

Vasa Previa Foundation

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for 5 May 2003

Executive Committee members present:

- Amy Brown Gaghagen, President / Chapter Formation Committee Chairperson
- Marlou van Dijck, Vice President / Netherlands Chapter Leader
- Cynthia Balota Paris, Secretary / Membership and Nominating Committees Chairperson
- Carol Prentice, UK Chapter Leader

Linda Ursillo, Treasurer was not in attendance.

VPF Committee chairpersons present:

- None

Victoria Goldstein, PR, Research, and Fundraising Committee Chairperson was absent due to illness and Meredith Kirby, Education Committee Chairperson was on leave of absence.

Meeting began at 19:14 GMT (1:14 PM CST)

Executive Committee Minutes from 7 April 2003 were confirmed approved for archival and distribution with one change (the elimination of one item from old business that was completed previously).

Agenda:

- [Officer Reports](#)
- [Treasury Reports](#)
- [Chapter Reports](#)
- [Membership Committee Report](#)
- [Public Relations Committee Report](#)
- [Research Committee Report](#)
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Officer Reports:

- Monthly members' meeting reminders have been added to the IVPF@yahoogroups.com calendar.

- Printed VPF Operations Manuals have been postal mailed to VPF participating members.

Treasury Report:

- Netherlands:
Donations and interest: € 963.20
Dutch expenses: € 0
Total Dutch cash on hand: € 1708.99
Thank-you notes sent to donors: 0
- UK:
Donations received: £ 0
UK expenses: £ 0
Total UK cash on hand: £ 0
Thank-you notes sent to donors: 0
- USA:
Donations received: \$ 105
USA expenses: \$ 0
Total USA cash on hand: \$ 4,035.23
Thank-you notes sent to donors: 2

Chapter Reports:

- Netherlands:
 - Petra van der Linden has volunteered for the VPF. Next wednesday we will meet for the first time, I'll ask her to send a request for participating membership to Cindy.
 - A colleague of mine has talked to her sister-in-law about volunteering possibilities at the VPF. Elsa would like to do something with DTP (= Desktop Publishing), as a job. Since she does not have any experience on DTP, my colleague thought it would be great if she could work for a Foundation for free and get a portfolio this way. Elsa would also be a valuable communication-person for the VPF (Dutch Chapter). My colleague has given her my phonenumber. I'll follow up on her in two weeks, when she hasn't called. In the meantime we'll be thinking of possibilities for Elsa to take upon her.
 - Several people have responded on either the TV-show or newspaper: 2 questionlists, 1 forum-post, several encouraging emails, 2 emails of people who had VP too, 1 woman called to say she 'also' had Placenta Previa, one woman called and offered to create a birthmark (brodery) for Julia, Kraamcentrum Delfland called for more info, board member of the Wandelkring Den Haag Rijnland called about adding Sophie's Walk 2004 to a booklet filled with Walks.
 - According to the bylaws of the Dutch Foundation we need to have an annual meeting. Our next online meeting we will be discussing the meeting and the date/time for it.
 - Next online meeting Netherlands Chapter VPF will be on May 7, 2003, 20.00 (GTM+1)

- Online meeting was held on April 23 2003. Marleen Wubs will do the minutes. It was decided not to translate the minutes, because it costs too much work. Marlou will report anything important from the meetings to the VPF Board every two weeks.
- UK:
 - Research into the Charities Commission is progressing in regards to officially organizing the UK chapter.
- USA:
 - No report given.

Membership:

- There are 48 participating members of VPF, 0 pending.
- There are 264 IVPF (newsletter) email group subscribers (7 new subscriptions, 6 unsubscriptions).
- There are 113 Vasa_Previa email group subscribers (3 new subscribers, 3 pending subscribers, 3 unsubscriptions, 1 denial).
- There were 6 calendar entries and edits to the Vasa_Previa birthday calendar.
- There is still a problem with the Vasa_Previa birthday calendar. Though the entries appear to be set up correctly, Yahoo!Groups is not sending them out. Cindy has contacted Yahoo!Groups but the issue is still pending.

Public Relations:

- Will hold PR Committee meeting in mid April.
- PR is preparing a special Newsletter to go out with news about the meeting with the doctors, set to go out by mid April. Victoria will request a piece by one of the doctors.
- NETHERLANDS
 - The Intranet was used for PR for the Kennedy March. Follow up article has been published on the Intranet.
 - CD of the broadcast about the Kennedy March on National TV-show Hart van Nederland received, thank you-note sent. All 24 MB of item installed on the website.
 - Marlou is following up on the numerous local newspapers that have written about the Kennedy March and VPF.
 - Kraamzorg Delfland has requested more info on VP. Have sent the brochure, together with a letter offering her to give a presentation. She called about the presentation: her sectormanager did not find it necessary to hold the presentation because Kraamzorg (= care for woman and child after delivery) does not directly have to do with delivery. We were asked to write an article for their quarterly newsletter. Have asked to send us an example of the newsletter, so we can write an article.
- UK
 - Carol Prentice was nominated for Scotswoman of the Year Award for the work she does with the Vasa Previa Foundation!

