragnheiður attended the charter celebration of Zontaclub Vestsjælland. She plans to attend another charter celebration in Skagen.

In Lithuania are 3 clubs filled with dedicated women. She hopes they are able to expand in the future.

In Iceland are 7 clubs. A new club is being established in Borgarfjörður and will be the eight club in Iceland, but the goal is for 10 clubs in Iceland in the near future..

Norway has 9 clubs. 3 clubs have been lost, but the number of members is the same.

The goal for donations to Zonta International Foundation is US\$ 125.000. By end of July US\$ 69.831 had been donated. Norway contributed the most.

Ragnheiður thanked the conference committee and everyone who had contributed to the success of the conference.

She said that Maria José Østergård was a pioneer in District 13, and she was elected Vice president in Texas and will be a candidate for President Elect in Torino. She said that Maria was very qualified for these posts, and wished her all the best in Torino.

Report Area 1 AD Denmark Lisse-Lotte Rosenkilde:

AD Lisse-Lotte Rosenkilde talked about the Area meeting in Copenhagen, where the oldest club in Denmark, København 1, had celebrated its 75th Anniversary. Eva

Nielsen has published an Anniversary booklet. The anniversary price of Area 1 was awarded to physiotherapist Kirsten Tørsleff, for her research and work on treatment of post-operational female cancer patients.

10 Danish Zontaclubs have donated bicycles to women in refugee centers in Sandholm, Ebeltoft and Grenå.

The Zonta Denmark scholarship 2011 is going to a woman writing her Ph.D. in technologi, DKR 50.000, and paid membership of Zonta for 2 years.

Area 1 donates 30.000 DKK a year to its Greenland Projects, summer schools for women in Greenland.

The Zonta Randers club invited vice president Maria José Østergård on April 9th to talk about the value and goals of Zonta.

On the International Womens Day, March 8th, several Danish clubs celebrated in various ways.

There are now 24 Zonta clubs in Denmark with 626 members. 2 new clubs have been established.

Report Area 2 AD Lithuania Evalda Jakaitienė:

AD Evalda Jakaitienė said that the Lithuanian Zontas were proud to belong to the community of Zonta clubs of District 13. The projects of the clubs have mostly been of local character, devoted to the empowerment of the Lithuanian women. Projects include lessons in civic awareness and support for talented children. Sometimes their initiatives have been successful, sometimes less successful. The period 2010-2011 has been less successful than the previous ones. The positive things: Zonta's visibility in Lithuania is increasing, as they have journalist members and their local projects attract public attention. The clubs have many active and intelligent members, members of the clubs have written 20 books, and some of the former members of Zonta are now ambassadors, Parliament members or ministers.

However, there are some problems. They have lost the Kaunas club, so now there are only 3 clubs in Lithuania. Evalda is though optimistic, hopefully they will establish a new club in this biennium.

Report Area 3 AD Iceland Bryndís Bjarnarson:

AD Iceland Bryndís Bjarnarson said that she had visited most of the Icelandic clubs in her period of office. They are in good standing, and no club has less than 20 members. The clubs now have a total of 203 members, and when the new club in Borgarfjörður is chartered next December, the Icelandic Zonta clubs will have total 226 members.

The year 2010 marked the anniversary of many milestones in women's history in Iceland. On this occasion many Icelandic women's clubs, including Zonta, joined together in a new organization named Skotturnar. On October 24th they held an International conference on sexual violence and abuse. They also sold "gender glasses" thus collecting ISK 12 million.

On May 1st there was an Area meeting with lectures about fight against sexual

violence.

This year Zonta Iceland will celebrate its 70th anniversary.

Report Area 4 AD Norway Randi N. Lium:

AD Randi N. Lium expressed her pleasure with her year as AD. The Norwegian clubs are very active, and efficient in raising money, e.g. by selling Christmas pudding, garage sales etc. They put most emphasis on helping to fight diseases, terror and abuse, but they fight for education by giving scholarships to women.

It is important to have good leadership, therefore they have been training leaders. All the board meetings and the Area meeting as well were in Trondheim where they laid a strategy plan with emphasis on Zonta and leadership and talked about coaching. Governor Ragnheiður Hansdóttir attended the Area meeting.

The Area project for Norway is ZIF Fistula project, but they donate to other projects as well.

