



European IFYE Alumni

International Farm/4H Youth Exchange

MINUTES

Contact Members Meeting, Pärnumaa, Estonia

Sunday 24th July & Tuesday 26th July 2016

(Minutes are a record of both meetings)

In attendance:

Mary Roberts, Wales	Johanna Hakkarainen, Finland
Maximillian Schulze Esking, Germany	Klemens Wakolbinger Austria
Nora Feyder, Luxembourg	Anna Persson, (Swe) (President)
Kari Bjørke, Norway	Linda Steele (NI) (Secretary)
Marianne Svensson, Sweden	Andi Poelzl (Aut) (1 st Vice President)
Ramona Hess, Switzerland	Reelika Rütli, (Est) (2 nd Vice-President)
Paul Fraser, Scotland	Ursula Spillmann, (Swi) (Treasurer)

1. Welcome and Opening of the Meeting

The President, Anna, welcomed everyone and opened the meeting. Contact members were invited to introduce themselves and their organisations.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted without any amendments.

3. Contact Member's Responsibilities

The contact members' responsibilities were sent out by e-mail in June with the conference papers and are noted in the Blue Booklet.

4. Presentation of the Conference & Programme

Reelika gave a short presentation of the programme for the week and answered questions on any changes to the itinerary.

5. Approval of the Minutes from Meetings held in Elgin, Scotland

- 5.1 Contact Members Meeting: Minutes issued in October 2015 were agreed.
- 5.2 57th Annual General Meeting: Minutes issued in October 2015 will be recommended for adoption at the AGM.

6. Matters arising from the Minutes of the 57th Annual General Meeting

6.1 Executive Committee Report

The report was circulated to Contact Members with the papers for the conference in June, was published in the July 2016 edition of the IFYE newsletter, is displayed on the conference notice board and is available on www.ifye.org.

6.2 Proposals to the AGM 2016

Following last year's AGM the Board took the ideas suggested and brought forward three proposals. These were circulated prior to the meeting and were open to discussion and clarification.

Some discussion on the proposals led to the rewording of proposal 3 as presented below. The amended proposals will be presented to the meeting. If accepted they will come into effect thereafter and newcomers in 2017 will be eligible for the new 5 year rebate system.

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 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 for a financial subsidy from participants or IFYE co-ordinators **with a view to developing local IFYE programmes and/or European conferences**. The closing date for applications will be in the 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.

6.3 Presentation of the website

Andreas Poelzl will present the new website to the meeting at the AGM. It is available for members to view and Andreas welcomed comments and suggestions. He also asked for photographs of reunions to include on the gallery. To date it has incurred a minimal cost of around €200 but there is more work to be done and an amount of €700 will be included in the next budget to cover this. Members were happy with the progress so far, especially at such a low cost to the Association and thanked Andreas and Anita for their contributions.

7. Financial Matters

7.1 Main Report 2015/2016

Ursula presented the financial report, previously circulated to the committee and the Contact Members.

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 CHF 450.22 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.'

7.2 Lifetime Member's Fund Report

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.'

7.3 Development Fund Report

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.'

7.4 Auditor's Report

The Auditors have considered the accounts and they are ready to be presented to the AGM.

8. Applications to the Development Fund

There were no applications to the development fund.

9. Budget 2016/2017

The undernoted budget will be recommended for adoption at the Annual General Meeting.

-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

10. Reports on Past IFYE Activities

10.1 Report on the IFYE Conference in Elgin, Scotland 2015

Paul informed the meeting that the conference had been a success and the conference reports will be circulated as soon as possible. Nan McLachlan will report at the AGM.

10.2 Country Report on special or new programmes

Maximillian reported on a project Germany are developing with South Korea. So far they have successfully hosted one exchangee and look forward to sending one of their members to Korea. Switzerland are currently establishing links with Denmark and the Republic of Ireland. There was also some discussion on the importance of briefings for the outgoing and incoming exchangees, so they better understand what is expected of the programme.

11. **Future IFYE Conferences**

11.1 Switzerland 2017: The Conference will be held in Vaumarcus NE, Switzerland from 15th – 22nd July 2017. There will be a presentation to the conference during the week, giving details on travel and accommodation options.

11.2 Northern Ireland 2018

Northern Ireland have booked a venue at Greenmount College, Antrim from 21-28th July 2018.

11.3 Invitations for 2019 and beyond

Norway have decided to issue an invitation for 2019. England have some concerns about 2020 but after discussions at their country meeting they have confirmed that they will invite for 2020. Austria are considering their options for 2021 and beyond.

12. **IFYE 60th Anniversary 2018: Subcommittee**

The 60th Anniversary subcommittee have met several times during this week and work has begun on the layout of the booklet. Dorothy will give an update at the AGM.

13. **Issues for the week**

13.1 Update Contact Members list

Contact members were requested to update their contact details and notify us of any changes of e-mail addresses.

13.2 Country Reports

Country Reports were circulated with the conference papers, will be available on www.ifye.org and are displayed on the conference notice board.

13.3 Election of Office Bearers

President: Anna Persson (Swe) was elected in 2015 for a 2 year term and remains in post.

1st Vice-President: Andreas Poelzl (Aut) was elected in 2015 for a 1 year term. Election required.

2nd Vice-President: A representative from Switzerland to be elected for a one-year term. This will be Sonja Siegwart.

Secretary: Linda Steele (NI) was elected in 2015 for a 2 year term and remains in post.

Treasurer: Ursula Spillmann (Swi), elected in 2014 for a two-year term. Election required.

Newsletter Editor: Anita Eckerstorfer (Aut): Elected in 2015 for a one-year term. Election required.

Auditors: Two representatives from Switzerland to be elected for a one-year term.

All members of the Board are happy to be considered for election again. Contact members were asked to notify the meeting as early as possible if there are any other candidates.

13.4 Tombola

The tombola will be held on Thursday morning immediately after the AGM. Anna, Andreas and Katlin will organise it along with the newcomer IFYEs. Prizes are to be placed in a box in reception. The ticket prices are €1 each, 6 for €5.

13.5 Collection of Membership Fees

The fees are to be collected by the Contact Members and given to Ursula before the AGM. The membership fees are €20 for Annual Members and €220 for Lifetime Members. Incoming IFYEs attending the conference as part of their exchange trip are not required to pay the membership fee.

13.6 Pins and Certificates

Members were asked to check their lists for those entitled to receive pins or certificates to commemorate more than 25 or 50 years since their exchange and inform Anna or Linda so these can be prepared for the final dinner.

13.7 Apologies for Absence and Greetings received

'Apologies for Absence' and 'Greetings received' are to be written on the appropriate sheet on the notice board. Any greetings received on-line will also be printed and displayed on the noticeboard.

14. Any Other Business

There was some discussion on the upcoming world conference which will be held in the USA in September 2018. Dale Yonkers will give an update at the AGM.

A question was raised by Norway about the growing number of non-Europeans over the last couple of years who have been attending the conference. It was acknowledged that this was a positive reflection on the programme questions were asked as to how it might affect the European members. Should the participation fees be the same? If not what would any extra money be used for? Are European members losing out on places? There were a lot of opinions around this issue. As for places, until now this has not been a problem as there has been plenty of space, but with an eye to the future the meeting asked that the Board discuss these issues and make some proposals for next year.

Anna thanked the Contact Members for their contributions and help throughout the year before bringing the meeting to a close.

Linda Steele (NI)

Secretary EIFYEA

August 2016