

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting – AGM of the CERN Welcome Club – CWC June 3rd, 2025, 10H Room E-005

1. OPENING

The CWC Annual General Meeting was convened at least fifteen days in advance. The quorum of 20 members was reached: 38 members attended the meeting. All members of the Steering Committee are present.

2. REPORTS

2.1 President's report

« Hello everyone,

Our Annual General Meeting gives us the opportunity to pause, reflect on what we have built together over the year, and look forward with confidence and enthusiasm to future projects.

Since the last AG, our club has continued to evolve dynamically, despite changes in the team and the ups and downs of everyday life. We have maintained the spirit of welcome, mutual support, and diversity that is the lifeblood of the CERN Welcome Club.

We celebrated our 50th anniversary with great success, with the participation of CERN Director-General Fabiola Gianotti, who recognized the importance of our club in helping newcomers integrate.

Our Club continues to grow since the COVID crisis: this year, we have 270 members, including 90 associate members, which is an increase compared to last year, mainly thanks to our attractive program and our approach to new recruits. This figure is significant, but it is the human connections behind these numbers that matter most. Each new membership is an opportunity to create connections, to transmit and share cultures, experiences, and talents.

However, we have had to review the rules for accessing the site. Due to abuse, we can no longer grant access to CERN to all associate members, but only to those who regularly participate in our courses and who are introduced by a regular member. Others can still obtain a day pass if necessary.

Our activities have also been very rich this year, with more than 25 volunteer facilitators running more than 50 courses and workshops. Some new activities have been particularly popular this year, such as sketching.

Sara Castells, who had to step down from coordinating activities to take up the vice-presidency, was brilliantly replaced by Ellie Smith, and Ellie continues this task on her own.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Paula Goossens for her work, who had to leave the Steering Committee for family reasons.

Our charity initiatives have remained an essential pillar of our commitment. Thanks to the Christmas Market and the Bric-à-Brac, we were able to make donations to two associations, local and international, working for education and solidarity.

In addition, as you will see, our financial situation remains stable, with a modest reserve set aside to cope with more difficult times.

I would like to conclude by thanking every one of you for your contribution, your presence, your ideas, and your energy. A club like ours thrives only thanks to its members. Together, we will continue to make the CERN Welcome Club a warm, lively, and welcoming place. »

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MAY 7th, 2024

Clara asks if members agree with the approval of the minutes of the AGM of May 7th, 2024, which were sent by email.

The minutes are unanimously approved.

4. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF 2024/2025 FINANCIAL REPORTS AND 2025/2026 BUDGET

Clara invites Yaxiao FU, treasurer, to present and explain the CWC's expenses and income in 2024/2025 and the budget for 2025/2026.

Yaxiao explains the overall figures, income streams and expenses in 2024/2025.

Yaxiao presents the budget for 2025/2026.

Clara asks if members agree to approve the Club's financial reports for 2024/2025 and the Budget for 2025/2026.

The financial reports and budget are approved unanimously.

The current auditors, Peggy Zavattini and Magaly Corthesy, also approve the financial report for 2024/2025 and the budget for 2025/2026.

5. ELECTION OF STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2025 / 2026

Clara asks if members agree with the proposed Steering Committee for 2025/2026.

The Steering Committee is unanimously approved.

6. ELECTION OF AUDITORS FOR 2025 / 2026

Clara asks if members agree with our auditors for 2025/2026. The auditors are unanimously approved.

Peggy Zavattini and Magaly Cortesy are auditors for the 2025/2026 financial year.

7. ACTIVITIES

Clara asks for suggestions from members. Maria Kienzle suggests Cultural outings. Other members suggest the following activities:

- Chinese calligraphy
- Bollywood dance
- Photography course
- Music initiation

Clara reminds members of important upcoming events such as Potluck on June 22nd; Registration Morning on September 9th and Christmas Market on November 25th.

8. CLOSING

Clara closes the meeting at 11:38 am.

June 3rd, 2025.

Nyedja Marinho

CWC Secretary

Clara Raimondo

CWC President