

# European IFYE Alumni

## International Farm/4H Youth Exchange

### AGM MINUTES

61<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of the European IFYE Alumni

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2019, Hamar, Norway

#### **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 and a minute's silence was observed to honour those members who have recently passed away, in particular John Cromie (NI), Donald Spencer (Wal) and Mikael Karlsson (Swe).

#### **2. Introduction of Office Bearers**

Anna invited the Executive Committee to introduce themselves: Nora Feyder (Lux), Newsletter editor, Andreas Poelzl (Aut) 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President; Anette Paulsen, (Nor) 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, Linda Steele (NI) Secretary and Ursula Spillmann (Swi) Treasurer.

#### **3. Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted with no amendments.

#### **4. Correspondence and Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence and greetings received from members were available for viewing on the conference notice board. Avril read greetings from Fiona Cromie (NI) thanking everyone for their messages of sympathy and kind wishes on the loss of her husband John. Signe from Norwegian 4H brought greetings from the

organisation and welcomed everyone to Hamar, wishing them a pleasant stay.

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

Alyssa Dye (USA) and Maria Savina (Est) were appointed as the counters. There were 142 eligible voters. (In the event of a vote, 72 votes were required for a majority).

## **6. Approval of the Minutes of the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held in Antrim, Northern Ireland.**

The minutes, which were circulated previously, available on [www.ifye.eu](http://www.ifye.eu) and on the conference notice board, were agreed with an amendment. This was that, as the auditors had been unavailable, the 2018 meeting had agreed to pass the accounts, with the proviso that they would be checked at a later date, and Ursula advised the meeting that this has since been done.

## **7. Matters arising from the Minutes**

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

## **8. Reports on Past IFYE Activities**

### Report on the IFYE Conference in Northern Ireland in 2018

Linda Steele from the NI 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 was sent out in July and everyone agreed it was a lovely reminder of an excellent week.

### Executive Committee Report

The report was circulated to Contact Members 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.

### Country Reports on Special or New Programmes

Anna welcomed 4 members from Slovenia to the meeting for the first time, who are working on developing their own alumni organisation. Work is also on-going on finding a way to help contact members share information on exchanges so

they can develop their programmes and organisations, whilst respecting the GDPR regulations.

#### Report on European Rally NI and greetings from RYE

Anja Mager, board member for Rural Youth Europe brought greetings and gave a short report on the work of the committee and the plans for the European Rally, on the theme of Mental Health, to be held in England next week.

### **9. Financial Reports** (Accounts for the period 01.07.18 to 30.06.19)

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

#### Main Report

*Extract: 'The general account decreased CHF 2,705.24 and is now at CHF 5,681.97.*

*The IFYE Board spent only CHF 2,286.341 for the mid-term meeting instead of CHF 3,200 but there were costs of CHF 1,748.45 for the layout of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary books which were outstanding.*

*The extra conference report costs were higher at CHF 3,933.52 (budget = CHF 1,000) as this included Switzerland and Northern Ireland's reports.*

*However, due to a high attendance in 2018 and changes in the conference fee, for memberships we got: CHF 2,275.92 (budget = CHF 1,500) from annual members, CHF 230.83 (budget = CHF 480) from lifetime members and 1,371.76 (budget = CHF 700) from non members; a total of CHF 3,878.51 (budget = CHF 2,680.00). The tombola gave us CHF 2,430.06 (budget = CHF 1,800.00) We spent CHF 1,223.84 to support 8 newcomer IFYEs.*

*As you can see at the moment we have CHF 34,406.65 in our UBS-Account and the UBS LUX strategy fund is worth CHF 21,151.00.*

*In total we have a loss of CHF 4,875.01, instead of a loss of CHF 5,410.00.'*

#### Lifetime Members Fund

*Extract: 'The lifetime member fund decreased CHF 3,702.69. There were costs for mailing the extra conference reports of a total of CHF 3,933.52. We got 1 new Lifetime-Member. The fund is now worth CHF 27,427.75.'*

## Development Fund

*Extract: 'The tombola brought CHF 2,430.06 into the fund. There were no applications for money and only the financial subsidies for the special project application were taken. The fund is now at CHF 16,973.69. After this AGM CHF 1,973.69 will be transferred into the General account. In the Sweden fund for Newcomer IFYEs are CHF 5,474.24. It went up last year, CHF 158.28, as there was income for the first time from non-members at the conference.'*

## Auditors Report

Kari BJORKE (Nor) and Tone Margaret Ødegård (Nor) audited the reports and verified the following statement:

*'We have examined the Accounts, Budget and Bank Statements of the European IFYE Alumni for the year ending 30 June 2019, and confirm that these have been properly prepared and are in order.'*

The accounts were passed unanimously.

