

# MINUTES

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10TH ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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OF THE "LIFECIRCLE" ASSOCIATION.

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FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2021

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8 JUNE 2022/ 7:00 PM

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IN THERWIL

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According to the byelaws, resolutions are carried with a simple majority and changes to the byelaws require a 2/3 majority.

The byelaws are on the website:

[http://www.lifecircle.ch/pdf/lifecircle\\_Vereinsstatuten.pdf](http://www.lifecircle.ch/pdf/lifecircle_Vereinsstatuten.pdf)

Present:	President	Erika Preisig
	Vice-President	Rosmarie Zipfel
	Assessor	Moritz Gall
	Assessor	Barbara Hettich
	Accountant / Treasurer	Markus Lüthi
	Material Manager	Christian Wessendorf
	Actuary	Yvonne Mischler
	Members	31 members / votes
	Non-members	3 Non-voting members

Apologies: from several members (given the large number, not mentioned by name)

## **A G E N D A**

1. Welcome by the President
  - 1.1. Election of tellers
  - 1.2. Election of the meeting's chairperson
  - 1.3. Approval of the agenda
  
2. Approval of the minutes AGM 2021 (see website)
  
3. President's Annual Report 2021
  
4. 2021 Annual financial statement
  - 4.1. Treasurer's Report
  - 4.2. Auditors' Report
  - 4.3. Approval of the annual accounts and the auditors' report
  
5. Discharge of the Board
  
6. Membership fees
  
7. Proposals from the Board
  - 7.1. The use of membership fees
  
8. Budget 2022 and its approval
  
9. Proposals from members
  
10. Any other business, President's account of her experiences.

## **1. Welcome by the President**

President E. Preisig opened the 10th AGM punctually and welcomed those present.

1.1. Ms J. Loosli was unanimously elected vote teller.

1.2. A president for the assembly was not required, as 2022 is not an election year.

1.3. The agenda was approved by all those present.

## **2. Approval of the minutes of the 2021 AGM**

The minutes of the 9th AGM were approved unanimously.

## **3. President's Annual Report 2021**

The annual report was sent to all members. No questions were raised and it was approved unanimously.

## **4. 2021 Annual financial statement**

4.1. The treasurer presented the 2021 financial statements. He explained that the association holds SFr. 881,649 in quick assets, which includes books worth SFr. 5,290 and the loan of SFr. 50,000 to the housing cooperative "Chreemer Kari". Creditors have meanwhile paid all debts amounting to SFr. 3,384. Equity capital is SFr. 696,745 and the funds for the *alternative living arrangements* project (Fonds alternative Wohnformen) amount to SFr. 56,541. The income from the membership fees of SFr. 79,573 increased compared to the previous year but Lifetime membership fees fell to SFr. 12,132. The number of members has now settled at 1,500-1,600. Eternal Spirit again provided funds in 2021 amounting to SFr. 50,000 and there were donations, too, totalling Sfr. 28,325. This expenditure is almost the same as last year. Only the distributed donations were SFr. 10,000 higher than last year, since another institution was included this year, namely "Lions Wildenstein" for the project "Forgotten Children". It benefits children who give up their childhood to care for their sick parents and relatives. Expenses for events have risen again, as more were able to take place this year. The website costs have fallen back to the normal level following the redesign in 2020. In 2021 a net surplus of SFr. 80,086 was achieved. There were no questions about the accounts.

4.2. The auditors' report was read by Mr M. Lüthi. The Board is responsible for the annual accounts dated 31.12.2021. They were audited, as always, by AG Straumann Treuhand. The Straumann firm found nothing in the financial statements that could be construed as not complying with the relevant laws and byelaws.

4.3. The annual accounts and the auditors' report were adopted unanimously.

## **5. Discharge of the Board**

Dr Preisig explained that Ms B. Hettich, assessor, announced at short notice that she would like to leave the board. She has formed an accommodation-sharing community, which requires a lot of her time. Ms Annelise Herzog has great interest in actively participating in this association and was proposed by Ms B. Hettich as her successor. Since the motion was only submitted shortly before the General Assembly, it could not be included in the agenda. The President asked those present to release Ms B. Hettich from her role, which was also unanimously approved. The Board then welcomed Ms A. Herzog ad interim as a new member of the Management Board and she can stand for election at the next AGM. The Board was unanimously discharged.

