

European City Network “Cities for Children” 3rd Annual Conference
29 – 30 June 2009, Stuttgart City Hall

Protocol Stuttgart Meeting, 30 June 9h00 – 12h00

MINUTES

of the work group no. 5 “Generation Dialogue”

Time: from 09 am to 12 am

Conference Room: Room 34

Participants: Iska Dürr, City of Stuttgart (Germany)
Radiana Gheorghita, ASCO, Oradea (Romania)
Monika Graser, City of Bern (Switzerland)
Sandra Hasenburger, Kinderbüro Steiermark (Austria)
Ronny Natusch, City of Stuttgart (Germany)
Bernhard Seidler, Kinderbüro Steiermark (Graz, Austria)
Viorich Sinca, ASCO (Romania)

Moderators: Bernhard Seidler, Kinderbüro Steiermark (Graz, Austria)
Sandra Hasenburger, Kinderbüro Steiermark (Austria)

Recorder: Ronny Natusch, City of Stuttgart (Germany)

Ms Hasenburger and Mr Seidler are pleased to welcome the participants present to the work group. They intend to discuss about the relationship between the young and the elderly people in order to find solutions how to bring them into closer contact.

Item 1 The aims of Generation Dialogue

Generation Dialogue is a very suitable way to educate the young and the elderly about one another. As a matter of fact, intergenerational meetings can make great steps in avoiding conflicts and misunderstandings of both age groups.

With regard to migration, generation dialogue can become viable to include both the young and the elderly more effectively into society.

In the framework of Age and Insurance, older customers have the opportunity to find the cover they require.

Furthermore, the exchange between young and elderly people can have favourable effects on preparing the young on how to get along in a social environment. As a result, the young are more willing to support older people.

Item 2 In which ways can we make old and young come together?

As this issue also concerns the other working groups (Education, Living spaces, Health, Work Life Balance, Participation and Traffic), this item is postponed to the agenda of next year's meeting in Graz. The Kinderbüro Steiermark is planning a meeting focussing generation dialogue in March 2010.

Item 3 What is the benefit for the children?

- Social education
- Social experience
- Affection, appreciation and recognition
- Knowledge concerning history
- Health
- Tolerance towards the elderly
- Self-confidence

These criterions prepare children for their role as an adult in society achieving progress of their social education.

Item 4 Current projects of the participants

- **Graz:** Children having done services for older people receive points as a sign of honour. Thus, they are constantly motivated to continue on caring for the older generation.
- **Berne:** The programme "Generaktionen" in the city of Berne coaches young people in order to get easier a job.
- **Stuttgart:** The city of Stuttgart combines events and intergenerational meetings e.g. family breakfasts and mobile multigenerational houses. In addition, it also organizes application fairs for school-leaving students.
- **Oradea:** The Administratia Sociala Cumunitara attaches great importance to an intense social network which is mostly based on volunteering. For instance, elderly people tell stories to the younger by showing photos. On the other hand, young people offer self-made presents to the elderly. Their projects also include intergenerational physical training and counselling service.