



European IFYE Alumni

International Farm/4H Youth Exchange

MINUTES

57th Annual General Meeting of the European IFYE Alumni

Thursday 20th August 2015, Elgin, Scotland

1. Welcome and Opening

The President Gerhard Steinberger (Aut), 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 tribute from Johannes Solid (Nor) to the first IFYE President, the late Piet Djkhuis (Net) and there was a period of silence in remembrance of Anders Anderson (Swe), Sally Young(Sco) and other IFYE members who passed away in the last year.

2. Introduction of Office Bearers

Gerhard introduced the Executive Committee: Anna Persson (Swe) 1st Vice-President; Nan McLachlan (Sco) 2nd Vice-President; Ursula Spillmann (Swi) Treasurer, Avril Herdman (NI), Newsletter editor and Linda Steele (NI) Secretary.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted with no amendments.

4. Apologies for Absence

Sandy and Kathleen Stewart (Sco) sent 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.

5. 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 120 eligible voters. (In the event of a vote, 61 votes were required for a majority).

6. Approval of the Minutes of the 56th Annual General Meeting held in Hesselberg, Germany

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 Germany in 2014

Eva Singer from the German 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, was published in the June 2015 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 or New Programmes

The Country Reports were circulated to Contact Members with the papers for the conference in June, will be published in the Sept 2015 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 Rallies held in Port Talbot, Wales 2014 and Linz, Austria, 2015

Alison Spencer (Wales) gave a report on the European Rally in Wales where she, Mary and Andrew spoke to representatives from the many rural youth organisations on the promotion of longer term exchanges.

Gerhard Steinberger (Aut) also attended the GA of RYE in Linz, 2015 to promote the IFYE programme and he brought greetings from RYE chairman and IFYE member, Lukas Helfenstein.

9. Financial Reports (Accounts for the period 01.07.14 to 30.06.15)

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

9.1 Main Report

The general account increased CHF 2'283.84 and is now at CHF 11'777.96.

Except for purchasing new Silver pins last summer, there were no other special costs to take over.

The costs for the midterm-meeting were kept low at CHF 1'594.19, due to the very good location at Dublin airport which kept costs low. In the budget we had CHF 3'200.-.

We got 4 new lifetime members and membership-fees were at CHF 1'499.44. That is almost CHF 200 more than the budget.

The tombola gave us CHF 2'170.42, which is CHF 520.- more than in the budget.

From interests and Changing of LUX Strategy fund we got CHF 715.42 compared to the budget of CHF 50.-. At the moment we have CHF 51'500.41 in our UBS-Account and the UBS LUX strategy fund is worth CHF 20'433.-'

In total we have a profit of CHF 1'967.92, instead of a loss of CHF 2'980.34.

9.2 Lifetime Members Fund

'The lifetime member fund increased CHF 133.38. There were costs for Silver Pins and Printing Certificates of a total of CHF 1'436.32. We got 4 new Lifetime-Members and the Changing of the LUX Strategy fund put CHF 609.70 into the Lifetime Members Fund. The fund is now worth CHF 32'814.21.'

9.3 Development Fund

'The tombola brought CHF 2'170.42 into the fund. There were no applications for money and the fund is now at CHF 17'170.42. After this AGM CHF 2'170.42 will be transferred into the General account. In the Sweden fund for Newcomer IFYE's are still CHF 10'070.82. It went down last year CHF 320 for 2 newcomer IFYEs. This year we supported 6 newcomer IFYEs.'

9.4 Auditors Report

Alan James (Sco) and Colin Manson (Sco) audited the reports and Mary Turner (Sco) 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 2015. 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 financial year 2015-16 was adopted.