There are now 9 clubs in Norway with 302 members. Norway has lost 3 clubs, but the total number of members has not gone down. They are now working on getting more members.

b) Questions to reports

There were no questions.

c) Approval of reports

Governors report was approved unanimously

AD Area 1 report was approved with 52 votes, 1 abstention

AD Area 2 report was approved with 52 votes, 1 abstention

AD Area 3 report was approved unanimously

AD Area 4 report was approved with 52 votes, 1 abstention

16. Message from Zonta International President Dianne Curtis

A CD with the message was played. ZI President Dianne Curtis said she was sorry she could not attend the District conference, but she sent her best wishes, and the international board was represented by Lynn McKenzie. Dianne talked about the 2010-2012 Biennial Goals. Significant progress has been made in achieving them. Good governance and financial oversight is necessary and this is being worked on. Things are being done to improve communication with our members, highlighting on the ZI website. Policies and procedures are being evaluated, organizational changes are being made, all manuals are being updated, To be able to change the lives of women worldwide we must have visibility and credibility. This we obtain through PR and communication. Dianne encouraged us to visit Zontas websites and also the Zonta pages on Facebook and Twitter and join in the conversation. She mentioned the

e-newsletter as a sign of progress. The PR-committee has produced power-point shows to educate members. Then Dianne talked about membership. Each club is asked to increase the membership by at least 1 new member a year, so it gains 2 new members this biennium. 13 new clubs are chartered in 10 Districts. We have 2 new golden Z- clubs and 6 new Z-clubs. Their members are future leaders and future Zontians. In February representatives from ZI attended a meeting with the United Nations about equal access to full employment and decent work for women. Dianne mentioned Legislative Awareness and Advocacy, which we can read about on the Zonta website. In 2019 Zonta will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the organisation, and publish the history of Zonta. Every District will write its own history. Dianne mentioned the International projects and that the goal is to collect 3738 thousand US dollar for them. Every club is asked to give 1/3 of their local income to support these projects. Individual contributions are very welcome, every gift counts, no matter how small. Finally Dianne introduced the Zonta International Convention in Torino Italy in July 7th - 12th 2012 and said she looked forward to seeing us there.

17. Report from the District treasurer. Approval of balance sheet

The accounts for this year were with a slight loss (– NOK 5551). The causes were a decline in membership fees, less interest income, and slightly increased expenditure. Reserves stand at 326161 NOK which is adequate.

The treasurer proposes :

- 1) Change the statement currency to Danish Kronur
- 2) Use a credit card for board members to minimise transactions between countries
- 3) Try to increase interest on the reserve
- 4) Manage costs

The report was approved unanimously.

18. Presentation and approval of the budget and the District fee

The treasurer proposed small changes to the budgets for 11/12 and 12/13 because of reduced membership fee income.

The budgets were approved unanimously.

19. Ragna Karlsdóttir, Chairman for OMC International Committee talks about membership

Membership is crucial to implementing our mission. We need to attract new members and retain existing members. The board recommends that every club gains at least

one member during the next year.

Ragna called for suggestions from the floor.

To recruit new members:

- 1) Whenever you see potential members use the opportunity to talk about Zonta and invite them to meetings
- 2) Write about Zonta on facebook etc.
- 3) We need to be visible in society -giving awards etc.
- 4) Talk to men as well, and ask if their wives might have interest
- 5) If possible attract 2 or 3 women who know each other- they are more likely to be retained

To retain members:

- 1) Involve new members in activity as soon as possible
- 2) If someone is absent a lot call her and give her a task
- 3) Have an interesting programme
- 4) Leadership training and training in solving conflicts
- 5) Nursing new members- remind of meetings, give lifts, sit next to them and explain procedures etc.

Only members can increase the membership- the responsibility lies with you!

20. District 13 – Foundation Ambassador Aud Aakre

Aud thanked members for their contributions to the foundation. She reminded members that it had been agreed that clubs would donate 1/3 of funds collected to the foundation and she asked clubs not to forget. To achieve the Biennium goal funds need to arrive before May 31st 2012. The goal is US\$ 125.000 and 54% has already been donated. She was pleased that the Fistula project had been chosen by so many clubs. The film 'Fistula Pilgrims' was then shown to the conference.

