

# European Society of Veterinary Clinical Ethology

#### Minutes ESVCE AGM 2019

**Date:** Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020 **Venue:** On line meeting - Webinar

**Time:** 20.00 20.30 hours

Minutes: Christine Halsberghe

Attending: 16 members

**9** full members, **6** board members (full members), **1** affiliate members M Pahissa was excused

# 1. Welcome from Barbara Schoening and acceptance of proposed agenda:

Accepted with unanimity

# 2. Minutes of the last AGM in 2019 in Eindhoven

No questions

## Accepted with unanimity

## 3. Board report including the financial report for 2019

These reports were sent by mail to all members with the invitation for this AGM. No questions.

Simona Normando (Italy) and Angelo Gazzano (Italy) both full members checked the complete bookkeeping and approved it.

Overall activity of the board in 2019, including financial report, was accepted with unanimity

### 4. Webinars.

We planned webinars for our members and so far have 6 planned (from October 2020 until April 2021). Board decided to pay the presenters a small fee of 300 Euro. Board asked for approval of this decision.

It is a big job to organize the registration. So for this job and also for help on the website, keeping members lists, organising duties and members etc. we need some help from a person outside the board. The board proposed to look for a person who can help with this work, this person will be remunerated. Board also asked for approval of the decision.

Both proposals accepted by unanimity



# European Society of Veterinary Clinical Ethology

### 5. Website.

The new modernised logo for ESVCE was presented. The actual website will be reconstructed. The old website was old fashioned and needs an update. We start to redesign the website and this will be set up in a few weeks.

Comments from the attendees were in favour of the new logo and the draft of the new website

# 6. ESVCE working groups reports

# **Shelter group**

• The group did finish a document on adoption of a shelter dog. The text needs to be finalized and will be send around. The group is planning to work in cats.

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### Medication

• The position statement on the use of acepromazine is ready and will be send with the minutes of the AGM for consent.

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## Dogs on law

• The group discussed . However, the update on our group is that, we met, have discussed the questionnaire and ways in which we might source sponsorship for this. At present we are costing the most suitable survey tool. The group will be in touch with the board when we have further information.

# 7. Rudy De Meester grant

2 persons assigned for the RDM grant in 2020. We can give more information on that point during our AGM in 2021.

Full and associate members in good standing can apply for this grant, they have to present work in clinical ethology. The application form for the RDM grant will be revised in the next months by the board

# 10. Next AGM

During next ESVCE congress 7th-9th October 2021 in Ghent Belgium. For the congress in Ghent we're thinking about a Plan B (online congress), should the pandemic situation stay as it is now. We also are investigating the possibility on organizing a hybrid meeting (combination live and virtual)



# European Society of Veterinary Clinical Ethology

October 6<sup>th</sup> 2020,

Barbara Schöning

Christine Halsberghe

## Dear Members,

As in every year: with this report, you get the invitation and agenda for our AGM in the year 2020. In general, at the AGM the members have the chance to discuss ESVCE matters in a larger group and set the direction for our organization to move and develop – and members also have to discuss board activity and formally approve the actions of the board for the past year. But this year the AGM will be held differently, as we have no live meeting. In preparation of this year's online-AGM the board will give a short report of what has happened in the year 2019.

For this year actually some board position had stood for election. As we have no proper system to vote online and as the possibility to have an online-AGM is not distinctly mentioned in the constitution, the board decided to abide from voting this year. Instead we will hold an online AGM and use a chat-possibility for discussion. In preparation for the AGM we ask every member who wants to comment on something mentioned in the report (or comment on other ESVCE-relevant points) to send their questions, comments etc. at least 2 weeks beforehand to <a href="mailto:board@esvce.org">board@esvce.org</a>.

# **ESVCE** board report for the year 2019

# **Board meetings**

ESVCE board met two times eye-to-eye, once in Paris and then at our annual congress in Eindhoven, with additional regular meetings via email and online. As in former years, one area of board activity 2019 was the preparation of the ESVCE congress in Eindhoven, held in conjunction with ECAWBM and AWSELVA. The meeting was a great success with about 250 delegates from all over the world.

At the end of 2019 board started already with the preparation for the congress planned in 2020 in Gent, which sadly had to be cancelled due to the pandemic situation. The date for the congress 2021 in Gent is not yet fixed as it depends on the agenda of Frans De Waal. It will take place end of September / beginning of October.

