



LySEF - “Longyearbyen Science and Education Forum”

MINUTES

Date: 10.12.2010 **Time:** 09:00 – 12:30

Place Svalbard Science Centre, Room: Kapp Wijk

Minutes by: *Elise Strømseng, LySEF secretariat, UNIS*

Archive: *ePhorte web at UNIS*

Present:	<p>UNIS: Christin Kristoffersen, Fred S. Hansen SMS: Tor Punsvik. NPI: Marit Raak Pettersen (1 hour) SSF: Christiane Hübner EISCAT: Mike Rietveld Svalbard Museum: Tora Hultgren Lokalstyret: Turid Telebond STATSBYGG: Tor Sverre Karlsen Spitsbergen Airship Museum: Ingunn Løyning SINTEF: Per Johan Brandvik (phone in parts of the meeting)</p>
Inability to attend:	<p>SVALSAT: Sten C. Pedersen. Svalbard Reiseliv: Unni Myklvoll SNSK: Terje Carlsen and Ingrid Dahn</p>
Agenda:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Orientation from Secretariat 2. Presentation of activities the coming half year by member institutions 3. Presentations of how to link research, science and education to the local community. 4. Discussion: <i>How can LySEF achieve its goal of enhancing the communication and outreach between research societies and companies, the economic life and the local community in Longyearbyen?</i> 5. Any other business - fastsette medlemsavgift for 2010
Attachments to minutes	<p>Activity report from Svalbard Reiseliv (in Norwegian).</p>

Point 2 and 3 in the agenda was merged at the meeting, hence the minutes refer to both points in case no. 07/09.

6/09	Orientation from the secretariat The founding principles are still being signed by the member institutions. The membership invoice from 2009 has been sent out and paid. Guests and potentially new members from 2010 in this meeting are: Lokalstyret by Turid Telebond and Spitsbergen Airship Museum by Ingunn Løyning. SNSK was also supposed to be present, but had to cancel their participation in the last minute. SNSK will be invited for the next meeting.
7/09	Presentations from member institutions <i>(Presentations available at LySEF web-pages).</i> The LySEF chair, UNIS, represented by Christin Kristoffersen, opened the meeting with a presentation of LySEF and its founding principles. All members were put into categories: <i>1. Research/Education</i> <i>2. Outreach/Economic Life</i> <i>3. Logistics</i> Each institution gave a short presentation/information under the category in which they belonged. <i>1. RESEARCH AND EDUCATION</i> Svalbard Science Forum –SSF: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Displayed the SSF web-pages and how it is possible to locate a research project of interest within the RiS-database.• Demonstrated “Google Earth” as a visual tool for presenting how research activity in Svalbard has developed and extended over time and geographically within Svalbard. It is also possible to find information about research projects by using this tool.• SSF hosted two scientific workshops in 2009 and plans to host two workshops in 2010.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- February 2010: Research access to eastern parts of Svalbard, management and research interest and plans.- Autumn 2010: ”Geology Workshop” (Longyearbyen).• SSF is still working on improving the RIS-database <i>Comment SMS - Tor: Will continue the work with connecting the research applications to the RIS-database.</i>

Norwegian Polar Institute – NPI:

Is not able to say anything on behalf of NPI to LySEF today. NPI will inform thoroughly with regards to their activities in the next meeting.

EISCAT:

- Mike Rietveld is the new representative from EISCAT.
- EISCAT is back on normal workload after the completion of their extensive IPY participation.
- Still in the planning process of a third antenna (dependent on Chinese funding and plans).
- Present situation: Only two engineers at EISCAT in Svalbard.
- EISCAT has a major upcoming/future radar project on the mainland, "EISCAT-3D", which is on the ESFRI roadmap.
- EISCAT was mentioned in the Development programme for Northern Areas.

SINTEF:

- Per Johan Brandvik gave a presentation by phone from Trondheim. SINTEF has several small projects in Svalbard, but also some large and extensive projects in e.g. Svea. Projects have national and international participants.
- SINTEF will continue the work with their large research programme on oil spill in the Arctic (especially in sea ice). This programme has already been carried out in Svea. Largest activity will be in 2010.
- Svea is still a very important research site for SINTEF.
- SINTEF is currently working on increasing the UNIS participation in their research programme on oil spill.

UNIS – Research and Education:

- Key-numbers:
 - about 350 students
 - about 50% norwegian/international students
 - 26 nations represented among students in 2008
 - gender distribution is close to 50%
 - 51 courses offered in 2009
 - Students and staff (incl. families) constitute 20-25% of the community in Longyearbyen.

UNIS was given economic support to finance 20 more student years in the Revised National Budget.

