



AICO Executive Board Meeting
Saturday, 24 June 2023
Charlety Stadium, 11:00 to 13:00

Attendees: Christophe Aït-Braham, Branislav Delej, Massimiliano Bruno, Mark Maestrone, Rufin Schullian.

1. AICO Website

- Mark reported that the translation of the AICO website into French had been completed. He added that his plan was to begin creating an Italian translation of the site.
- He had spoken with Mario Capuano who had agreed to assist in completing the website's educational timeline.
- Rufin noted that the search and filter capabilities of the website were not always accurate. Mark agreed that the system needed to be refined for better search capability and that he would look into seeing how that might be accomplished.

2. AICO Olympic Pin Catalog (AOPC) Project

- Branislav presented progress on the AOPC Project. He noted that access to the app was easy with just one click from the home page link.
- He noted that he is still adding pictures but was not able to obtain the permission of Peter Wade to use images from Peter's website. At present, the AOPC project includes 14,000 pins even though the original agreement was for just 10,000 pins.
- Branislav distributed examples of a promotional postcard with a QR code making it easy for users to log in.
- Upcoming will be the ability to trade pins on the app. Rufin noted that this was a good idea that would increase interest among collectors.
- Branislav promised a budget proposal for Phase 4 of the project.

3. AICO Festival of Olympic & Sports Literature (AFOSL)

- Massimiliano provided an overview of the Festival which was in progress during the 2023 WOCF in Paris.
- There was good participation. By the deadline on Saturday, over 100 votes had been received. The books seemed to received the most attention from those visiting the AFOSL.
- Massimiliano was hopeful that sometime in the future we could get back to an in-person

Olympihlex-type exhibition. The major problem would be financing and finding a venue large enough for the exhibition. The virtual exhibition held in 2022 was very successful and perhaps could be held again.

- There was some discussion that perhaps a future joint project could be organized with FICTS (Fédération Internationale du Cinéma et Télévision Sportifs) the TV/Film group which is also a recognized organization of the IOC. The same might be possible with other commissions.
- Branislav said that he preferred the AIWOS and AFOSL type of exhibitions rather than trying to organize a big Olympihlex-style exhibition which he thought wasn't part of AICO's work.
- Could an Olympihlex-style event be held at a WOCF? Christophe's view was that this would be difficult for a WOCF host to organize.

4. Future World Olympic Collectors' Fairs

- The EB agreed that it would not be advisable to hold a WOCF in 2024 as it would conflict with the Paris Olympic Games which many Olympic collectors would already be attending. Therefore the next WOCF would be held in 2025.
- Christophe mentioned that there was perhaps an opportunity for some sort of AICO participation at an Olympic House during the 2024 Games.
- The question was raised as to whether or not there would be a Coca-Cola pin trading center at the Paris Games. It was mentioned that Bud Kling might be the person to talk to about that.
- Mark mentioned that a combined SPI/Olympin Club bid to hold the 2025 WOCF in Colorado Springs, Colorado (USA) would be forthcoming. Colorado Springs is where both the US NOC (US Olympic/Paralympic Committee) and new US Olympic/Paralympic Museum are located.
- Branislav mentioned that the Czech association (OLYMPSPORT) might also be interested in holding the 2025 WOCF in Prague.
- It was decided to call for bids for future WOCFs (hosts for multiple years could perhaps be selected at one time by the EB) with a deadline of the end of September 2023 for submission of Expressions of Interest (EOI). (The deadline was eventually moved back to 15 October.)
- Mark was charged with assembling the EOI application forms and mailing them out to all the AICO member associations. (The announcement and EOI forms were emailed to AICO members on 13 August 2023.)

5. AICO Budget

Rufin presented financial statements for 2022, and the budget plan for 2023. All 4 documents are appended to this report.