

Minutes from NDA Board Meeting 2020

Date: Wednesday September 23rd 2020 from 15:00 to 17:15

Place: On Zoom

Attending:

Denmark: Tove Agner, Christian Vestergaard, Gregor Jemec (until 16:20), Ditte Marie Saunte (until 16:20)

Finland: Teea Salmi, Katariina Hannula-Jouppi, Kaisa Tasanen-Määttä (from 15:40)

Norway: Katarina Zak Stangeland, Petter Gjersvik, Usha Hartgill (from 15:40)

Sweden: John Paoli, Ada Girnita, Johan Dahlén Gyllencreutz

Iceland: Bolli Bjarnason, Jenna Huld Eysteinsdóttir

NDA Office: Agneta Andersson

Unable to attend: Nathalie Dufour

The meeting was originally planned for March 27th, 2020, at Kastrup Airport, but that meeting had to be cancelled due to the covid-19 pandemic.

The meeting was chaired by John Paoli. The following items were discussed:

§14 Welcome and opening of the meeting

John wished everyone welcome, particularly Jenna, who is a new NDA board member from Iceland.

§15 Approval of minutes from NDA board meeting on October 12, 2019 and review of actions requiring follow-up

Petter presented the 2019 meeting minutes, which had been sent out previously. All actions requiring follow-up were reviewed. The minutes were approved.

§16 Quick updates from the national societies

Representatives from each country gave short updates of the activities in each member society.

- Sweden: All meetings, including the general assembly meeting, have been held digitally. New president and new board have been elected. In 2021, the annual meeting will take place in Stockholm and in 2022 in Copenhagen at the Nordic Congress.
- Denmark: General assembly meeting in April was postponed and instead held in June with less than 100 attendees. Autumn meeting and all educational meetings have been cancelled, but various scientific groups have met digitally. Christian Vestergaard is new DDS president.
- Iceland: Meetings in April and September held on Zoom. Jenna Huld Eysteinsdóttir is new president after Baldur Baldursson, who also has stepped down as chairman of the Department of dermatology in Reykjavik.
- Finland: Annual meeting on March 13th held as a partly virtual meeting. New bylaws states that annual meetings should be held before end of May (previously before end of March), making it possible for the Finnish society to hold its annual meeting every three years at Nordic congresses. Specialist training is switching from time-based to knowledge-based, although five years (including internship in internal medicine and general practice) is minimum.

- Norway: Annual spring meeting was cancelled. General assembly meeting was postponed and will be held digitally at a scientific webinar on September 24th. Spring meeting with general assembly in 2021 will also be held digitally.

§17 NDA main office

Agneta reported limited activity due to the pandemic. She is willing to continue as manager of the NDA office according to the present contract. The board was pleased with this arrangement and decided to prolong Agneta's contract until December 31st, 2021. John will follow up.

§18 Forum for Nordic Dermato-Venereology

No more paper versions of *Forum for Nordic Dermato-Venereology* will be published, possibly except a theme issue on covid-19, although the exact plans are still uncertain. Previous idea of writing an editorial has been abandoned.

§19 Nordic Congress in Copenhagen 2022 – an update on plans and progress

Gregor and Ditte presented their plans for the Nordic Congress in Copenhagen in 2022.

A congress committee has been established and the date set to April 19-22 with Tivoli Hotel in downtown Copenhagen as venue. The main hall can accommodate up to 600 persons, but may be enlarged up to >1000 if needed. In addition, smaller rooms will be available for parallel sessions and group meetings. A preliminary budget targets a surplus of at least 150,000 DKK. The program will include scientific, educational and poster sessions as well as special sessions for nurses, clinical staff personnel and dermatology residents.

The board was pleased with the congress plans and asked Gregor and Ditte for regular updates on coming NDA board meetings.

§20 Report from the Education Committee

The course activity has been severely affected by the present pandemic. Tove presented the prospects for NDA courses in the near future:

- Nordic Course in Virtual Dermatopathology on October 22-23, 2020 will be held digitally
- 5th Nordic Dermoscopy Course is scheduled for January 14-15, 2021 in Gothenburg, but may be postponed or held digitally. John will keep the NDA board updated.
- 7th Nordic Course on Skin Surgery on May 6-7 2021 in Copenhagen will probably be postponed due to the pandemic and the fact that the EADV Spring symposium has been scheduled on the same dates. John will contact the course organizers and CAP Partner and keep the NDA board updated.
- 2nd Nordic Course on Laser Dermatology on May 20-21 2021 at Bispebjerg Hospital may be postponed.
- A Nordic course on sexually transmitted infections in Oslo is planned for 2022.

§21 Establishing an NDA Research Committee

Tea gave an update on the establishment of a NDA Research Committee. The overall goals of the NDA Research Committee are to enhance Nordic research collaboration through networking, to increase awareness of ongoing and published Nordic research work, and to organize research-related training and education in the Nordic countries.

The following dermatologists have been selected by the national societies as members of the committee:

Eva Maria Rehbinder (Norway)
Evelina Buinauskaite (Norway)
Claus Johansen (Denmark)
Niina Korhonen (Finland)
Teea Salmi (Finland)
Ada Girnita (Sweden)
Liv Eidsmo (Sweden)

Proposed activities for the NDA Research Committee include setting up information on doctoral theses, research cooperation, funding possibilities, etc on the NDA website. The committee will hold a Skype meeting in the near future. Teea will keep the NDA board updated.

The board was pleased with the on-going work and future plans for the NDA Research Committee. A regular NDA Newsletter to be sent out to all national society members should be considered. Petter will write a first draft.

§22 Economy. Budget

Katarina presented NDA's income and expenses in 2020, indicating a surplus of appr. 80,000 SEK. To avoid a tax of appr. 25%, the board decided to set up one NDA Research Grant of 60,000 SEK. The NDA Research Committee will serve as grant committee. Ada and Teea will write grant criteria and a grant advertisement and set up a timeline so that the grant can be given out before the end of 2020.

§23 NDA website

The NDA website should be updated on changes in the national society boards. Agneta will follow-up.

§24 ILDS Membership

NDA have been accepted as an affiliated member organization of ILDS as of January 2020.

§25 Mohs surgery in Denmark

Christian informed the board on the present discussion on Mohs surgery in Denmark. Mohs surgery is currently being performed at Bispebjerg Hospital, and a Mohs surgery center will open soon in Aarhus. Odense also wants to start with Mohs surgery. Representatives from the Danish societies of dermatology, plastic surgery and oncology will meet next week to try to find common ground.

§26 Other issues

None.

§27 Date and place of next meeting

The next NDA board meeting was scheduled for Tuesday March 16, 2021 at 15:00-17:00 on Zoom.

Petter Gjersvik

NDA Secretary General

Draft sent to John Paoli on 2020-09-23

Revised draft sent all NDA board members on 2020-09-24 and later corrected