**European IFYE Alumni**

International Farm/4H Youth Exchange

**MINUTES**

59th Annual General Meeting of the European IFYE Alumni

Thursday 20th July 2017, Vaumarcus, Switzerland

1. **Welcome and Opening**

The Second Vice-President Sonja Siegwart (Swi), extended a warm welcome and thanks to everyone attending. A special welcome was extended to new members and friends joining us from outside Europe. She then handed the meeting over to acting chair, Linda Steele (NI).

The meeting started with a tribute to past President Martyn Quayle (IOM) followed by a minute’s silence in tribute to him and other IFYE members who passed away during the last year.

1. **Introduction of Office Bearers**

Linda introduced the Executive Committee: Sonja Siegwart (Swi) 2nd Vice-President; Ursula Spillmann (Swi) Treasurer and Anita Eckerstorfer (Aut), Newsletter Editor.

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted with no amendments.

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were recorded from Anna Persson (Swe), President and Andreas Poelzl (Aut), first Vice-President and best wishes extended to them from the meeting for a speedy recovery for them and their family members. In addition Linda advised that the Apologies for Absence and greetings received from members were available for viewing on the conference notice board.

1. **Appointment of Counters and Establishment of the Number of Eligible Voters**

Deb Clarke (Aus) and Dale Yonkers (USA) were appointed as the counters. There were 141 eligible voters. (In the event of a vote, 72 votes were required for a majority).

1. **Approval of the Minutes of the 58th Annual General Meeting held in Pärnumaa, Estonia**

The minutes, which were circulated previously, available on [www.ifye.eu](http://www.ifye.eu) and on the conference notice board, were agreed.

1. **Matters arising from the Minutes**

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

1. **Reports on Past IFYE Activities**
	1. Report on the IFYE Conference in Estonia in 2016

Kadri Toomingas from the Estonian 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.

* 1. Executive Committee Report

The report was circulated to Contact Members in June with the papers for the conference, is displayed on the conference noticeboard and is available on the [www.ifye.eu](http://www.ifye.eu) website.

* 1. Country Reports on Special or New Programmes

The Country Reports will be circulated to Contact Members, are displayed on the conference notice board and, will be available on the [www.ifye.eu](http://www.ifye.eu) website.

* 1. Report on European Rally NI and greetings from RYE

Lukas Helfenstein, past Chairman of Rural Youth Europe brought greetings and gave a short report on last year’s European Rally in Northern Ireland. Best wishes were extended to the organisation on their forthcoming anniversary celebrations in Latvia and for the future.

1. **Financial Reports** (Accounts for the period 01.07.16 to 30.06.17)

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

* 1. Main Report

*Extract: ‘The general account increased CHF 402.58 and is now at CHF 11’024.04.*

*Last year the costs were more than CHF 1’700 lower than the budget. The main reasons are:*

*It was not necessary to buy new silver pins. The costs for printing the certificates were CHF 117.72 instead of CHF 1’500 for silver pins and certificates.*

*The newcomer IFYE support was CHF 442.07 higher than the budget (= CHF 1’000). Last year we supported 9 newcomers.*

*For the midterm meeting we could keep the costs low at CHF 1’740.82. In the budget were CHF 3’200. The anniversary team continued their research and it was a request that they had a meeting in Copenhagen last November. The anniversary team spent CHF 1’952.69 for accommodation and travel costs. Together the Board and anniversary team spent CHF 493.61 more than was in the budget,*

*To develop the IFYE website did not cause any costs in 2016/2017. The next steps are planned for 2017/2018.*

*The tombola gave us CHF 1’662.25, which is CHF 337.75 less than in the budget.*

*From interests and Changing of LUX Strategy fund we got CHF 1’553.01 compared to the budget of CHF 90. At the moment we have CHF 46’598.29 in our UBS-Account and the UBS LUX strategy fund is worth CHF 20’631.00. Besides that there is some cash of CHF 632.35*

*In total we have a loss of CHF 977.21, instead of a loss of CHF 2’710.00.’*

* 1. Lifetime Members Fund

*Extract: ‘The lifetime member fund decreased CHF 200.20. There were costs for mailing extra conference reports for a total of CHF 680-. We got 2 new Lifetime-Members. The fund is now worth CHF 31’689.39.’*

* 1. Development Fund

*Extract: ‘The tombola brought CHF 1’662.25 into the fund. There were no applications for money and the fund is now at CHF 16’662.25. After this AGM CHF 1’662.25 will be transferred into the General account. In the Sweden fund for Newcomer IFYEs are still CHF 7’715.96. It went down last year CHF 1’442.06 for 9 newcomer IFYEs.’*

* 1. Auditors Report

Hans-Ruedi Dietiker (Swi) and Edith von Atzigen (Swi) audited the reports and Hans-Ruedi verfied the following 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 2016 to the 30th June 2017. We as auditors therefore propose that the Annual General Meeting gives the Board members freedom from responsibility for the last year.’*

1. **Applications to the Development Fund**

There were no applications this year.

