



European IFYE Alumni

International Farm/4H Youth Exchange

MINUTES

56th Annual General Meeting of the European IFYE Alumni

Thursday 24th July 2014, Hesselberg, Germany

1. Welcome and Opening

The President Gerhard Steinberg (Aut), extended a warm welcome and thanks to everyone attending. A special welcome was extended to past presidents, Gudrun Berns, Hermann Engelbrecht, Dorothy Wilson, Avril Herdman and Martyn Quayle.

The meeting started with a period of silence in remembrance of Tauro Suonpaa (Fin), Veikko Tupasela (Fin) and Horst Singer (Ger) who passed away in the last year.

2. Introduction of Office Bearers

Gerhard introduced the Executive Committee: Anna Persson (Swe) 1st Vice-President; Katharina Steinrücke (Ger) 2nd Vice-President; Norbert Winkler (Aut) Treasurer and Linda Steele (NI) Secretary.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted with no amendments.

4. Apologies for Absence

Hilde Riser (Nor) Newsletter Editor sent her apologies for absence for the meeting. In addition Gerhard advised that the Apologies for Absence and greetings received from members were available for viewing on the conference notice board.

Congratulations were extended to David Hull (NI) and Maria Taala (Fin) who were married in Finland last week and to Inger Christina Groseth (Nor) and Birka on the birth of their son Emil.

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

Deb Clarke (Aus), Simon Garlough (Can) and Carolyn Gehrke (USA) were appointed as the counters. There were 114 eligible voters. (In the event of a vote, 58 votes were required for a majority).

6. Approval of the Minutes of the 55th Annual General Meeting held in Monmouth, Wales

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

8. Reports on Past IFYE Activities

8.1 Report on the IFYE Conference in Wales in 2013

Alison Spencer from the Welsh 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 available and has been 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, was published in the June 2014 edition of the IFYE newsletter, is displayed on the conference noticeboard and is available on the www.ifye.org website.

8.3 Country Reports on Special of New Programmes

The Country Reports were circulated to Contact Members with the papers for the conference in June, will be published in the Sept 2014 edition of the IFYE newsletter, are displayed on the conference notice board and, are available on the www.ifye.org website. There were no special or new programmes to report this year.

8.4 Report on the European Rally held in Tipperary, Ireland, 2013

Linda Steele (NI) gave a report on the European Rally in Ireland where she spoke to representatives from the many rural youth organisations on the promotion of longer term exchanges.

8.5 Report on World Conference, Thailand, Nov 2013

Anna Persson and Martyn Quayle represented EIFYEA at the World conference and gave a short report on the event and plans for future conferences in Uganda and India. A presentation of photographs was also available for viewing at the end of the AGM.

9. Financial Reports (Accounts for the period 01.07.13 to 30.06.14)

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

9.1 Main Report

The general account went down 1463,51 CHF and is now at 9494,12 CHF. Part costs of the World Conference were paid to Martyn Quayle, as he represented the European Board. Holding the mid-term Executive Committee meeting in Frankfurt

saved travel costs. The actual costs were 1933,46 CHF compared to the budgeted costs of 3200 CHF.

The stock markets climbed, and the LUX strategy fund has gone up 1390,30 CHF and is now worth 19823,30 CHF.

The fiscal year of the Swiss IFYE does not correspond with our fiscal year. The membership fee of Swiss IFYEs who paid in the first half of the year 2013 affects our account in the year 2014/15. A line is set to balance this right in our account sheet. All accounts and funds sum up together to a positive result of 1453,76 CHF. When the decreasing of the fund is deducted, the accounts are balanced.'

9.2 Lifetime Members Fund

'The lifetime member fund went down 144,34 CHF. These are the costs for posting the conference reports to the Lifetime Members. We got no new LT members. The fund is now worth 32680,83 CHF.'

9.3 Development Fund

'The development fund is now at 17299,72 CHF. The tombola brought 2471,31 CHF into the account. There were no applications for money out of the development fund.'

9.4 Auditors Report

Hilke Solterberg (Ger) and Anne Wiegand (Ger) audited the reports and 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 2012 to the 30th June 2014. 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 2013/14

Annual Budget: The under-noted budget for financial year 2014-15 was adopted.

