

Annual meeting of the Nordic Bryological Society at Aneboda field station, Småland, Sweden on July 20<sup>th</sup> 2002

Members present: Leif Appelgren, Nils Cronberg, Svein Olav Drangeid, Urban Gunnarsson, Kristian Hassel, Kåre Homble, Gerhard Kristensson, Huub van Melick, Gudmund Moen and Lars Söderström.

1. The president opened the meeting.
2. Nils Cronberg was elected chairman, Kristian Hassel as secretary and Urban Gunnarsson as minute checker of the meeting.
3. Nils Cronberg presented the annual report. The main activity of year 2001 was the excursion to Finse.
4. Lars Söderström presented the treasurer's report. NBS had just below 200 members, 30 000 NOK in cash and had 5 500 NOK in income in 2001. The meeting adopted the accounts.
5. Svein Olav Drangeid presented the auditor's report. The auditors had found that the accounts were correctly kept. The meeting adopted the report.
6. Report from Lindbergia council. No report has emerged from the Lindbergia council.
7. Elections:
  - Board: Nils Cronberg (president), Kristian Hassel (secretary) Einar Heegaard (board member) and Leif Appelgren (treasurer) were elected for two years. Gerhard Kristensson (Lindbergia distributor), Arne Pedersen (board member) and Henrik Weibull (board member) were elected last year.
  - Auditors: Svein Olav Drangeid was elected for two years. Bengt Gunnar Jonsson was elected last year.
  - Lindbergia council: Kell Damsholdt was elected for two years. Solveig Bakken was elected last year. The board (Nils Cronberg) should contact Solveig and ask if she prepared to take part in the forthcoming work with getting a new editor in chief for Lindbergia.
8. Location of next annual meeting and excursion (2003) was decided to be Estonia, the Estonian bryologist's has been contacted about this, but not formally asked to arrange the excursions. Nils Cronberg would contact the Estonians. As a backup central parts of Norway were decided to be the area for the meeting and excursions 2003.
9. Mapping project: NordBryo project description. The project description worked out by K. Hassel, L. Söderström and H. Weibull was presented and accepted.
10. Discussions about Lindbergia and future NBS organisation. The meeting discussed the suggestions proposed by L. Söderström and came to the following conclusions:

Lindbergia

  - To reduce the cost of Lindbergia, the editor have suggested dropping the 50 free reprints to the authors and replacing them with a free pdf file so that they can print their own copies. I suggest that we urge the Lindbergia editors to make those changes as soon as possible. *The AGM support this suggestion.*
  - All copies of Lindbergia are presently mailed by the editor in chief. NBS provide him with addresses to our subscribing members. In addition we pay Oikos what we collect for members. I suggest that NBS takes over the mailing to our members and that within the board elect a person responsible for the

mailing. *The AGM support this suggestion, G. Kristenson will be responsible for mailing Lindbergia.*

- I suggest that the Lindbergia Council, together with Oikos, set a fixed price per copy (based on production costs), and that NBS “buys” the required number of copies. In this way we can have a better control on the economy for the society and we can set the members fee independently of Lindbergia Council and DBLS, only based on the cost for Lindbergia and other running costs. Mailing (and collecting subscription fees) to institutions can be done in the same way as now. Lindbergia Council should be responsible for those copies. *The AGM support this suggestion.*

#### NBS structure

- NBS members are living very far from each other so it is difficult to have shorter excursions with many participants. This disadvantage has led to the establishment of local societies. I suggest that NBS actively associate with the local societies in Sweden, Finland and Denmark (and in other Nordic countries if they establish) to function as a sort of umbrella organisation. Members of the local organisations could either a) automatically be a member of NBS and get Lindbergia for member price (a small fee must then be added to the local society’s fee to cover NBS costs), or b) get a reduced fee on membership through the local organisation. *The AGM support this suggestion, N. Cronberg will talk with existing societys and present the results of that on the AGM 2003.*
- To receive more interest in the Nordic excursions, NBS should change to having excursions only every second year. It will probably be easier to get someone to arrange the meetings if they are not too often, and the number of members attending the meetings may be higher. This requires a change in the satutes as we only have AGMs every second year. The terms for officers may increase to 4 years (over 2 meetings). *The AGM decided to keep it as it is.*
- There must be a fee for the meetings. This fee should be set so that non-members pay more than members. If this non-member fee is higher than 2 years of NBS fee, we will probably get more members. *The AGM support this suggestion (8 against 2 votes). The fee for non-members will be the same amount as membership without Lindbergia.*

#### NBS finances

- The banking system has deteriorated for NBS in recent years for reasons out of my control. The Postbanken sold our account to DNB and the service has been much worse after that. As I intend to leave as treasurer at this meeting, I have not made any changes but I suggest that the new board and treasurer look at the following options:
  - Find a new bank! As Nordea is now acting in almost all Nordic countries, can it be possible to have one account payable to in all countries. Other banks perhaps offer the same.
  - Change the accounts to Euro (it is the currency of one of our member countries). It is possible to have accounts in Euro in all Nordic countries. this will also make it easier with payments from abroad since Euro is (will be) a more well known currency than kroner.
  - Investigate the possibility (and cost) for receiving payment with VISA. Many potential subscribers ask for it and I am sure that we will receive payment more promptly if we offer that possibility.

*The AGM support these suggestions, the new treasurer L. Appelgren will check out the possibilities to carry out these changes.*

11. Further matters: Lars Söderström was thanked by the president for his work as treasurer the last 10 years.

Kristian Hassel  
(Secretary)

Urban Gunnarsson  
(Minute checker)