-325,00	Hosting Rural Youth Europe
-200,00	Extra Conference Reports
0,00	Silver pins and certificates

-100,00	Gifts
-1000,00	Newcomer Ifye support
-200,00	European Rally Representation
-3200,00	Mid-term meeting
-5025,00	Total (General Expenses) CHF
-600,00	Website, Webhotel, Layout
0	Postage and Printing
-600,00	Total (Newsletter and website) CHF
1200,00	Annual members
480,00	Lifetime members
0,00	Membership fees Eastern Countries
1680,00	Total (Membership fees) CHF
0,00	Future of IFYE programme applications
0,00	Promotional materials
0,00	Total (Development fund) CHF
2000,00	Tombola Income
-150,00	Expenses
1850,00	Total (Tombola) CHF
30,00	Interest
-100,00	Bank charges
0,00	Changing of LUX Strategy fund
-70,00	Total (Interest) CHF
0,00	Tax expenditure
0,00	Tax expenses
0,00	Total (Tax) CHF
-2165,00	Total CHF

As the association is in a healthy financial position the Board asked the meeting for their support to allow them to make some proposals on how part of this capital could be utilised, especially for projects which fall outside the criteria of the development grant.

Norway made a suggestion to subsidise the conference fee for IFYEs under the age of 30 to encourage participation from younger members. Finland made suggestions that capital could be used to hire professional input on the website or by the 60th anniversary group. All members were encouraged to submit their suggestions to the board for discussion at the mid-term meeting. The secretary will compile these and circulate them to the contact members with the aim of bringing concrete proposals to next year's meeting.

12. Future IFYE Conferences

12.1 Estonia 2016: 23rd-30th July.

Reelika Rütli extended an invitation on behalf of the Estonian IFYEs to Pärnumaa, and advised that further information will be available on-line in September.

12.2 Switzerland 2017/Northern Ireland 2018

Nadia Appert extended an invitation, on behalf of the Swiss IFYEs to join them in 2017 and Linda Steele invited the meeting to come to Northern Ireland in 2018.

12.3 Invitations for 2019 and beyond

England extended an invitation for 2020 and Norway and Austria are considering the feasibility of hosting in 2019 or 2021.

12.4 Asia Pacific Conference, 2015, India / World Conference, 2018, Uganda

Anna Persson advertised the Asia Pacific Conference which will take place in India in November 2015. More information is available on www.ifye9thaspaconference.com.

Dale Yonkers gave an update on the world conference which is planned for Uganda in 2018. The group have until November to make a final decision as to whether this will be possible. If not, hosting will pass to the USA which is next on the rota. Martyn Quayle (IOM) made an official proposal that EIFYEAA support this plan which received the full agreement of the meeting.

13. IFYE 60th Anniversary 2018: Subcommittee Update

Gerhard Steinberger (Aut) and 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. They have also made arrangements to look through the archives to identify important or interesting information. The possibility of making information available on-line is being investigated and the Anniversary hosts will work with the committee to produce a commemorative souvenir. Gerhard thanked the group for their work so far.

14. Election of Office Bearers

- 14.1 President: Anna Persson (Swe) – Elected in 2015 for a two-year term.
- 14.2 1st Vice –President: Andreas Poezl (Aut) – Elected for a one-year term.
- 14.3 2nd Vice-President: Reelika Rütli (Est) – Elected for a one-year term.
- 14.4 Secretary: Linda Steele (NI) – Elected in 2015 for a two-year term.
- 14.5 Treasurer: Ursula Spillmann (Swi) – Elected in 2014 for a two-year term.
- 14.6 Newsletter Editor: Anita Eckerstorfer (Aut) – Elected for one-year term.
- 14.7 Auditors: Elected by the Estonian IFYEs for a one-year term.

15. Any Other Business

Alan Lambert (USA) gave the meeting an update on changes in the administration of the IFYE programme in the USA and their aims to develop the programme over the next few years.

Invitations were extended to the UK YFA reunion in October 2015 which will be held in Wales.

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 Newsletter editor, Avril Herdman (NI) and 2nd Vice President Nan McLachlan (Sco).

Anna Persson (Swe) thanked Gerhard for his contribution over the last number of years and presented him with a small token of appreciation.

Gerhard then thanked the Scottish 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 57th 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 2015