21. The District History – Eva Nielsen, District Historian

Eva Nielsen is writing the history of District 13. Where are the clubs' archives? she asked. The clubs should sort them out and store them in a safe place. Every club should fill in a form and send a copy to Eva.

In the 100th Anniversary of Zonta 2019 ZI will publish the history of the organization and each District will have some pages of its own history.

An oral history is also being made: Val Sarah has made 3 films that are on the website, and interviews are going to be made with older women who will tell about their Zonta-experience .

Eva said she needed our help to make 2019 a wonderful Zonta-year and tell the world

about Zonta.

22. A Proposal from Sønderborg Zontaclub

The following proposal was presented by Marianne Johannesen, Sønderborg and seconded by Ida Larsen:

- **That Zonta has one – and only one – world-wide project, which is to alleviate diseases that afflict numerous women, e.g. research in the treatment of breast cancer or vaccination for vaginal cancer.**
- **Having a world-wide project requires thorough research in order to ascertain that the project is the proper one and that we can make a difference.**
- **In the same vein Rotary is known for combating polio all over the world. Besides they have aligned themselves with Bill Gates, which has increased the value, the donations and strengthened the vision – thanks to his renown.**

Proposed by L.D. Johannsen, Zonta Sønderborg

Marianne said it was important for Zonta to be branded, and this way we would be better known.

There was a lot of discussion, and different views on the matter.

Helle Larsen said that we have an overall goal: to improve womens´status worldwide.

Ragna Karlsdóttir meant that we had to focus on more than one thing: education, health, fighting violence, it had all to be there.

Eva Bie Lilleør, Sønderborg said that we could focus on one subject for some 5 or 10 years and then go on with other projects.

Heddy Tangen Steffensen said that it was fine to discuss those things, she meant it was too risky to move all the money to one project, better to spread it more.

Shideh Pour Zahed, Århus said it was difficult to chose one project, there were different problems in different countries.If you are not interested in the project you lose the motivation.

After some more discussions there was a vote on the motion.

Vote: for 10, against 35, abstention 8

Motion defeated

23. YWPA District winner 2011

Eva Nielsen encouraged the Zontians to use the website and find candidates to YWPA.This year there were only two candidates, one from Denmark and one from Iceland. The winner of the scholarship was Amalie Gye Larsen from Als, Denmark. She has just finished her final examination from college and is going to study medicine. She is very interested in women´s history and a better world for women.

24. Invitation to the next District Conference in 2013

Lt. Governor Brit W. Haave invited to the next District Conference, that will be held in Sandnes in September 5th – 8th 2013.



Zonta International District 13

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

The host clubs are the youngest club of Norway, Sandnes and the oldest club, Stavanger.

25. Any other business

There was none.

Governor Ragnheiður Hansdóttir closed the Conference and thanked everybody for attending.

In addition to the above mentioned items, four Zontians gave speeches on the following subject: Why should we attend Area Meetings, District Conferences and Convention? The speakers were:

Annette Birk, Area 1 Denmark

Ruta Jasioniene, Area 2 Lithuania

Guðrún Halla Gunnarsdóttir, Area 3 Iceland

Liv Hembre, Area 4 Norway

Correction to the Area 4 AD report:

At the request of the Norwegian AD Randi Lium here are two corrections to the Area 4 AD report:

- 1) There is 1 Norwegian Zonta club with more than 40 members: Egersund and Area has 41 members.
- 2) Donations to ZIF are US dollars 32.800

Akureyri, October 19th 2011.

Governor Ragnheiður Hansdóttir

Secretary Ragnheidur Gestsdóttir

ZI District 13 Conference Akureyri 8. - 11. Sept. 2011.

Credentials Committee Report

	Friday 9th Sept. 2011	Friday Afternoon Sept. 9th	Saturday Morning Sept. 10th
Elected District Officers	7	7	7
Accredited Delegate Votes	43	43	43
Accredited Proxy Votes	4	4	4
Total Votes Authorized - This Session	53	53	53

Final Credentials Report

Total number of clubs in district	43
Clubs represented by delegates	39
Clubs represented by proxies	4
Clubs not represented	0

Attendance Report

District Board	7
International Representative	1
International Officers/Directors (not intl rep)	3
Past International Presidents	0
Past Governors	5
Otehr Zontians registered (incl alternates)	170
Guests registered	1
Total Registered	182

Ragnheiður Gestsdóttir
Credentials Committee Chairman