
Minutes of the AGM, 14th May 2019

1. OPENING

The Annual General Meeting was convened at least fifteen days in advance. The quorum of twenty members was attained : 34 members were present. No proxies were required as no need for a secret ballot was foreseen. All of the members of the Steering Committee were present except Maria KIENZLE, who was excused.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF 22nd MAY, 2018

The minutes of the AGM of 22nd May, 2018, which were published in the Newsletter May-September 2018, were approved unanimously, with the correction contained in the Errata corrigé distributed to all members with the Convocation to this AGM (*).

3. REPORTS

a) President's Report

Good morning to all.

A year has gone by since our last General Meeting and our Committee has done lots of things.

I'll begin with the work undertaken during the summer to make the rooms where we meet more attractive. We started with the simple idea of closing off the mezzanine, to satisfy the teachers, who complained of the noise. Then the works became more extensive... so we took the opportunity to make the classrooms more luminous and the changing rooms more liveable. Thus we were also able to solve the problem of the gym room, which had the annoying and disagreeable habit of smelling bad when it rained. So we improved the air. This was of great satisfaction for us.

As you may know, we are a Club of more than 400 members and many activities, conducted by over 40 group leaders.

Magali CORTESY, our Activities Coordinator, will tell you more about this than I can, but I'd like to mention here that she is leaving the Club after several years of very effective collaboration. Of course this saddens us a little, but change is natural and it is normal to wish to do something new. She will be replaced by Sara CASTELLS, who will also continue as Toddlers' Group Leader. A heartfelt thank you to Magali.

Each year we have tried to organise seminars, which are usually very interesting, and in addition, the money they earn is donated to charitable organizations, as is the income from the Christmas Sale and the spring Jumble Sale.

But there is a little snag : the seminars are not very well attended, and it's a pity, because, like the Coffee Mornings, they would be ideal for bringing people together to share ideas.

What I can suggest is that if you have topics that interest you and which might be subjects for seminars, don't hesitate to propose them to us. It will be an opportunity to share your knowledge and your enthusiasm.

A moment ago I mentioned Coffee Mornings. Since Sara is going to replace Magali as Activities Coordinator we needed someone to reinforce the Coffee Morning team; Konstantina FYTROU has kindly agreed to take on this task. As for changes, you know that last year, after several years of editing our Newsletter, Nathalie SCHNEIDER asked to be replaced. The person who took over from her had to quit during the year because of family problems. so we asked Nathalie to step in, which she did, and very efficiently too, but we had to look for someone to replace her again. Sylviane PEREZ has agreed to do this. So we thank both Nathalie and Sylviane, who in addition is going to lend a hand to Judy RICHARDS, our Treasurer, with the complex task of keeping the accounts.

Before closing, I'd like to mention to you the new Web site, created by our Webmasters Monica MENDOZA and Evelyne MONTILLET. It is very attractive and extremely useful. I advise any of you who have not yet had a chance to browse through it, to do so. It is a mirror of the life of our Club.

Thank you, and I hope to see many of you on Tuesday, 11th June, at our annual lunch.

b) Treasurer's Report

Judy RICHARDS reported that the improvements to our premises that we budgeted at CHF 20,000 ended up costing the Club CHF 21,000, only slightly more than expected. We should remember that the Club paid only a fraction of the total cost of the work. CERN sustained the greater share and the other clubs that use the premises also contributed.

Our income surplus for the financial year, apart from the exceptional expense of the 21,000, was very similar to last year's, at CHF 2,164.90. We still have a balance of CHF 45,000 in the UBS, which we need to use for worthwhile projects, to make our Club more dynamic. Judy has budgeted CHF 1,500 for Coffee Mornings and Seminars, with the idea that we might pay a professional speaker from time to time. We also need suggestions for outings.

There is a suggestion from the floor to go to the Gianadda Foundation in Martigny, or some other museum within day-trip range.

The auditors, Véronique PARIS and Yaxiao FU, approved the Financial Report.

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4. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE REPORTS

The reports for 2018 / 2019 were approved unanimously.

5. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2019 / 2020

The changes proposed in the Steering Committee are as follows : Sara CASTELLS will replace Magali CORTHESEY as Activities Coordinator. SYLVIANE PEREZ will replace Nathalie SCHNEIDER who is again giving up the Newsletter, and she will also assist Judy RICHARDS with the accounts ; Laura FANTECHI alone will now manage the Facebook page. Nyedja DA SILVA MARINHO will be Secretary and Peggy ZAVATTINI will be the Co-secretary. Konstantina FYTROU will help with the Coffee Mornings.

The new Committee was elected unanimously.

6. PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET FOR 2019 / 2020

The Budget for 2019-2020 is similar to last year's, minus the Renovation budget, take out and except for a substantial increase in allocations for Coffee Mornings / Seminars (Conférences), from CHF 350 to CHF 1,500.00.

7. APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET FOR 2019 / 2020

The Budget was approved unanimously.

8. ELECTION OF THE AUDITORS FOR 2019 / 2020

Véronique PARIS and Yaxiao FU agree to continue as Auditors for another year.

The Auditors Véronique PARIS and Yaxiao FU were re-elected unanimously for the coming year.

9. PROPOSALS FOR NEW COURSES OR ACTIVITIES

Magali CORTHESEY reminded us that our Club has many language courses, including Greek and Brazilian Portuguese, and that lately we have added Sewing and Kinesthetics. A Theatre group will be added in September. At the semi-annual Group Leaders' meeting in April, there were some suggestions for new ways of getting people to mix, such as an "Apéro Matin" or an "Open Doors" day in all the classes.

Magali said she is leaving for personal reasons, but that she has very much enjoyed her work in the Club and the contacts she has made here. She said she can continue to work for the Club at least through June, as she has yet to find an apartment in Annecy, her new home.

Sara CASTELLS will replace Magali as Activities Coordinator. Sara has taken a lot of responsibilities in the Club and has managed the feat of learning the Staff Association's *Indigo* system, which coordinates the booking of classrooms with other clubs. Sara will continue to be in charge of the 'Toddlers' Group, and Konstantina Fytrou will help with the Coffee Mornings.

There was a proposal from the floor by Mr Andrew KANE, for a course in Business English. The Club welcomes the idea, but there are requirements to be met first. He needs to present his proposal to the Committee, and is informed that he needs a minimum of six participants to open a course.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

There was a suggestion by Marie-Thérèse COIN that to get new members involved in Coffee Mornings, there might be a possibility offered especially to those with less common languages, to sign up to help register other new members in their mother tongue. The Club would benefit from this diversity.

Laura reminds us that there will be an interesting seminar on Friday 14th June at 2pm in the Coffee Morning room, by a very well-known cartoonist called FIAMI, who has just published a book about Newton, and who will talk to us about his book on Marie Curie. This seminar is open to all CWC members and their friends. Laura will post the information on Facebook, and asks to have it posted on the CWC Web site.

There is a request for a mirror in the men's changing room in addition to the one, installed personally by Clara, in the women's changing room. This will be helpful when women are obliged to dress in the men's quarters because of lack of space next door.

There is some confusion caused by the fact that the Access Cards, which CERN requires yearly of all associate members, often expire in August just before the September Coffee Morning. The solution is to e-mail

Maria Kienzle : mnkienzle@gmail.com

about two weeks before expiry, to have them renewed. Maria is very efficient, and the process is quite streamlined now. Peggy is asked to send an e-mail in due time to remind everyone about this.

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Nicole COMTE is circulating the inscription form for our end-of-year lunch, to be held this year on Tuesday, 11th June, at the Glass Box in CERN Restaurant 1. It is also possible to sign up with her before 7th June by e-mail :

nc.comte@wanadoo.fr .

11. CLOSURE

The meeting was closed at 11:00, and was followed by refreshments.

23 May, 2018

Peggy ZAVATTINI and Nyedja MARINHO

(*) Errata Corrige

The minutes of last year's AGM, to be found in the *CWC Newsletter* June to September 2018 on the CWC website, contain an error, which has been corrected as follows :

On page 4, under **Treasurer's Report**, the phrase

"Our assets still amount to 20,382.99, all in our UBS account now, ..."
is replaced by :

"After allowing 20,000 CHF for building work in the classrooms this summer, our assets still amount to 43,286.68 CHF, all in our UBS account now...."

Our assets in fact came to **43,286.68 CHF**, and not 20,382.99 CHF.

Peggy ZAVATTINI Secretary