

ZURICH INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

At the Stiftung zum Glockenhaus, Zurich

Attendance: 61 members

The 2022 Annual General Meeting started at 13.30

1. Welcome by the President

The President, Liz Davies, welcomed the 61 members to the 2022 Annual General Meeting and gave apologies from Amy Yarbrough the Treasurer and Ramya Nair the Communications Director.

The current membership total at the time of the AGM was 501, with 66 being new members. ZIWA is seeing more working women joining and two welcome events are held each year for new members to meet other new members and board directors. She continued as to how ZIWA has supported and reached out successfully to the membership via technology and how ZIWA has adapted to the change in restrictions.

The Board called an EGM in October to address some changes to the Constitution. The most encouraging change to help with membership was item 4.2 of the Constitution: 4.2 Membership runs from 1 April to 31 March with an annual fee. Members joining between 1 November and 31 March pay a pro rata amount of the annual dues.

In regard to communications the President thanked Georgina Malone for administrating the website and working as Secretary for the Executive Board. She noted and thanked Julia Newton for being ZIWA's number 1 blogger and thanked the Communications team, led by Ramya Nair, for the eNewsletter, Facebook and Instagram.

The core of ZIWA rests with the Interest groups. ZIWA currently has 58 groups together with proposed groups. She thanked Lisa Bond who had done an excellent job keeping the groups motivated throughout the pandemic. Many of our groups took advantage of the Zoom offer the Board initiated to stay in touch with their groups. These have naturally fallen away since groups are now meeting up in person. Lisa initiated a new twist on the yearly Business Meeting focusing on New Members involvement into ZIWA linking the event with the Kick Off.

Kartin Gygax was applauded for not only providing a full calendar of Events for the year, but constantly adapting to regulations imposed on ZIWA whilst managing to smile her way through. These began in June with a series of 5 High Teas, two identical back to back Kick-offs, Christmas Lunch, a Social Media talk and to cap it off a very fun Peruvian Country Meeting. These events could not take place without Katrin's amazing organizational skills and a willing group of volunteers.

Amy Yarbrough stepped in to take over as Treasurer despite being relocated to the USA. After 4 years serving on the Executive Board Amy was thanked for her diligence, loyalty and professional expertise. Ably assisted by her Assistant Treasurer Josephine Godoy they guided the Executive Board expertly throughout the year. With money saved ZIWA was able to make the events that little bit more special.

2. Approval of the 2021 Annual General Meeting Minutes

The 2021 Annual General Meeting Minutes were approved.

3. Approval of the 2021/2022 Executive Board Report

The 2021/2022 Executive Board Report was approved.

4. Approval of the 2021/2022 Treasurer's Report

Josephine Godoy, as the Assistant Treasurer, acted on behalf of the Treasurer, Amy Yarbrough to present the Treasurer's Report, having worked under the Treasurer for the 2021/2022 financial year. The financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2022 were reviewed by O. Summermatter Treuhand.

The net loss for this year totaled CHF 29,913 in comparison to net income of CHF 26,070 the prior year. The drop in membership fees in 2021/2022 reflects the CHF 35 reduction of the individual membership charge. At the same time ZIWA organized 5 events during the year and generated CHF 18,934 in event admission fees. The overall revenues were in line with the prior year.

The Executive Board aims to present a balanced budget every year. However, over the years ZIWA has generated net income which resulted in a cumulative surplus of CHF 95,000. Since ZIWA is a non-profit association and surpluses can only be used for future operating fluctuations and eventualities the board considers that the current surplus too high and that is the reason why the proposed budget for 2022/23 considers a net loss of CHF 32,008 by offering members additional benefits within the Events.

Questions arising from the Treasurer's Report:

The question of donating to local women's charities was asked by Mary Thurnheer. Liz Davies responded by saying that a team from the Executive Board had looked into this and a working team should be put together to discuss this further.

The 2021/2022 Treasurer's Report was approved.

5. Approval of the 2022/2023 Budget

The budget shows an increase in the marketing expenses to CHF 10,000 due to a need to promote ZIWA through advertising with partners, via Instagram, new signage and marketing materials.

Questions arising from the 2022/2023 Budget

The question of why this was so high was answered by Georgina Malone. Due to old signage and a need for a new "look" to refresh ZIWA's marketing materials, the marketing budget was drawn up to reflect this.

The 2022/2023 Budget was approved.

6. Discharge of the 2021/2022 Executive Board

The 2021/2022 Executive Board was discharged.

At this point in the meeting, on behalf of the Nominations Chairperson Rohini Brahma who gave her apologies, Louise Lambert took over proceedings.

Louise thanked the 2021/2022 Executive Board for all their hard work and presented Amy Yarbrough and Katrin Gygax, who were retiring from the Executive Board, with a thank you gift for all their hard work on the Executive Board.

7. Results of the 2022/2023 Executive Board election

58 votes + 5 proxy votes were counted. All the nominated candidates were elected in the following roles:

President: Liz Davies
Secretary: Georgina Malone
Treasurer: Josephine Godoy
Interest Groups Director: Lisa Bond
Events Director: Janet Valverde-Beck
Communications Director: Ramya Nair
Director: Aude Even

8. Introduction of the new Executive Board

Louise Lambert invited the new Executive Board to their seats on the Board.

9. Any Other Business

Liz Davies, as the 2022/2023 President continued and invited Lisa Bond to the podium.

Lisa Bond invited members to come forward for open positions for the Interest Groups. Other Interest Group Chairs put forward their activities to the membership.

10. Closing remarks

Liz Davies stressed the need for more volunteers and the need to prepare for a new Executive Board in 2023/2024. To enable this open board meetings will be held, inviting members who have an interest in seeing how these board meeting work.

Liz Davies invited Janet Valverde-Beck, Jill McGregor and Anke Bruendi to the floor with Karin Kaltenbach (not present) as part of the new Events team.

Lisa Bond asked the members to vote whether to forego Interest Group Chairperson Business Meetings, due to lack of support and attendance. Sandra Quartermaine responded by saying it was sad to let this go as these meetings are important to encourage our Interest Group Chairs for feedback, ideas. She continued with the idea of changing the format and title for these Business Meetings. Lisa replied by inviting Sandra, herself and any other members to get together to meet and discuss this.

The 2022 Annual General Meeting closed at 14.30