## FECAVA and attendance of other congresses

Members of the board also attended FECAVA council meeting: Barbara in spring in Zagreb and Goncalo early autumn in Moscow. ESVCE supports FECAVA to great length in the field of training, behaviour and welfare, and continuing education of colleagues in this field. For this year a workshop at the FECAVA congress in Warsaw was planned. The congress is now postponed to March 2021. Chiara Mariti attended the ISAE-congress in Bergen, Norway.

### Working groups

The working groups in general were another topic discussed during board meetings. In 2019 feedback from working groups was improving due to the handbook for working groups discussed and voted for at the AGM in 2018. The group "dogs on law" and the "shelter group" informed the board about their progress and that information will be given in the course of 2020 and 2021. The working group on shelters will soon send documents which can be voted for on the AGM 2021. The "medication-group" prepared a position statement on the use of acepromazine, which is attached here with the invitation for the online-AGM. The group of associate ESVCE-members presented the results of their survey in Eindhoven. Discussion on the role of associate members was planned to be held in Gent 2020 but will have to be postponed to 2021.

## Website and webinars, forum and Facebook

The board has booked Gotomeeting to organise webinars and meetings via the internet and also as a platform for e.g. working groups, when they want to have a meeting. The board had already used the platform for its own meetings and has held so far one web-meeting for its members in 2020. Working groups interested in using this tool should in the first instance address the board.

First steps to amend and update the website were started end of 2019 and the work is under progress.

The forum is still very quiet. We hope that this will change by and by. We again encouraged members to send us input to be placed on the website and the Facebook page, and to use the possibility for discussion amongst members more intensely. The ESVCE Facebook page for the public is visited regularly. The private Facebook-group for ESVCE members facilitates discussion to a large extent.

### **RDM Grant**

The Rudy de Meester grant was discussed and voted for at the AGM in Eindhoven. It was increased to 2000 EUR. Additionally ESVCE pays travel costs, hotel and congress fee, when the grant-receiver will present his/her work on an ESVCE congress. In 2019 no applications were submitted. Eva Ricci, the applicant from 2018, gave a presentation of her work in Eindhoven.

### Membership ESVCE

The number of our members declined slightly in 2019 from 516 (1<sup>st</sup> January 2019) to 490 (31<sup>st</sup> December 2019). Currently (July 2020) we have 344 members. We understand that given the pandemic there have been delays to membership lists being submitted by some national groups and expect member numbers for 2020 to reach similar levels as to that from 2019.

# Finances

The financial state of ESVCE is good. The account has been approved by the accountant Johan Vincke and the tax declaration has been finalized. The detailed account information can be sent to any interested member on request.

For gaining at least some interest, the board has put 25,000 EUR on a special savings account.

The congress in Eindhoven resulted in profit, which was transferred to the ESVCE account during 2020, therefore does not appear in the 2019 financial statement.

# ESCVE accounts for the period from the 01.01.2019 - 31.12.2019

31.12.2018 Balance c/fwd 38,868.04 EUR bank account 882.50 EUR Paypal account

01.01.2019 - 31.12.2019 Income

	EUR
Membership fees bank account	9,480.00
Mempership fees paypal	577,51
Congress	0
Bank interest	0
Total	10,057.51

# **Expenditure**

Office/tax accountant	1,925.84
RDM-grant	637.16
Board meetings and board attendance	14,478.67
at meetings/congresses	
Website	291.00
Membership FECAVA	400.00
Bank costs /tax	156.81
Total	17,889.48

Gains/loss in 2019: EUR – 7,831.97

SUM	31,918.57	EUR
	<u>1,460.01</u>	EUR paypal account
	25,000.00	EUR savings account
31.12.2019 Balance c/fwd	5,458.56	EUR bank account

All the bank transactions are supported by documents kept in the **ESCVE** archive.

This was a quick overview about the activities in 2019. We hope to discuss some ESVCE affairs with many of you at our online AGM, held  $6^{th}$  October 2020 at 2000 hours CET

# ESVCE board

Barbara Schöning, Goncalo Pereira, Christine Halsberghe, Anneli Muser Leyvraz, Chiara Mariti, Kevin McPeake