## **6. Membership fees**

The Executive Board would like to leave the membership fees as they are as sufficient capital is available. The members present agreed unanimously.

## **7. Proposals from the Board**

7.1. The Board's proposal concerns the use of membership fees, which is explained under Item 8. Budget by Mr M. Lüthi and was also put to the vote then.

## **8. Budget 2022 and its approval**

The treasurer presented the budget for 2022 and expects a surplus of approx. SFr. 50,500. Membership fees, including Lifetime, are likely to generate the same income as last year. Contributions from Eternal Spirit and donations have been budgeted with SFr. 60,000. Expenses are projected to be similar to those in 2021, but the donation budget has been increased by SFr. 10,000. Events and Café Goodbye are to be allocated more as we hope to be able to organize more of them. Mr M. Lüthi expressed regret at setting the budget for the website at SFr. 5,000, which is certainly too high. The treasurer presented the board's proposal under point 7.1.; the available funds have been distributed to several accounts to prevent negative interest. UBS bank advised lifecircle to invest some of the money so it earns interest. The board would like to put this proposal to a vote. One member wanted to know whether an investment amount had been set. The plan is to invest a quarter of the assets, SFr. 250,000, in shares and funds.

Another question was whether the investments will consist of Swiss equities. The treasurer clarified that it will be about 75% Swiss and 25% foreign from within Europe. There was another suggestion kindly requesting lifecircle to communicate what kind of funds and shares were invested in. The members present adopted this proposal with one abstention.

## **9. Proposals from Members**

The board did not receive any proposals from members.

## **10. Any other business, President's account of her experiences.**

Dr Preisig explained that she had stepped back a little from participating in medically assisted deliverance and that Ms B. Hettich now provided medical assistance for most of the voluntary deaths. The president told of an elderly lady who was suffering from advanced cancer. The greatest wish of her husband and herself was that they could go together, hand in hand, after 68 years of marriage. Since he also had a disease, multiple myeloma, Dr Preisig was able to make this longed for wish possible. Their heartfelt embrace was very moving and they fell asleep peacefully with a smile on their faces. On 19.5.22 the FMH (Swiss Medical Association) and SAMW (Swiss Academy of Medical Science) decided that healthy people may no longer choose assisted suicide, i.e. they must try to prove an existing illness if they have had enough of life due to age or, as described above, want to die together with their partner. Another new feature is that only one doctor is responsible for the assessment and no longer two. This doctor must see the person concerned with an interval of two weeks, but fortunately this period of time may be shortened in exceptional, justified cases, because sometimes a decision must be made more quickly, as would be necessary for someone with pancreatic cancer, for example. The Board will consider how to implement the new rules. More and more doctors also respect the desire for assisted deliverance. The President is also grateful still to have two psychiatrists at her side who, in critical situations, help by providing assessments. Dr Preisig asked Ms B. Hettich if she would like say anything about an experience in relation to an assisted deliverance. She came forward and replied that she found all of them very touching in their own way. Then she reported on a younger woman who had an aggressive form of MS. She wanted to leave this world a year ago, but the family were not in agreement. She agreed to family therapy and hoped to gain understanding. She could not assert herself, however, and only after attempting suicide with pills, prevented by her boyfriend, could the family respect her wish. It is certainly very difficult to understand a loved one and to accept their long-standing desire not to want to live any more. The President mentioned a high-school senior who asked her whether the elderly might feel under pressure to have to "go"? Despite attending many voluntary deaths, she had never met anyone who felt pushed out.

They were all straightforward people, determinedly convinced of their intention. It is often a process lasting several years for these people to leave the Earth in this way.

Dr Preisig closed the meeting at 7:50 pm, thanked the members for coming and invited them to an aperitif.