



European IFYE Alumni

International Farm/4H Youth Exchange

MINUTES

58th Annual General Meeting of the European IFYE Alumni

Thursday 28th July 2016, Pärnumaa, Estonia

1. Welcome and Opening

The President Anna Persson (Swe), extended a warm welcome and thanks to everyone attending. A special welcome was extended to new members and friends joining us from outside Europe.

The meeting started with a minute's silence in tribute to Erhard Hoefler (Ger), Claus-Wilhelm Marth-Thomsen (Ger), Ruedi Mumenthalen (Swi), Judith Weber-Fürst (Swi), Regula Brandenberger (Swi), Rolf Johansson (Swe) and other IFYE members who passed away during the last year.

2. Introduction of Office Bearers

Anna introduced the Executive Committee: Andreas Poelzl (Aut) 1st Vice-President; Reelika Rütli (Est) 2nd Vice-President; Ursula Spillmann (Swi) Treasurer, and Linda Steele (NI) Secretary.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted with no amendments.

4. Apologies for Absence

Anita Eckerstorfer (Aut), newsletter editor, sent apologies for absence for the meeting and Anna extended congratulations to her and Jens on the recent birth of their son, Paul. In addition Anna advised that the Apologies for Absence and greetings received from members were available for viewing on the conference notice board.

5. Appointment of Counters and Establishment of the Number of Eligible Voters

Keith Junker (USA) and Dale Yonkers (USA) were appointed as the counters. There were 109 eligible voters. (In the event of a vote, 56 votes were required for a majority).

6. Approval of the Minutes of the 57th Annual General Meeting held in Elgin, Scotland

The minutes, which were circulated previously, available on www.ifye.org and on the conference notice board, were agreed.

7. Matters arising from the Minutes

Any matters arising from the minutes will be addressed on the agenda.

8. Reports on Past IFYE Activities

8.1 Report on the IFYE Conference in Scotland in 2015

Nan McLachlan from the Scottish Conference Committee thanked all those who attended and advised that the administration, finance and operation of the conference had been a success. The conference brochure is almost complete and will be posted to attendees and lifetime members who have requested a copy.

8.2 Executive Committee Report

The report was circulated to Contact Members in June with the papers for the conference and is displayed on the conference noticeboard and is available on the www.ifye.org website.

8.3 Country Reports on Special or New Programmes

The Country Reports were circulated to Contact Members with the papers for the conference in June, are displayed on the conference notice board and, will be available on the www.ifye.org website.

9. Financial Reports (Accounts for the period 01.07.15 to 30.06.16)

Ursula presented the financial reports, previously presented to the Contact Members and members at the country meetings.

9.1 Main Report

Extract: 'The general account decreased CHF 1'156.50 and is now at CHF 10'621.46.

The costs for the midterm-meetings were more at CHF 4'546.85, as this included a meeting of the 60th anniversary committee. In the budget we had CHF 3'200.-.

We got 5 new lifetime members and membership-fees were at CHF 2'812.65. That is CHF 1'132.65 more than the budget.

The tombola gave us CHF 1'399.78, which is CHF450.22 less than in the budget.

From interests and Changing of LUX Strategy fund we got CHF -1'185.12 compared to the budget of CHF -70.00. At the moment we have CHF 48'973.85 in our UBS-Account and the UBS LUX strategy fund is worth CHF 19'135.00.

In total we have a loss of CHF 3'764.56, instead of a loss of CHF 2'165.00.'

9.2 Lifetime Members Fund

Extract: 'The lifetime member fund decreased CHF 924.62. We got 5 new Lifetime-Members and the Changing of the LUX Strategy fund means the fund is now worth CHF 31'889.59.'

9.3 Development Fund

Extract: 'The tombola brought CHF 1'399.78 into the fund. There were no applications for money and the fund is now at CHF 16'399.78. After this AGM CHF 1'399.78 will be transferred into the General account. In the Sweden fund for Newcomer IFYEs are still CHF 9'158.02. It went down last year CHF 912.80 for 6 newcomer IFYEs.'

9.4 Auditors Report

Eda Hanni (Est) and Gerde Vares (Est) audited the reports and Ursula read the statement:

'We have checked the financial books of the European IFYE Alumni and reviewed that the balance sheet of the accounts is correct. We checked every sheet with the result and our conclusion is that the books are held in a very correct way. In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position and the operations of the European IFYE Alumni from the 1st July 2015 to the 30th June 2016. We as auditors therefore propose that the Annual General Meeting gives the Board members freedom from responsibility for the last year.'

10. **Applications to the Development Fund**

There were no applications this year.

11. **Budget 2015/16**

Annual Budget: The under-noted budget for the financial year 2016-17 was adopted, taking into account the possible financial implications of the proposals.

