

## **ACTIVITY REPORT**

### **INCLUSIVE AND HEALTHY CITIES**

**November 2015 - October 2017**

#### **1. General description**

Inclusive and Healthy Cities Commission has been started in current form in spring 2015. In June 2015 the commission had its first meeting in Gdynia - Poland. At this meeting, we were participants from seven cities in five nations.

At that time it was decided about organizations structure, with chairmanship, topics for the common work and an activity plan with budget for 2016.

Our commission has chosen to have one chairman and one co-chairman for one year at a time. The decision was taken in expectation that more than one city should have the responsibility for leading the work in the commission. A strategy for cities to become more active and involved in the work of the Commission.

In 2015 Gdynia had the chairmanship together with Trelleborg. In 2016 Trelleborg had the chairmanship together with Gdynia and now, during 2017, Karlstad is chairman together with Gdynia. From the start Gdynia has taken full responsibility for all financial matters and accounting. Gdynia has also made presentations for the commission at the UBC Board meetings.

Our first years as a commission has in one way been a period of building up the commission, get to know each other and the work that we are doing in our cities, agree on common topics and trying to establish a structure for a common work in the commission.

At our first meeting in Gdynia, June 2015, we choose "Open Spaces" as a topic to work on and we have held on to that topic during this whole period. Open Space is a place where a community can get together, work and play together, talk to each other and discuss matters of importance for the community, and act together in order to make their living better.

#### **2. Meetings/seminars/conferences**

##### **Participation in 73<sup>rd</sup> UBC Executive Board Meeting in Dolina Charlotty – Poland, 10-14 June 2015**

At the UBC Executive Board Meeting Commission activities and plans was presented.

##### **Commission meeting in Gdynia - Poland, 27 October 2015, in the frame of UBC General Conference**

The draft reports on Open Social Spaces were discussed and technical issues of commission activity were overworked. The day before a study visit to "WYMIENNIKOWNIA" ("Exchanger"), youth activity centre, was organised. At this meeting, we were participants from five cities in five nations.

### **Commission meeting in Karlstad - Sweden, 8-11 March 2016**

The days in Karlstad were filled with study visits and presentations of a few different open social spaces in Karlstad municipality. We also had time for common discussions and reflections about the visits and exchanges of experiences from our cities.

Guiding issues for these days were: How to design a good meeting place? How shall we work with user participation and user influences?

At this meeting, we were participants from five cities in three nations.

### **Commission meeting in Trelleborg/Malmö - Sweden, 18-22 May 2016**

At the meeting in Trelleborg we continued the work with our theme Open Spaces and we had the opportunity to visit some of their spaces. We also had time for common discussions and reflections about what we had seen and how to go on with the theme in the commission.

Guiding issues for these days were: What do these open spaces bring to our cities and communities.

At this meeting, we also had the opportunity to take part of the refugee situation during the autumn of 2015. We met people responsible for dealing with the situation during these months both in the municipality of Trelleborg and the municipality of Malmö.

At this meeting, we were participants from six cities in four nations.

### **Participation in 76<sup>th</sup> UBC Executive Board Meeting in Kaunas – Lithuania, 6-8 June 2016**

At the UBC Executive Board Meeting Open Social Spaces Report was presented.

### **Annual Commission meeting in Espoo - Finland, 26-28 October 2016**

The meeting in Espoo also continued with the theme Open Spaces. We visited a number of different spaces, all with different target groups. We also visited some sport facilities where they run a strong social work to prevent social exclusion among young people. During these days, we also had time for common discussions about the opportunity for an exchange program between cities in the commission. In Espoo, we also had the commission's annual meeting.

At this meeting, we were participants from seven cities in five nations.

### **Participation in 78<sup>th</sup> UBC Executive Board Meeting in Kristiansand – Norway, 15-17 February 2017**

### **Workshops in Trelleborg - Sweden, 22-24 March 2017**

This meeting was a creative workshop where we had the opportunity to try the concept of service design. Design thinking starts with what people need, and it is about understanding culture and context before starting to design solutions. Our moderator guided us through the workshops sessions and helped us to use different tools to find potential projects within the theme of our commission, Open Spaces. The result of the workshop, one concrete project idea, can after some further development be included in the coming commissions work.

We also had the chance to see the uncut version of the film produced by the city of Trelleborg regarding the refugee influx in Trelleborg in the autumn of 2015.

At this meeting, we were participants from seven cities in five nations.

All our meetings has been open for all UBC members.

### **Participation in 79<sup>th</sup> UBC Executive Board Meeting in Berlin – Germany, 15 June 2017**

### **Participation in UBC Conference Preparation Meeting in Rostock - Germany, 21-22 September 2017**

The preparation meeting addressed on migration issues in Europe to be subject of UBC conference at 12-14 March 2018 in Rostock.

## **3. Projects**

During this period, the Commission has not participated or implemented any EU projects. Open Social Spaces as the planned and conducted activities had the project elements: the idea recognition faze, study visits, reports.

## **4. Cooperation with other organisations**

Commission workshops and meetings had involved international specialists and experts as well as individual and from business sector.

## **5. Communication**

There is an ongoing work on updating and completing the Commission´s plan of communication. The plan will be finished during this autumn.

## **6. Other activities**

With financial support from UBC, the city of Trelleborg has produced a film regarding the refugee influx in Trelleborg in the autumn of 2015. The film is based on interviews with people involved in the urgent

work of helping refugees arriving to the city of Trelleborg. It's a way of trying to describe what happened in Trelleborg and how they acted to help the refugees in the best way possible.

As a part of the commission we have planned for an exchange between two cities on Domestic violence. The first meeting will take place in December 2017.

Since the establishment of the commission, the chairman and co- chairman, have had at least two common working days a year to prepare the commission's work.

Lina Helgerud, Chairman, Karlstad

Katarzyna Stec, Co-Chairman, Gdynia

Jaroslaw Józefczyk, Co-chairman, Gdynia