## **10. Applications to the Development Fund**

There was one application from Finland for support to run a homecoming seminar for returning exchangees. A budget was submitted and the proposal to approve the application was passed unanimously.

## **11. Proposals from the Board**

The Board proposed that the newcomers support, from the Sweden Fund, should be continued for the next 5 years, instead of the usual 3 years, finances permitting. This was passed unanimously.

They also proposed that the Special Project, to support new organisations or older members from existing organisations, costing a maximum of 1000 CHF per year from the Development Fund, be continued for another 5 years, finances permitting. This was passed unanimously.

## **12. Budget 2019/20**

Annual Budget: The under-noted budget for the financial year 2019-20 was adopted.

-300,00	Hosting Rural Youth Europe
-1000,00	Extra Conference Reports
0,00	Silver pins and certificates
-300,00	Gifts
-3000,00	Newcomer Ifye support
0,00	Travel costs to World Conference
-200,00	European Rally Representation
0,00	Anniversary team meeting
-3200,00	Mid-term meeting
<b>-8000,00</b>	<b>Total (General Expenses) CHF</b>
-700,00	Website, Webhotel, Layout
0,00	Anniversary booklet
<b>-700,00</b>	<b>Total (Newsletter and website) CHF</b>
1800,00	Annual members
480,00	Lifetime members
1000,00	Non-members Sweden Fund
<b>3280,00</b>	<b>Total (Membership fees) CHF</b>
-1000,00	Future of IFYE programme applications
0,00	Promotional materials
<b>-1000,00</b>	<b>Total (Development fund) CHF</b>
1800,00	Tombola Income
-100,00	Expenses
<b>1,700,00</b>	<b>Total (Tombola) CHF</b>
100,00	Interest
-100,00	Bank charges
0,00	Changing of LUX strategy fund
<b>0,00</b>	<b>Total (Interest) CHF</b>
<b>-4,720,00</b>	<b>Total CHF</b>

### 13. Future IFYE Conferences

#### England 2020

Christine Cooper invited everyone to join them in Lancashire in England, from 8<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

Formal invitations have been received for the next 3 conferences and interest for 2025 and 2026 have been expressed as outlined below.

Sweden 2021, Finland 2022, Austria 2023, ??? 2024, Germany 2025, Estonia 2026.

#### **14. Election of Office Bearers**

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

President: Andreas Poelzl (Aut) – Elected in 2019 for a two-year term.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice –President: Sam Hawkes (NI) – Elected in 2019 for a one-year term.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President: Christine Cooper (Eng) – Elected for a one-year term.

Secretary: Mari Kindsbekken (Nor) – Elected in 2019 for a two-year term.

Treasurer: Ursula Spillmann (Swi) – Elected in 2018 for a two-year term.

Newsletter Editor: Nora Feyder (Lux) – Elected in 2018 for two-year term.

Auditors: Helen Ramsey (Eng) and Christopher Ramsey (Eng), were elected by the English IFYEs for a one-year term.

#### **15. Any Other Business**

The letter from IFYE USA was discussed and everyone felt that the ideas expressed were already encapsulated in the ethos of IFYE Europe. However, as the exchanges are agreed between individual countries and organisations, and may have to adapt to accommodate local circumstances, the meeting felt that it could not impose strict regulations. As expressed in the Blue Booklet our objective is simply to promote exchanges and assist and support national Alumni Associations. This has already been expressed to IFYE USA via e-mail.

Angharad Williams (Wales) extended an invitation to the UK YFA reunion from 25<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> October 2019 which will be held in Newport in Wales.

The anniversary pins and certificates were then presented. This year 11 silver pins were presented to:

Elsbeth Ulnits (Den) 1982, Marja Tiiri (Fin) 1989, Elaine Mowat (Sco) 1988, Elizabeth Renwick (Sco) 1975, Malfrid Fuglas (Nor) 1982, Knut Herren Vognild (Nor) 1982, Thomas Johansson (Swe) 1987, Annemarie Aeberhard (Swe) 1990,

Philip Walker (NI) 1994, Shirley Walker (NI) 1994 and Linda Steele (NI) 1994.

5 golden Certificates were presented to Lieselotte Bolländer (Ger) 1969, Elizabeth Miller (Sco) 1969, Bengt Gunnarsson (Swe) 1968, Ann-Charlott Öhman (Swe) 1968 and Arne Jönhill (Swe) 1969.

Anna thanked the meeting and individual board Members for their invaluable contributions over the last year, especially the Norwegian team who have organised a wonderful conference, and wished the new committee all the best for the year ahead. Ursula Spillmann then presented Anna and Linda with gifts to thank them for their time on the Board and the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting was declared 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 2019