- The “Hamilton Advertiser” newspaper will run an update piece on Scotswoman of the Year Award nomination and also on “Sophie’s Walk”.
- “The Evening Times” newspaper featured Rebecca and myself in the first group of three nominees for the Scotswoman of the Year Award – this can be seen on the Internet at <http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/lo/features/7006977.html> and more about the Awards itself at <http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/lo/features/7006975.html>. Other newspapers sent congratulations but are unable to run any coverage for a competing paper. Letters of thanks sent.
- “Baby and You” magazine June issue out on 1 May but have been unable to secure a copy locally.
- “Mother and Baby” magazine feature has been published in the June issue out on 1 May. Carol has had some feedback already which is promising. Letter of thanks sent.
- UK Parents website wishes Carol to do an update on progress on the VP Campaign and have sent lovely letter of congratulations regarding nomination. Carol has received letters of support and encouragement from many of the websites contacted and I have replied to them all thanking them for all their help with the campaign – this gives further opportunities to raise awareness of VP which is fantastic.
- Scottish Television news will cover some of the Scotswoman of the Year Award nominees and the reporter sent congratulations as well as a note to say that she will make sure I will be featured. Letter of thanks sent.
- BBC News Television would now like to cover VP following on from all that has happened plus Carol’s nomination for Scotswoman of the Year. Scotland has just had major elections and that has dominated their news – the reporter is having a short break and has requested that VP be covered. Letter of thanks sent.
- Carol has contacted all the daytime chat style programmes again w/c 23 April.
- Carol continues to send out Press Kits to professionals, newspapers, television/news programmes, magazines, websites and baby experts in the UK. She follows up by e-mail and “snail mail” those who have not responded.
- Carol has secured some national radio coverage for Sophie’s Walk in Lanarkshire.
- Carol spoke to Lesley Appleyard who has a surviving VP boy and contacted the Evening Times and would like to help the campaign. Carol is delighted with her offer to help.
- USA
 - No report given.

Research:

- The new online FAQ page incorporating the Questions and Answers between email group subscribers and doctors has been submitted to Research Committee.

- 170 women documented on the database (60 records received to date/18 more promised or on the way). Paper will be finished in May.
- Victoria sent Dr. Oyelese a list of 65 missing records and he will be contacting them personally.
- Marlou translated letter from doctor for two members and sent to research committee.
- Michel Wubs has mentioned the name of Dr. Euser, but he would like to talk to him about Lisanne's death, before the VPF contacts him. We agreed to separate private and business as much as we can. Victoria has sent us example letters to write to doctors, which we will use.
- Marlou has taken over for Michel Wubs as the Netherlands Chapter VPF Research Committee member.

Fundraising:

- NETHERLANDS
 - So far people have donated €1 159,47 for the Kennedy March.
 - Sponsor forms where people can pledge money have been hung up at both Marlou and her sister's companies together with the brochures. Family and friends were asked to pledge money for the Kennedy March. Marlou will send out the follow up email/letter this week, with the positive results on the March.
 - The T-shirts were beautiful. They were worn during the Kennedy March by Marlou, Colette, parents and sister, Patrick, Robert and Floor. People asked if they could buy one, unfortunately this was a missed fundraising opportunity, since we had no T-shirts left. Everyone has paid for their own T-shirt; there were no charges for the VPF.

Chapter Formation Committee Report:

- Committee had a meeting on April 28, 2003 to discuss official organization documents required for UK chapter formation.
- Discussed possible Trustees for UK Chapter
- Committee members selected to compile information and arrange documents necessary for UK chapter formation. Existing VPF documentation and materials will be used for this task. When documents are finalized, they will be presented to Chapter Formation committee.

Education Committee Report:

- Aimee Rye has interested an Austin, TX hospital in a lecture on vasa previa given by Dr. Collins or Dr. Oyelese.

Budget:

- No report given.

Tax Exempt Status:

- No report given.

Old Business:

- Donor data to complete the private donation page for the IVPF website is still needed. Tabled since forever.
- UK will need a VPF Assistant Secretary. Tabled since 24 June 2002.
- VPF website banner for use on other websites. Tabled 8 July 2002 pending sample submission.
- Suggestion to form a VPF medical advisory board. Tabled.
- Gavel sound for Board Room in the chat café. Tabled since 24 Feb 2003.
- Sales link on website is on hold, pending catalogs, etc. Tabled since 24 Feb 2003.
- Carol to provide Phil with a copy of her TV interview for the website. Tabled since 2002.
- Questions and Answers between email group subscribers and doctors have been recompiled and included in the online FAQ and submitted to this committee. It was suggested that a printer friendly version be produced, but after some discussion over the wording and format of the document it was sent back to the Research Committee instead.
- Victoria is working on Spanish translations of the VPF brochure and Sophie's Walk information for the website and brochure. Tabled since 24 March 2003 as this is a work in progress.

New Business:

- None.

The next regular VPF Executive Committee meeting will take place on Monday, 19 May 2003 at 19:00 GMT (2:00 PM EST, 1:00 PM CST) in the Board room of the VPF Chat Café.

Meeting Adjourned at 20:09 GMT (2:09 PM CST)