-325,00	Hosting Rural Youth Europe
-360,00	Extra Conference Reports
-1395,34	Silver pins and certificates
-100,00	Gifts
-800,00	Baby Ifye support
-200,00	European Rally Representation
-3200,00	Mid-term meeting
-6380,34	Total (General Expenses) CHF

-530,00	Newsletter and website
0	Postage and Printng
-530,00	Total (Newsletter and website) CHF
1800,00	Annual members
480,00	Lifetime members
0,00	Membership fees Eastern Countries
2280,00	Total (Membership fees) CHF
0,00	Future of IFYE programme applications
0,00	Promotional materials
0,00	Total (Development fund) CHF
1800,00	Tombola Income
-150,00	Expenses
1650,00	Total (Tombola) CHF
200,00	Interest
-150,00	Bank charges
0,00	Changing of LUX Strategy fund
50,00	Total (Interest) CHF
0,00	Tax expenditure
0,00	Tax expenses
0,00	Total (Tax) CHF
-2930,34	Total CHF

12. Future IFYE Conferences

12.1 Scotland 2015: 15th-22nd August.

Meg Findlay extended an invitation on behalf of the Scottish IFYEs to Gordonstoun, near Elgin in Scotland and advised that further information is available on www.ifyescotland.org.uk and on facebook.

12.2 Estonia 2016

Reelika Rütli extended an invitation, on behalf of the Estonian IFYEs to Parnü in Estonia in 2016.

12.3 Invitations for 2017 and beyond:

Doris Maurer extended an invitation on behalf of the Swiss IFYEs to host the 2017 conference.

Sam Hawkes extended an invitation on behalf of the Northern Ireland IFYEs to host the 2018 conference.

Both invitations were enthusiastically accepted.

12.4 USA IFYE Conference

Dale Yonkers brought greetings from Betty Jo Smith-Roberts, President of IFYE USA who extended an invitation to any countries who don't currently have an exchange with the USA. He also invited members to attend the USA conference to be held in Atlanta, Georgia in June 2015. Further details available on www.ifye.org

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

The Association will celebrate its 60th Anniversary of Conferences in 2018. To mark the event it is proposed to prepare a commemoration report to record the events. Dorothy Wilson (Eng) gave an update on the discussions of the sub-committee and informed members that they have begun collecting contributions and interviewing members on their experiences. Doris Maurer has also offered to look through the archives to identify important or interesting information. They plan to make some information available on-line but are looking at the possibility of a commemorative booklet to be available at the anniversary conference. Gerhard thanked the group for their work so far.

14. **Election of Office Bearers**

- 14.1 President: Gerhard Steinberger (Aut) – Elected in 2013 for a two-year term.
- 14.2 1st Vice –President: Anna Persson (Swe) – Re-elected for a two-year term.
- 14.3 2nd Vice-President: Nan McLachlan (Sco) – Elected for a one-year term.
- 14.4 Secretary: Linda Steele (NI) – Elected in 2013 for a two-year term.
- 14.5 Treasurer: Ursula Spillmann (Swi) – Elected for a two-year term.
- 14.6 Newsletter Editor: Avril Herdman (NI) – Elected for one-year term.
- 14.7 Auditors: Alan James (Sco) and Colin Manson (Sco) – Elected by the Scottish IFYEs for a one-year term.

15. **Any Other Business**

Lukas Helfenstein, RYE Vice-chairman, brought greetings from Rural Youth Europe and is keen to work together to help promote the international experiences of rural youth.

Alison Spencer (Wales) and Mary Roberts (Wales) will attend the RYE European Rally in Port Talbot, Wales to promote IFYE and the reunions and Lukas Helfenstein will bring greetings from the IFYE Association to their AGM in Cardiff.

Invitations were extended to the UK YFA reunion in October 2014 which will be held in Irvine, Ayrshire in Scotland, and to the Finnish 50th Anniversary celebrations on 6th December 2014.

Gerhard thanked those who had attended the morning workshops for their contributions and ideas which will be compiled and circulated for further action or consideration.

Thanks was extended to the individual Board Members for their invaluable contributions over the last few years, in particular to outgoing Treasurer Norbert

Winkler (Aut), Newsletter editor, Hilde Riser (Nor) and 2nd Vice President Katharina Steinrücke (Ger). They were presented with small tokens of appreciation.

Gerhard then thanked the German organisers for a wonderful conference and wished the members all the best for the year ahead. Finally he thanked everyone for their participation and declared the 56th 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 EIFYEA
August 2014