

## MINUTES OF VCCN COMMITTEE MEETING



**VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM  
TUESDAY, 5<sup>th</sup> OF OCTOBER 2021 20.00 – 21.00**

1. Thoughts on Mission and Strategic Goals (email to come)  
**LE** sent out the draft of this via email. Had some feedback and second draft followed.  
**JD** asked if we were using the term ECC within a only Critical Care organisation?  
**LE** thinks we should be using Emergency alongside as in Veterinary medicine these are often within the same room.  
**HR** asked for explanation of 'one health' as this wording is used in our strategic goals.  
**LE** explained the term has been used for a number of years but most recently became more widely used when Helen Ballentyne (RVN and RN) became Chair of the UKOHCG. VN Futures are using this term and it is looking to incorporate 'One Health' approaches into everyday nursing practice. Most famous examples education around passive smoking in the household with animals and antibiotic misuse.  
**LE** has asked can everybody read these statements and get back to me by the end of next week. If we are happy as a committee these will be published on our website.
2. Membership drive – Thoughts from FW, LB and JD  
All committee members agreed we need to work on a strategy for encouraging sign up.  
**LE** discussed that £30 annual fee is very cheap and doesn't need to be an alternative to BVNA members for example but an addition.
3. Sponsorship thoughts – FW, LB and JD  
**JD** suggested a number of possible organisations that supply both human and veterinary medicine.  
**JD** also suggested we approach EVECCS and IVECCS.  
**LE** has already made contact with EVECCS and got a positive response but this was mid Covid and needs chased up.  
**LE** gave **JD** and **LB** the contact within ECHO for sponsorship help.

[REDACTED]  
Every year Nicole creates bespoke corporate packages for possible sponsorship.

**LE** had asked we make sure our approach fits within the BACCN protocol and that we perhaps need to finalise our reasons for sponsorship. For example sponsorship of a keynote speaker...

4. Conference 2022 content and focus – LS, EH, LA and HR

**EH** sent an email outlining thoughts on this topic which **LE** had not had a chance to look at before the meeting.

**LS** said that having content for both days of the conference is preferable. Committee members will likely need to produce content whilst our membership numbers are low.

**HR** suggested she may be able to ask ~~Vets Now~~ to put an advert for membership into their annual conference platform this year. This we hope to encourage involvement and a larger number of abstracts for Belfast.

**LE** informed committee that herself and **LA** are working on an RVN abstract approach. Guidelines are to make the abstracts of a quality that can be published, and we should be encouraging this sort of quality. However, we will need to encourage nurses to write for us and perhaps we will be offering help to make the abstracts good enough to be published. **LE** is aware of not wanting to 'scare' any potential RVNs from getting involved.

**LE** also outlined the possible structure of conference.

**1<sup>st</sup> day** – 2 keynote speakers (main auditorium for everybody)

Then each stream will break away to their own space of which there are 6 in Belfast. One of which is Critical Care Paediatrics which is new this year.

The Veterinary Nursing stream should have its own Keynote to start off then followed by roughly 7 or 8, 30 minute sessions filled with our abstract submissions. Breaks and lunch are scheduled between.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Day** – Simulation slot roughly 90 minutes long with ECHO

**LE** has suggested a keynote at the end of day 1 also to finish us off. This would need to be funded by a sponsor. Any ideas for this person welcomed.

**LE** has been in contact with BVNA already regarding their involvement on conference. I am trying to get Helen Ballantyne to be our keynote for day one.

**LE** has given the contact for ASPIEE the simulation company.

[REDACTED]  
if we can contact [REDACTED] who expecting us to do so. Chat with her about how we make simulation work for us and what costs are involved. Would we need to get a sponsor attached to this part of our stream?

**LE** has asked that **HR**, **LS** and **EH** list some simulation suggestions to take to ASPIEE and pick maybe one that will be practical and encourage RVNs to get involved.

5. Social Media update – **DB, KG**

**KG** and **DB** are currently looking into signing up for a media management programme that will automatically post across all our social media. This should save time.

**KG** asked for ideas on what we should be posting, Case studies are a common post and should we be doing something different?

**LE** agreed that perhaps we should be involving human related posts for comparison.

**LE** asked **KG** to join the BACCN Facebook group which will give you access to all BACCN members. **LE** has used this to ask questions in the past and has had a good response. Members seem to engage quite well.

**LE** has said that it is all our responsibility to help with content. If **DB** and **KG** can give us a theme they want to run then we can look to aid with content.

**KG** asked if we should be doing some sort of journal club/roundup posts?

**KG** also suggested asking other RVNs who have successful Instagram accounts to help us advertise and share our content.

**LE** says there are a number that follow us anyway and I am sure would do so.

6. ECHO

**LE** explained that ECHO are the management company behind BACCN and any support we need often comes from them.

Please use them to ask questions and the handbook explains more.

[REDACTED]

7. LOGO – Suzy Small starting work on this in November

We are looking to create some further wording on the design to make it clearer that we are Veterinary Critical Care.

8. Next meeting

**KG** suggested every quarter which mirrors other committees.

**LE** agreed the next meeting is likely to be end of December/January

**LE** also said that every year likely the day before conference we can arrange a committee dinner which the BACCN pay for. This may be the first time we manage to all be in the same place at the same time!

9. **Any other business**

**LE** has informed that [REDACTED] is for personal reasons no longer involved in committee. We wish her all the best and hope to still see her at conference in Belfast.

**LE** has thanked all committee members for joining up and for bringing so many ideas to the table. We have a huge list of jobs to get through

in our first year but a lot of this will set us in motion and wont need repeated after our first conference.

#### Action points

1. Finalise the Mission statement and Strategic goals **LE**
2. **JD, LB and FW** make contact with Nicole from ECHO to discuss how to approach a sponsor and possible ways of creating a bespoke corporate package.
3. **ALL** members put forward suggestions for keynotes for conference 2022
4. **HR, LS, EH** continue working on conference content especially simulation suggestions. To contact [REDACTED] at ASPIEE
5. **LE** continue discussions with BVNA and update committee asap
6. Social media set up and themes to be finalised **DB** and **KG**
7. **LE** and **LA** work on the RVN friendly abstract approach deadline end of November
8. **S.S** to rework the Logo
9. **LE** to confirm a meeting date with **KG** to discuss our ideas for conference

#### Next Meeting

To be confirmed by **LE**