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Nordvärme Directors Meeting in Arlanda 4.10.2006

Minutes

Participants: Ola Alterå
 Heidi Juhler
 Jørgen Jørgensen
 Jari Kostama
 Maria Gunnarsdottir

1. Opening

Jari opened the meeting in 13:40.

2. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved.

3. The minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were approved without modifications.

4. Presidium meetings agenda

Heidi presented her proposal for the practical arrangements of the Presidium meeting. Some of the open questions were discussed and decided. Heidi will send the final information on practical arrangements in a week.

Directors discussed about the agenda of the Presidium meeting on the basis of Jari's proposals and agreed on the following agenda:

- The minutes of the last meeting
- Euroheat & Power issues
 - Board of Directors meeting 23.10.
- The future of Nordvärme
 - Proposal from directors
- Discussion on current activities in respective countries
 - Everyone should produce a written report in English one week before the meeting and distribute it to all the participants
 - Discussion topics will be chosen by directors in the meeting night before
- Future meetings
 - The next meeting will be arranged by Sweden

5. The future activities of Nordvärme

In the last Presidium meeting it was decided that the directors prepare a formal proposal for the future activities of Nordvärme for the next meeting.

For that purpose Heidi & Maria together and Ola had prepared discussion papers about the subject. The papers were distributed and read by others. In the followed discussion everyone agreed that Nordvärme aims to

- strengthen the position of district heating in Nordic countries,

- exchange information and experience at least on the branch level,
- strengthen the position of each association by getting many kind of support from the other Nordic associations; and
- work together in good coordination in Euroheat & Power and arrange co-operated actions towards European Union.

Directors also tried to identify Nordvärme activities, which could be either agreed by everybody or left for the Presidium meeting as points of discussion. Most of the identified activities are already in use but also some new ideas were given.

Possible future activities:

- Close operation between directors and offices
 - directors meetings twice a year and telephone meetings in between
 - visits to other offices (directors, experts, the whole staff)
 - helping each other in daily business
 - to make national associations intranets open for the use of directors
 - information exchange, sending national magazines to other associations, etc.
 - everyone accepted this activity
- Collection and release of Nordvärme statistics
 - everyone accepted this activity
- Nordvärme website
 - it contains for example statistics, minutes, working group reports, workshop reports, minutes of directors and Presidium meetings
 - the Nordic DH dictionary should also be put there
 - everyone accepted this activity
- Presidium meetings
 - should take place once a year according Finland, Denmark and Sweden would prefer at least once a year, Iceland and Norway twice a year
 - should be held in working days next to the weekend according Denmark and Finland, Iceland would like to have meetings twice a year during the weekends; Norway prefers two meetings a year, one during the weekend and one linked with the workshops, for Sweden both working days and weekends are acceptable
 - Iceland and Norway prefer spouses' participation as a "rule", Denmark and Finland not, Sweden says that there are pros and cons
- Ad hoc working groups
 - are established when needed
 - if an ad hoc working group is established, it should have a clearly defined mandate and schedule
 - haven't been used in recent years, but use of them shouldn't be forgotten
 - everyone accepted this activity
- Workshops
 - should be arranged at least once a year to keep Nordvärme running
 - topics of the workshops should be decided in directors meetings
 - a typical workshop lasts for 1 or 1½ days and takes place in a location relevant to the topics of the workshop
 - workshops idea is to get Nordic experts from five countries to work together with a current and common issue/problem
 - a workshop could be linked together with a suitable occasion like Euroheat & Power biannual conference

- everyone accepted this activity
- Symposiums
 - Iceland and Norway would like to arrange them also in the future, the main reason is the interest of DH companies, the social function is also important for them
 - Denmark, Finland and Sweden don't see rational to arrange symposiums any more, this was the feeling already after Ålesund, these countries don't want Nordvärme to act as a travelling agency
 - Only 48 people and only a half of them were real paying participants (no-one from Finland, 3 from Sweden!), registered in due time.
- Seminars for the members of boards of national associations
 - to tighten links and also to justify Nordvärme co-operation
 - could be arranged with the Presidium meetings, maybe every other year
 - in the boards of Nordic Associations are together around 50 persons, if they all participate the seminar is already a big event
 - the first one could be in Brussels targeting EU
 - everyone accepted this activity
- Forum for companies
 - it was stated that there could be some kind of forum for Nordic DH companies, purpose it would be information exchange on the company level
 - everyone considered this idea interesting for further preparation

Based on the discussion Jari promised to prepare a draft proposal of Nordvärme future activities and circulate it before the 13th of October. Everyone (except Maria) should comment it before the 20th of October (for Maria 26th of October).

6. Current activities in respective countries

Denmark: removal to district cooled DH –house (more than 2 500 m²), Landsmötet with 1500 participants in in the end of October

Finland: 65 % of DH sales belongs to Reilu kaukolämpö, the draft NAP for Kyoto period 2008-12 has been published, it gives DH & CHP substantially more allowances than previously forecasted, parliament election is approaching, next spring new government

Iceland: every fifth year arranged energy meeting is approaching, 400 participants waited, new energy income tax for energy companies, 18 %, according new building regulations permits are needed for pipes, metering etc, more bureaucracy, hot water safety becomes to be an issue, committee to make standardization, new regulation on connection equipment

Norway: state budget will give around 1 milliard NOKs for energy, DH, infrastructure, renewables included, also the Norwegian association has moved its office, for Heidi only 2 m² (compare with Denmark's DH-house!)

Sweden: 75 % of DH sales now belong to REKO fjärrvärme, new government; everything starts again

7. Future meetings

The next meeting will be held near Oslo on the 3rd of November at 15 o'clock Norwegian time.

8. Other business

There was no other business.

9. Closure

Jari closed the meeting at 16:00.