UNIS-links to local community:

- Svalbard History course (January 2010) and a Geology/Jørn Hurum course (spring 2010) will be open for all interested inhabitants of Longyearbyen. Jørn Hurum is employed in a small shared position between UNIS and Svalbard Museum.
- The Arctic Survival and Safety Course is available for all inhabitants in Longyearbyen. Current participation fee is NOK 8000,-
- UNIS collaborates with Svalbard Reiseliv in e.g. The Arctic Guide Study and a future launch of “Forskningspakker”.
- UNIS students rate their UNIS experience as “Awesome” – this is a gratitude for Longyearbyen as a whole as most institutions and organizations are involved in the students daily life and education.

UNIS courses and their link to the local community:

- Elise Strømseng presented some UNIS courses and collaborative efforts these courses have with the local community and companies e.g. SINTEF, STATSBYGG, LOKALSTYREt, SNSK etc. She also presented how the economic life and the outreach community in Longyearbyen can benefit from courses, students, lecturers or other events initiated by the research and education society (e.g. solar eclipse, IPY-opening, theatre about the aurora borealis made by the kindergarden with help/input from scientists).

OUTREACH /ECONOMIC LIFE

The Governor of Svalbard – SMS:

- Good collaboration between the Governor of Svalbard and the research, education and outreach community in Longyearbyen.
- There will be a visit by delegates/researchers from Alaska in spring 2010. They want to have a lecture for the local community on possible climate affects on distribution and behaviour of polar bears in Alaska.

- Currently in the process of making a test-version of a coordinating system for registering the number of accounts between polar bears and mankind in Svalbard.
- There was an increase in the number of rescue operations performed by The Governor in 2009.
- There is still an increase in the number of research applications. A guideline for applications is available at The Governors website in Norwegian and English.
- The Governors boat "Nordsyssel" can possibly be used by other institutions in Longyearbyen. However, period and special demands need to be announced as early as possible.
- The hearing regarding Nordaustlandet is currently at the Ministry of the Environment. The Governor of Svalbard is not included in the second part of this hearing.
- Tor Punsvik will leave his position at The Governor of Svalbard in summer 2010.

Svalbard Museum

- Has taken over the cultural-historical depot from The Governor.
- Currently working on a project called "Jurassic Park" – in close cooperation with Jørn Hurum og UNIS. This project includes a plan for an extension of today's locality for Svalbard Museum. The new building should include an area for exhibitions of dinosaurs and lizards, a preparation room and further on be an available resource for other institutions with need of office space.
- Cooperation with SNSK regarding mine 3. New opening in relation to SNSK anniversary in 2016?
- "Svalbardkurset" 2010 will include a presentation by Svalbard Museum presents with results from the investigations performed at Kapp Thordsen.
- Svalbard Museum wish for a LySEF that focus even more on outreach and use Svalbard Museum as a platform to conduct outreach activities.

Some ideas:

- outreach towards high school and college
- “Vin og viten” – suggestion for outreach to the general public by the use of museum, wine and researchers...

Svalbard Airship Museum

- Two private owners located in Longyearbyen (Norwegian/Italian initiative), not governmentally supported.
- The history promoted by the museum involves 7 nations.
- An international museum for the international public. The museum work especially towards companies and people outside of Svalbard.
- Got large formal and non-formal networks locally and internationally.
- Walter Wellman exhibition from 2009 will be terminated in summer 2010. The room will be reorganized into a library with documents and books from air/balloon/ship expeditions in the Polar areas. The new library can be used by the public and researchers etc. for e.g. lectures.

Lokalstyret

- Research, education, coal and tourism is said to be the most important issues in the Svalbard Community.
- There is not a high optimism in Longyearbyen as in previous years. This might be related to reduction in staff at SNSK, lower budgets from the government (e.g. UNIS) and the financial crisis. (Analyzed in Samfunns- og næringsanalyse).
- Consider it important to perform education and outreach to pupils, kinder garden, tourists and the local community.

