

MINUTES

8TH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

OF THE "LIFECIRCLE" ASSOCIATION.

FOR THE 2019 FINANCIAL YEAR

5TH AUGUST 2020 / 19:00

IN THERWIL

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

Present: President Erika Preisig
Assessor Moritz Gall
Accountant / Treasurer Markus Lüthi
Actuary Yvonne Mischler
Members 31 members / votes
Non-members 1 no voting rights

Absent: Apologies Ruedi Habegger

Ruth Gass
Eveline Meyer

AGENDA

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 of the 2019 AGM

3. Annual Report of the President for 2019

4. Annual Accounts 2019
 - 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. Election of the Board

7. Membership fees

8. Proposals from the Board
 - 8.1. The use of membership fees
 - 8.2. Executive committee compensation
 - 8.3. Change to item 11 of the byelaws.

9. Budget 2020 and approval

10. Proposals from members

11. Any other business, President's account of her experiences.

1. Welcome by the President

President E. Preisig punctually opened the 8th AGM, welcomed those present and reminded everyone of the corona protection measures.

1.1. Ms J. Kehl was elected vote teller.

1.2. Reverend P. Kohler offered to be the meeting's President and was duly elected.

1.3. The agenda was approved unanimously.

2. Approval of the minutes of the 2019 AGM

The minutes of the 7th AGM were approved unanimously.

3. President's Annual Report 2019

There were no questions about the annual report and it was approved unanimously.

4. Annual financial statements 2019

4.1. Mr. M. Luthi presented the 2019 annual accounts. He explained that there was a major difference from the budget in 2019 as an expected bequest amounting to Sfr. 100,000 could not be used by lifecircle since it was earmarked specifically for the foundation. The association has liquid assets of more than SFr. 658,000 and a stock of books worth SFr. 5,940. The loan of SFr. 50,000 to the Housing Cooperative "Chreemer Kari" will be repaid to lifecircle next year. Donations were received from Eternal Spirit, SFr. 65,000, and others totalling SFr. 27,000, of which the biggest, SFr. 10,000, was from the Fondazione di Famiglia Esperidi (the Esperidi Family Foundation). The number of members has risen by 138. In 2013 Eternal Spirit took over the website and a new one was designed for lifecircle, at a substantial cost, which has been repaid. Lifecircle distributed the following donations to charitable organisations: Insieme, IVB both Basel, Kinderspitex NWCH, PluSport CH, Verein ALS CH, Sehbehindertenhilfe Basel, Alzheimer CH, Stiftung Autismuszentrum Aesch, Netzwerk Demenz both Basel, Verein ELA CH, Powerchair-Hockey, Stiftung Colibri, Sehbehindertenwerkstatt and Kinderheim Heimelig¹ totalling SFr.

¹ **Insieme** Basel: provides extra support to families; **IVB** Basel: develops self-sufficiency in the disabled; **Kinderspitex NWCH**: for very sick children in north-western Switzerland; **PluSport** CH: Swiss centre for para-sports; **Verein ALS** CH: Swiss motor neurone association; **Sehbehindertenhilfe** Basel: for the visually impaired; **Alzheimer** CH: Swiss Alzheimer association; **Stiftung Autismuszentrum Aesch**: Aesch Autism Foundation; **Netzwerk Demenz** Basel: dementia network; **Verein ELA** CH: Swiss association for sick children; **Powerchair-Hockey**; **Stiftung Colibri**: association for very young children; **Sehbehindertenwerkstatt**: workshop for visually impaired children; **Kinderheim Heimelig**: children's home

69'900. Postal costs have massively increased, because of sending items abroad. The surplus in 2019 amounts to SFr. 80,777. 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 31.12.2019. They were, as always, audited by AG Straumann Treuhand. The Straumann firm found that the financial statements comply with the laws and byelaws.

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

5. Discharge of the Management Board

The Board was unanimously discharged.

6. Elections

Dr E. Preisig explained that this year was not actually an election year, that would be 2021. One person resigned and three new people came forward as board members. It would therefore make sense to elect the whole board for a three-year term so the next election year would not be until 2023. This procedure was adopted unanimously. The Executive Board regretted the resignation of Mr. R. Habegger (brother of E. Preisig). He had written a letter in which he expressed his regret and wished lifecircle all the best for the future. The President stressed that despite circulating rumours she continues to have a good relationship with her brother. To carry out the elections, she gave way to the meeting's chairperson. Pastor P. Kohler asked the existing board whether they would stand for re-election. All four would like to remain in office. The President E. Preisig, the actuary Y. Mischler and assessors M. Gall were elected unanimously and the treasurer M. Lüthi was, too, with one abstention. Rosmarie Zipfel would like to get involved in her role as vice president and introduced herself briefly. She has a university degree in labour law and worked most recently as a personnel manager in a medium-sized company so she could also support the association in a legal capacity. Barbara Hettich, a qualified care worker, has been employed since January as a VAD assistant. She has over 20 years' experience in the nursing profession. The lifecircle community interests her very much and she wants to be active as assessor. Christian Wessendorf is a programmer and musician who has been working since 2012 as a webmaster for lifecircle. He also helps organise Café Goodbye. He would very much like to get involved as a materials manager on the board. All three were elected unanimously. The association now again consists of seven board members.

7. Membership fees

The Board would like to leave the membership fees as they are, at SFr. 50 (annual) and SFr. 1,000 (single payment - lifetime) respectively and all the members present agreed.