-300,00	Hosting Rural Youth Europe
-500,00	Extra Conference Reports
-1500,00	Silver pins and certificates
-100,00	Gifts
-1000,00	Newcomer Ifye support
-200,00	European Rally Representation
-3200,00	Mid-term meeting
-6800,00	Total (General Expenses) CHF
-700,00	Website, Webhotel, Layout
-700,00	Total (Newsletter and website) CHF
1500,00	Annual members
480,00	Lifetime members
1980,00	Total (Membership fees) CHF

1000,00	Future of IFYE programme applications
0,00	Promotional materials
1000,00	Total (Development fund) CHF
2000,00	Tombola Income
-100,00	Expenses
1900,00	Total (Tombola) CHF
10,00	Interest
-100,00	Bank charges
0,00	Changing of LUX Strategy fund
-90,00	Total (Interest) CHF
-2710,00	Total CHF

The proposals made under point 13, if accepted, may affect the budget slightly.

12. Presentation of the new website

Andreas Poelzl (Aut), presented the new website. He asked for feedback and photographs to add to the gallery. He also outlined the work which would be undertaken next year and explained that €700 had been included in the budget, an extremely low price for this type of work. Anna thanked Andreas and Anita for all their work on this project and asked them to pass on our thanks to the web-designer.

13. Proposals

Linda outlined the three proposals and addressed the points needing clarification which had come up during the contact members meetings. The three proposals were put to the meeting as follows.

Proposal 1:

Newcomers should be eligible for a rebate if they attend a reunion within FIVE years of their exchange. Exchange 2016 = Rebate eligibility until 2021.

Financial implications: Using the number of newcomers from last year an estimate of the possible financial implications can be calculated.

Benefits: Encourage participation of young newcomers.

Proposal 2:

Clarification of the rules for qualification for rebate in the blue booklet (i) if you attend in your own country, then this does not count as your first reunion (ii) if you attend whilst on exchange or directly after exchange you will only qualify if you have paid the full conference fee. (If attending as a guest then you are not eligible.)

Proposal 3:

The Board will consider applications from participants or IFYE co-ordinators for a financial subsidy, with a view to developing local IFYE programmes and/or European conferences. The closing date for applications will be 31st December preceding the conference with applications assessed at the mid-term meeting.

The maximum allowance will be at the discretion of the Board, up to a total amount of 1000CHF per year, to be divided amongst all accepted applicants.

This project should run for three years and be reviewed in 2019.

Financial implications: maximum 3000 CHF

Benefits: New participants and links with new countries.

Anna put each proposal to the meeting and they were passed unanimously. The Blue Booklet will be updated and published on-line to include the recent changes.

14 Future IFYE Conferences

14.1 Switzerland: 15th-22nd July 2017.

Nadia Tassone-Appert extended an invitation on behalf of the Swiss IFYEs to Vaumarcus NE, Switzerland, and advised that further information will be available on-line in September.

14.2 Northern Ireland 2018

Linda Steele invited the meeting to come to Antrim in Northern Ireland in 2018.

14.3 Invitations for 2019 and beyond

Kari Bjørke invited the conference to Norway in 2019 and England extended an invitation for 2020.

14.4 World Conference, 2018, USA

Dale Yonkers advertised the World Conference which will take place in the USA in September 2018. More information will be available on www.ifye.org.

15 IFYE 60th Anniversary 2018: Subcommittee Update

Dorothy Wilson (Eng) gave an update on the discussions of the sub-committee and informed members that they have scanned many items from the archive and have begun putting together a brochure for the 2018 anniversary. Tomas is also working on an on-line archive. Anna thanked the committee for their work over the last year.

16 Election of Office Bearers

Anna asked for proposals for the vacant positions and the following candidates were duly elected.

President: Anna Persson (Swe) – Elected in 2015 for a two-year term.

1st Vice –President: Andreas Poezl (Aut) – Elected for a two-year term.

2nd Vice-President: Sonja Siegwart (Swi) – Elected for a one-year term.

Secretary: Linda Steele (NI) – Elected in 2015 for a two-year term.

Treasurer: Ursula Spillmann (Swi) – Elected for a two-year term.

Newsletter Editor: Anita Eckerstorfer (Aut) – Elected for two-year term.

Auditors: Hans-Ruedi Dietiker and Edith von Atzigen, elected by the Swiss IFYEs for a one-year term.

17 Any Other Business

Lukas Helfenstein, chairman of RYE, brought greetings to the meeting and hoped that the two groups will continue to support each other and co-operate in the future.

Anna read greetings from Victoria Warren, President of IFYE USA.

Claire Woods (NI) extended an invitation to the UK YFA reunion in October 2016 which will be held in Cookstown, Northern Ireland.

Martyn Quayle thanked the Estonian organising team on behalf of the members and highlighted that in 2023 it would be Europe’s turn to host the World Conference.

Anna thanked the meeting and individual board Members for their invaluable contributions over the last year, especially Reelika and the Estonian team who have organised a wonderful conference and wished the members all the best for the year ahead. Finally she thanked everyone for their participation and declared the 58th Annual General Meeting closed.

President:.....*

Date:.....

Secretary:.....

Date:.....

Treasurer:.....**

Date:.....

*The above signatory is authorised by the Executive Committee of EIFYEAA to revoke or endorse a new signatory as Treasurer, should it be required for a period of 12 months from this date.

**The above signatory is authorised by the Executive Committee of the EIFYEAA to carry-out the financial duties of the organisation for a period of 18 months from this date.

Linda Steele (NI)
Secretary
EIFYEAA
August 2016