Logistics – UNIS

- Dates for arrival of vessels for use in research and in UNIS courses are attached. Coordination for transport of equipment etc. can be accomplished by using these dates. Contact UNIS to coordinate transport of materials or equipment.
- The CO₂ project drilled down to 970meters – successful. Plan for seismic investigations in 2010.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excursions and teaching in 2010 will be at same level as 2009, but UNIS aim at using Kapp Linne more than in 2009 and furthermore use Svea and Ny-Ålesund even more then at present. <i>Challenge: High prices!</i> • UNIS, by logistics, contributes to the accomplishment of Arctic Nature Guide (Høyskolen I Finmark) and The Guide Education (TGO) hosted by Svalbard Reiseliv. • When UNIS do external projects in safety training or research this is decided upon through agreements. All other external projects are given to NPI and other institutions with competence within the same requested area. • All interested people and institution can join in on The UNIS safety course. Dates in 2010 will be 11.01 – 17.01. The price for external participants are NOK 8000,- , in 2010. • Key statistics for logistical department can found in the presentation (some key numbers are presented here): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 100 safety courses in 2009 – 1200 persons completed safety training in 2009 <p>Statsbygg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will make a presentation for the next meeting – indicating why LySEF is interesting for STATSBYGG. • STATSBYGG mission in Svalbard is to develop and build constructions with certain objectives in Svalbard. It is important for STATSBYGG to keep in touch with research institutions and the economic life to survey needs. • The Global Seed Vault and Kjell Henriksen Observatory (KHO) were the two latest buildings to be completed by STATBYGG in Svalbard
<p>08/09</p>	<p><i>How can LySEF achieve its goal of enhancing the communication and outreach between research societies and companies, the economic life and the local community in Longyearbyen?</i></p> <p>Comments from the discussion: There should be a better cooperation on outreach from the members in LySEF. Can Svalbard Museum be used as a platform for presentations?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High School and College students, Russian school kids from barentsburg?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Vin and Viten” an evening event for adults. <p><i>How can the scientific community motivate the high school students?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety training • Internationality • UNIS/NPI - close to the infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach is an important political issue – LySEF can be a way for all institutions to do/participate in outreach. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artists? Researchers could bring artists with them in field work, and expect something related to outreach in return. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will be beneficial to all LySEF members to talk with one voice in negotiations with relevant companies where all members have interests but suffer from high costs/prices (Lufttransport/Kapp Linné). <p>As the meeting went short of time – this matter will be discussed in the January meeting. The January meeting is thought to aspire to a concrete event for outreach in 2010 and will therefore not include presentations by the member institutions.</p>
<p>09/09</p>	<p>As the member-fee should be reconsidered every year in the autumn meeting (§ 3 - Founding Principles), the meeting unanimously agreed to keep the member fee at a level of NOK 5000,- for 2010.</p> <p>The members of LySEF also unanimously agreed to exempt Spitsbergen Airship Museum from paying the member fee as the company is private and receive no governmental funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is emphasized by the member institutions that similar cases should be treated separately and voted for. <p>There is a wish of changing the schedule of the meetings to January and May. All present members agreed in changing the meeting dates.</p>
<p>Next meeting - suggestion: Thursday, February 4th 2010</p>	

Rapport fra Svalbard Reiseliv til LySEF møte 10.12.2009

Svalbard Reiseliv har følgende prosjekter på gang.

1. Ny grafisk profil, hvor miljø og svalbardnaturen skal ligge i bunnen for prosessen. Designer velges i styremøtet den 10. Desember og vi er kjempespente.
2. Plastposefritt Svalbard går sin gang. Venter nå på den nye grafiske profilen. Skal også ha et møte med hele handelsstanden for at satsingen skal få ei god forankring.
3. Arbeidet med en masterplan for reiselivet på Svalbard starter på senvinteren. I Regjeringens nye nasjonale strategi for reiselivet, Verdifulle opplevelser (2007) heter det: "En helhetlig og langsiktig plan, samt evnen til å gjennomføre den er en viktig forutsetning for utvikling av lønnsomme reisemål. En vellykket prosess for utviklingen av våre reisemål, forutsetter evne til å ta strategiske valg, vilje til å prioritere tid og penger til en planprosess, at arbeidet er markedsorientert og at både offentlige og private interessenter er med i proessen. Reisemålsutviklingsprosessene bør gjennomføres i samarbeid med reiselivsbedriftene, handelsnæringen, grunneiere, andre aktører og kommunen på hvert enkelt sted og må sees i sammenheng med øvrig kommunal planlegging."
4. 2. Halvår skal vi ha et nytt publiserings- og bookingsystem på plass, som er mye mer brukervennlig og tilgjengelig enn det vi har i dag.
5. 19. Januar arrangerer vi et Vertskapskurs her i Longyearbyen. Kurset passer for alle som har kunde- gjestekontakt og næringslivet i Longyearbyen oppfordres til å delta.
6. Mørketidssatsingen har tatt fart. En markedsplan er under utarbeidelse og skal være ferdig, som et markedsverktøy, for alle i reiselivet 25. Mars.
7. Svalbard Reiseliv Deltar på reiselivsmessen på Lillestrøm i januar og TUR-messen i Gøteborg i februar.
8. Svalbard Reiseliv har tatt initiativ til en filmfestival høsten 2010. Samarbeid med Northern Travelling Filmfestival og Tromsø Internasjonale filmfestival
9. Svalbardguideopplæringen, som er en videreutviklet utgave av "gamle" Guide- og turlederopplæringen, arrangeres i begynnelsen av februar.

Dette er litt av det vi holder på med ☺

Ha en fin dag.

Hilsen

UNNI M