8. Proposals from the Board

- 8.1. Dr E. Preisig announced that donations to lifecircle may now be deducted on tax returns. This means the association is obliged to support other social associations/institutions. The President called on members, who have ideas for a charitable project and/or knowledge of an organisation that could use financial support, to report to the Board. Also, the interest-free loan (SFr. 50,000) from the "Chreemer Kari" project can be used for a "good purpose" following repayment. A member asked whether there are certain rules governing, for example, what amount or percentage of the membership fees must be used for donations. The President said no and explained that they are careful to ensure the association's assets do not shrink. Mr. M. Lüthi said that, in a good year, SFr. 70,000-80,000 would be donated and in a financially unfavourable year, about SFr. 60,000. The annual donations from Eternal Spirit are always distributed among appropriate associations/organizations.
- 8.2. The Board had already proposed compensation for board members at the last AGM. Mr. M. Lüthi had enquired and found that payments over SFr. 1,000 per year would need to be reported and may be taxable. The Board was unanimous this amount would not be exceeded so a fixed amount would be paid for each respective role. The Treasurer proposed the following suggestion be put to the vote: The President, Vice President and the Treasurer each SFr. 1,000 per year and the other board members SFr. 800. Mr. M. Lüthi also regulated the following expenses. This includes, inter alia, a travel allowance when travelling more than 50 km (SFr. -.70 / km). If using public transport would have been reasonable, only the ticket price will be paid. For lunch SFr. 30 and dinner SFr. 35. If an overnight stay is necessary, bed and breakfast expenses at a hotel are reimbursed. The rest, including parking fees, telephone, postage, journeys of up to 50 km, etc. is covered by the flat-rate. An expense report must be submitted to the treasurer by no later than 31.12. for the current year otherwise the claim is forfeited. If this proposal is adopted, these regulations will be submitted for approval by the canton of Basel. There were no questions and the members were unanimously in favour.
- 8.3. The future vice-president R. Zipfel had found that the byelaws (item 11) are out of date concerning the auditing of the financial statements. Dr E. Preisig explained that, according to the old byelaws, two auditors would be required to check the accounts on the members' behalf. This does not make any sense, because the foundation supervisory authority requires that an accounting firm must carry out the audit. This accounting firm would then simultaneously check the association's bookkeeping. If the byelaws are not changed, two auditors would have to be found to take on this role. Members are unanimous that this item is amended accordingly.

9. Budget 2020 and approval

Mr. M. Lüthi explained the budget for 2020, a surplus of SFr. 88,000 is expected. Donations are again expected, SFr. 60,000 from Eternal Spirit and SFr. 10,000 from elsewhere. The revenues from books and DVDs (SFr. 500) will not be as high as only a few events can take place because of corona, but those expenditures are also lower. Lifecircle also intends to donate SFr. 50,000 to charitable institutions. The Board's expenses amounting to SFr. 6,200 are a new budget item. Maintaining the website is expected to cost SFr. 7,000. The 2020 Budget was adopted unanimously. The cashier advised that the membership of those who have not paid their membership fee by the middle of the year would be deactivated. It would be reactivated once payment has been received. One member complained that she had not received a deposit slip. Mr. M. Lüthi explained that the first invoices are always sent by mail at the end of February and include a deposit slip. Those who have provided an email address receive an invoice by email, without a deposit slip. A second payment reminder is sent two months later. Those who receive an emailed invoice and would like a deposit slip are welcome to contact Lifecircle.

10. Proposals from Members

The board did not receive any.

11. Miscellaneous, President's account of her experiences.

- One member criticised the size of the screen because the writing is too small and not able to be read by most of those present and suggested that a larger screen should be obtained for the next AGM. Mr. Ch. Wessendorf suggested people could visit the lifecircle website for information on the current AGM. These documents are available in the archive under the events section. A solution will be found for next year. The members would like a list of all the organisations which have received donations from lifecircle and the respective amounts. Mr. M. Lüthi explained that almost all the donors mentioned each received SFr. 5,000, except Colibri, which urgently needed a car so received SFr. 10,000.
- Dr E. Preisig expressed that she is pleased with her new VAD team. B. Hettich has taken over as manager, supported by two assistants, J. Kehl and Ch. Hänggi.
- The President described how touched she was by one particular self-determined death. A Norwegian with an incurable brain tumour had an appointment in a week. It turned out that more tumours had formed. He was concerned about how quickly he was losing his ability to make sound judgements so he asked if he could bring his voluntary death forward by a week, which was arranged. His wife and three children accompanied him. After saying goodbye, a son hugged Dr E. Preisig and said how grateful he was, because the following day Norway was going to close the corridor to Switzerland and his father would not have been allowed to die in this way. The President pointed out that everyone

should have the right to decide for themselves how they want to say goodbye to this world.

- Dr E. Preisig spoke about Café Goodbye, which takes place four times a year in the local museum in Reinach. A specialist presents a particular subject to a meeting of interested parties. Afterwards four to six people sit at each table and discuss the issues raised. It is always very exciting and interesting, even more so because the participants do not know each other.
- The purchase of the property in Flüh, where we wanted to assist the dying instead of in Liestal, cannot go ahead as three private individuals have raised objections. It took too long for the owner to wait for the decision and he found another buyer.
- The President spoke about another member who has cancer and wants to bring another project to fruition. Her idea is to start a communal living project with 6-8 people with short life expectation, who live together in an atmosphere of mutual support. She decided to agree to chemotherapy, with a view to using the extra time to accomplish this task after all. If the chemotherapy is successful, she can pursue her project and the President wished her every success.

Dr E. Preisig ended the session at 20:20 and thanked the members for coming and, at the same time, apologised for the lack of refreshments, which are forbidden under the corona rules.

The President



Erika Preisig

Minutes Clerk:



Yvonne Mischler

Date: 5.8.20