

Minutes from Scandinavian Sarcoma Group`s board meeting 2017-09-19

The board meeting was held at Scandic Aarhus City Hotel, in connection with the 38th Plenary meeting of the Scandinavian Sarcoma Group in Aarhus.

Time 17.00 – 19.15

Attendees

Kirsten Sundby Hall
Eva-Mari Olofsson (meeting secretary)
Mikael Eriksson
Thomas Baad-Hansen
Jukka Kanerva
Fredrik Mertens
Hans Kristian Haugland

Invited participants (re: Plenary meeting 2019, Bergen): Anne-Lise Salbu and Nina Jebesen

I. Approval of minutes from the last board meeting

Minutes from the last meeting (telephone conference) on May 30, 2017, was approved.

II. Economy

Fredrik Mertens, treasurer, gave a report of the economic status for SSG.

Per August 1st, 2017, SSG had 1.6 M SEK. New expenses, starting this year, include rent for the SSG office (~50 000 SEK/year). Costs for initiating/monitoring/coordinating SSG studies seem to have decreased substantially, from 1.2 M SEK in 2016 to less than 600 000 SEK in 2017. Continued financial support for SSG is still a major concern. In the short run (2017-2018), the financial situation is good, with substantial payments to SSG to be expected from the SSG XXI and SSG XXII studies. Although financial support is derived also from other sources, such as donations and support from grant bodies such as the Swedish Cancer Society, it is important that SSG considers running or participating in new clinical trials. At the same time, the possibility to obtain grants from other sources, e.g., the Nordic Cancer Union, should be investigated.

The financial outcome of the plenary meeting in Aarhus cannot be evaluated until we have received the final report from Reachem; usually, such a report is obtained ~1 month after the event. However, based on the number of participants and the contributions from various companies, the meeting is not expected to generate any major costs for SSG.

III. Pathology/morphology subcommittee – How to move on?

Kirsten has been in contact with the former chairman of the group, Bodil Bjerkehagen. She is positive for taking responsibility for that a pathology/morphology review meeting will be held in the near future. Since SSG does not have any studies with pathology review new projects for the group are highly needed. One proposal is to define a common system for histological response evaluation after preoperative chemotherapy or radiotherapy. To arrange a pathology/morphology review meeting in connection with the WGM meeting would possibly attract more pathologists to the WGM. Fredrik pointed to the importance of collaboration projects with the tumor biology group.

IV. Working Group Meeting, Malmö, 22-23, January, 2018

The agenda of the upcoming WGM in Malmö was discussed. The form of future meetings (both plenary and WGM meetings) will be on the agenda for the general assembly. As usual the chairmen of the various subcommittees will be contacted soon by KSH regarding their programs. Tasks for the common session on Monday Jan 22, 2018 are wanted.

V. Plenary meeting or congress?

Replacing “plenary meeting” with “congress” was discussed and no conclusion was taken. It will be discussed at the General assembly in January.

- Documentation/summary of the recent plenary meetings and WGM is inadequate. Number of participants (physicians, nurses & physiotherapists, others/country, sponsors, abstracts, posters, free presentations etc.) will be documented for future meetings.

VI. Other issues

The SSG domain, which is in the US at Dotster.com, needs to be changed and moved to a Swedish company. Eva-Mari will check out costs and practical issues.

VII. Plenary meeting in Bergen (40 year’s jubilee) May 8-10, 2019

Nina Jebsen and Anne-Lise Salbu presented a draft for the next SSG Plenary meeting, our 40 year’s jubilee meeting, in Bergen, May 8-10, 2019. More will come on the WGM. Fredrik will check with the LU if SSG may leave the previous used agency mainly due to the associated costs. Thomas, Hans Kristian and Eva-Mari will be the board representatives to the plenary meeting committee which will be formally established on the next WGM Jan 2018.

VIII. Next board meeting (in connection to the next WGM in Malmö) Sunday, January 21st at 17:00-19.00, 2018.

Eva-Mari Olofsson (sign)
Meeting secretary

Jukka Kanerva (sign)
Fredrik Mertens (sign)
Kirsten Sundby Hall (sign)