



COMITÉ TECHNIQUE INTERNATIONAL DE PRÉVENTION ET
INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE PREVENTION AND EXTINCTION
МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ ТЕХНИЧЕСКИЙ КОМИТЕТ ПО ПРЕДОТВРАЩЕНИЮ И ТУ
INTERNATIONALES TECHNISCHES KOMITEE FÜR VORBEUGENDEN BRANDSCHUTZ
COMITATO TECNICO INTERNAZIONALE DI PREVENZIONE ED ESTINZIONE INCENDI

Museums and Documentation Commission

Introduction

The following report was prepared for Norman Dickerson by Maurice Cole [Curator of UK Fire Service Vehicle Museum] who represented the UK because Norman, the official UK representative, could not attend. Norman confirms that the UK accept the report and the suggested translation folders under item 2 and the nomination of Maurice Cole as an inspector but reject the advertising comments made under item 5. The report was submitted on 4 April 2006 and relates to the last meeting of the CTIF Museums and Documentation Commission.

CTIF Museums and Documentation Commission, meeting At the Czech Republic Fire Service Centre in Pribyslav 5th to 8th October 2005

1. The Chairman's Report

Walter Egger, the President of the CTIF has been looking at the way the CTIF works and has introduced some changes, although these are still under consideration. The motif has been changed and new button pins were passed out. All Commission reports will be available in power point, in English.

2. Certification of Fire Brigade Museums

The approved certificate was introduced - in German and English. It was hoped to utilise CTIF meetings at Museum locations, i.e. Pribyslav to certify museums. The costs of certification were discussed. The representative for Poland Dr Witecka expressed concerns about flexibility of interpretation and reasons for rejection.

Two grades of application will be available: full museum status or private/personal collection. I stressed the importance of the international tourist aspect with regard to descriptions in the indigenous language and English, but it was agreed that translation folders could be accepted as an alternative.

It was agreed that the 'inspectors' must not come from the museum country in question. There followed discussion as to who the 'inspectors' should be and their qualification. Rolf put my name forward, presumably for the UK - approved. I made the point that the 'inspectors' should meet to ratify approach and interpretation to ensure standards employed.

I also sought to establish whether CTIF are looking for acceptance and recognition from each countries formal museum services and the need, in this case for a working relationship with such bodies.

3. Guidelines for the valuation of 'Old timers'

An Austrian representative who had spent three years working on establishing the parameters to be used when verifying the history and validity of Old timers introduced the proposals. The value of the Old timer is based upon its value as an historic artefact, not its monetary value as determined by the market. There is a rolling date of 40 years.

Although only available at the meeting in German, it will be available in English. I endeavoured to establish whether this would be before it was ratified but I think I lost the case. In as much as my German allows, I could not see any serious disagreement. The assessment is based upon technical as well as historical content. Whether this procedure will be welcome and supported in this country is open to question.

4. Project Documentation in Fire Service Museums

I did pass Rolf the work we have done that breaks down the collection through five phases, but he has produced a scheme of his own which was accepted for discussion by the Commission. The approach was similar but could involve considerable work over some years, to implement it. I felt it would not be easy to use, as the route might not be clear, at first encounter.

5. Advertising for new members of the Commission

This did not seem to create much interest. In-fact the impression given by Walter Egger was that he thought that the current Commission would lose its viability should it grow in numbers.

6. Any Other Business

Nothing came up.

After notes

With regard to 2 Rolf carried out the certification of the museum at Pribyslav on the Thursday afternoon by himself I believe. I do not think this creates a good precedent, as there should surely be at least two persons involved. It all seemed rather incestuous.

On the Friday morning there was an open discussion with both the Commission and the historians' led by Adolph, as to where next years meeting should be held. Very democratic, but not guaranteed to produce a satisfactory result. The Dutch had investigated the possibility but felt the cost to be too high. It was eventually decided to return to the former East Germany where you first attended.

We then left for our cultural afternoon, which I will describe when we meet, as I will also elaborate on the accommodation. Adolf and the various other members that you know were anxious to send you their regards and express the hope that you would be a next years meeting.