1. **Proposals from the Board**

Following discussions within the Board, country and contact members’ meetings the following proposal was passed by the meeting.

‘The membership fee should be included in the registration fee, rather than collected separately at the conference. Life Time members will have a reduced fee.’

This will streamline the financial administration of the conference fees for both the contact members and the treasurer. Voting rights will remain as outlined in the blue book.

1. **Budget 2017/18**

Annual Budget: The under-noted budget for the financial year 2017-18 was adopted, acknowledging the effects of the anniversary celebrations.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  -300,00 | Hosting Rural Youth Europe |
| -500,00 | Extra Conference Reports |
|  0,00 | Silver pins and certificates |
|  -100,00 | Gifts |
| -1600,00 | Newcomer Ifye support |
|  0,00 | Travel costs to World Conference |
|  -200,00 | European Rally Representation |
| -3000,00 | Anniversary team meeting |
| -3200,00 | Mid-term meeting |
| **-8900,00** | **Total (General Expenses) CHF** |
|  |  |
|  -700,00 | Website, Webhotel, Layout |
| -4000,00 | Anniversary booklet |
|  **-4700,00** | **Total (Newsletter and website) CHF** |
|  |  |
|  1500,00 | Annual members |
|  480,00 | Lifetime members |
|  **1980,00** | **Total (Membership fees) CHF** |
|  |  |
| -600,00 | Future of IFYE programme applications |
|  0,00 | Promotional materials |
| **-600,00** | **Total (Development fund) CHF** |
|  |  |
|  1800,00 | Tombola Income |
|  -100,00 | Expenses |
|  **1,700,00** | **Total (Tombola) CHF** |
|  |  |
|  10,00 | Interest |
|  -100,00 | Bank charges |
|  0,00 | Changing of LUX strategy fund |
|  **-90,00** | **Total (Interest) CHF** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| **-10,610,00** | **Total CHF** |

1. **Future IFYE Conferences**

13.1 Northern Ireland: 21st- 28th July 2018

Avril Herdman extended an invitation on behalf of the Northern Ireland IFYEs, to Antrim, Northern Ireland, and advised that further information will be available on-line as soon as possible.

* 1. Norway 2019

Mari Kindsbekken and Kirsti Rø invited the meeting to come to Norway from 12th-18th August in 2019.

13.3 Invitations for 2020 and beyond

Peggy Amos invited the conference to England in 2020, Kati Nurminen invited everyone to Finland in 2022 and Alois Wolff invited the World Conference to Austria in 2023. There is a vacancy in 2021 and invitations are welcome.

13.4 World Conference, 2018, USA

Dale Yonkers advertised the World Conference which will take the form of a cruise from Vancouver to Alaska from 8th-16th September 2018. More information is available on [www.ifye.eu](http://www.ifye.eu).

1. **IFYE 60th Anniversary 2018: Subcommittee Update**

There was a brief update on the anniversary publication which will be distributed at next year’s event and contact members were reminded to notify the committee as soon as possible as to how many extra copies they may need.

1. **Election of Office Bearers**

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

* President: Anna Persson (Swe) – Elected in 2017 for a two-year term.
* 1st Vice –President: Andreas Poelzl (Aut) – Elected in 2016 for a two-year term.
* 2nd Vice-President: Pauline Armstrong (NI) – Elected for a one-year term.
* Secretary: Linda Steele (NI) – Elected in 2017 for a two-year term.
* Treasurer: Ursula Spillmann (Swi) – Elected in 2016 for a two-year term.
* Newsletter Editor: Anita Eckerstorfer (Aut) – Elected in 2016 for two-year term.
* Auditors: Lottie McCullough (NI) and Margaret Hemphill (NI), were elected by the Northern Ireland IFYEs for a one-year term.
1. **Any Other Business**

Presentation of the website and survey

Anita Eckerstorfer (Aut), presented the developments in the website and the results of the recent survey. She also invited members to submit articles and photographs for the newsletter. Linda thanked Anita for all her work on this project along with the rest of the team for their work on this continuing project.

Huw Williams (Wal) extended an invitation to the UK YFA reunion in October 2017 which will be held in Taunton, Somerset, England.

Congratulations were extended to Richard and Adele Wallis (ENG) on their 40th wedding anniversary and reliving their honeymoon by attending an IFYE conference in Switzerland.

Linda thanked the meeting and individual board Members for their invaluable contributions over the last year, especially Nadia Appert and the Swiss team who have organised a wonderful conference and wished the members all the best for the year ahead. Finally Sonja Siegwart thanked everyone for their participation and declared the 59th 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 2017