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Annual General Meeting 2007

The Swiss Society of New Zealand

The Swiss Society invites all members and friends to attend the Annual General Meeting to be held on June 3, 2007 at 2.00pm at the Wellington Clubhouse, Wainuiomata.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Society of New Zealand Incorporated, held at the Taranaki Swiss Clubhouse, hosted by the Taranaki Swiss Club, on 4 June 2006

Meeting opened : 2.00pm

Welcome : Marianne Drummond, the Society President, welcomed everyone to the AGM of the Swiss Society of NZ, with a special welcome to our Ambassador of Switzerland, Mr Beat Nobs, and his wife. Congratulations to the Taranaki Swiss Club for winning the final of the Cowbell competition against Hamilton. It is wonderful to see all the competitors in the Swiss Society games participating in the various disciplines and enjoying themselves. Thank you to the members of the Taranaki Swiss Club for hosting this weekend, for organising the competition and for supplying the refreshments. We hope that everyone has just enjoyed a delicious lunch, and I take pleasure in seeing the members of the various Swiss Clubs in New Zealand mingling. The Taranaki Swiss Club hopes that you will enjoy the rest of the weekend that we have organised. Would all Society members please sign the attendance register that is circulating, and feel free to take part in any discussion during the AGM. When speaking to the AGM, would you please tell us your name and which club you belong to? Thankyou.

Present : Marianne Drummond (President), Walter Seifert (Vice President / Treasurer) Silvia Schuler (Secretary), Paul Amstalden (Editor) and 68 society members from the Auckland, Hamilton, Taranaki, and Wellington Swiss Clubs.

Apologies : Adrian Drummond, Ruedi and Lisette Benkert, Trudi Fill, John and Bertha Kuriger, Bert and Josie Fluhler, Molly Gianotti, Rinaldo and Gritli Rust, Beatrice Leuenberger, Eric and Audrey Meuli.

Moved by : Franz Schuler
Seconded by : Ruth Waldvogel

Address by the Patron of the Swiss Society – Mr Beat Nobs addressed the gathering introducing himself and his family. He then advised members present of the State of Affairs between Switzerland and New Zealand, important issues regarding Swiss Abroad and also various other Swiss Affairs (Registration for vote, New Passports, NZ Superannuation). The Ambassador advised that the Embassy was here for us; that they are a link to Switzerland. The full report was printed in the July '06 issue of the Helvetia.

On behalf of everyone present, Heinz Leuenberger thanked the Ambassador for his informative and interesting speech.

Scrutineers :
Herbert Staheli – nominated Marianne Drummond, seconded Remigi Zimmermann.
Heidi Wilson – nominated Hans Iten, seconded Marianne Drummond.

Minutes : The minutes of the previous AGM held on 5 June 2005 have been published in the May issue of the Helvetia. Presumably these have been read. May I please have a mover and seconder that these minutes are a true and correct record.

Moved : Heinz Leuenberger
Secunder : Fritz Scheidegger

Regarding the history of the Swiss Society, Paul Amstalden mentioned that the previous name of the Swiss Society was the Swiss Benevolent Society. There were no other matters arising.

Obituaries : Sadly, several Society members and friends from throughout the country have passed away in the past twelve months. These were : Taranaki Swiss Club – Paul Zimmerman, Ruedi Dudli, our life member and Past President, and

Holdi Mathys; Wellington Swiss Club, Hamilton Swiss Club and Auckland Swiss Club – none. Have I inadvertently missed anyone? Would everyone please stand for a moment's silence in remembrance of these past members and friends?

President's Report : As usual the executives' chief job has been the compiling and packing of our magazine, the Helvetia. We would always appreciate contributions by any of our members of articles which would be of interest to our readers.

On behalf of the editing team I would like to thank all participants in our competitions, making a special mention of the children who regularly participate. We truly appreciate the time that you put into your pictures, and I am certain our Society members enjoy seeing them in the Helvetia. My grateful thanks to the following people:

-All members of the executive and our dedicated group of packers for their great work. We all thoroughly enjoy packing the magazine and especially having a coffee and chat afterwards.

-The regular contributors to our magazine – Paul for his editorials which are very interesting (I know that finding a theme can be very difficult and you're doing very well with the variety you provide), Walter for his terrific 'Spruch des Monats' which are always a pleasure to read, Silvia for the interesting children's corner and organising the various competitions, Lisette for the 'This 'n' That Corner' with the delicious recipes, but above all club personnel for submitting articles about their clubs' activities and forthcoming events. I always take great pleasure to read what other clubs are doing.

-To the wonderful team at the Stratford Press and now Jago Print and Graphics who creatively put together our magazine and offer great service.

-To Adrian, Daniel and Richard for allowing me the time to attend to the Society's matters, and mum and dad for their baby sitting services when they're home.

Membership now stands at 514, including 18 honorary members, another slight decrease from last year. Thank you to all members who promote membership to the Swiss Society. I would now like to move my report for adoption.

Moved : Marianne Drummond
Seconded : Herbert Staheli

Editor's Report :
Paul reported that although it wasn't always easy to think of something to write his editorials about, he hoped that readers found them both easy to read and interesting. Paul thanked our loyal advertisers very much, and although we had lost a few during the year, we also gained a few. Paul thanked his fellow executive members, Ruedi and Lisette Benkert for their tremendous support, the many willing packers for their loyal dedication, and to Adrian for his wholehearted and strong support of Marianne which makes it possible for her to do so much for the Society as well as the Taranaki Swiss Club. Paul thanked everyone for coming and moved his report for adoption.

Moved : Paul Amstalden
Seconded : Hans Iten

Financial Report: Copies of the financial report were circulated and Walter reported that we have had a small loss of \$1,631.71. We are very grateful for the continued support of our loyal advertisers for the revenue that they bring, and he asked that everyone please support them whenever possible. Accumulated funds now stand at a very healthy

AGENDA

1. Welcome by President
2. Apologies
3. Address by the Patron of the Society, the Ambassador of Switzerland, Mr Beat Nobs
4. Appointment of Scrutineers
5. Minutes of the previous AGM (held on 4 June 2006) and matters arising (See Minutes, printed on this page.)
6. Obituaries
7. President's Report and matters arising
8. Editor's Report and matters arising
9. Financial Report and matters arising
10. Delegate for Swiss Abroad's Report and matters arising
11. Riflemaster's Report and matters arising
12. Setting of subscriptions 2007 / 2008
13. Election of Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, Riflemaster)
14. Election of committee
15. General business including club reports
16. Set date and venue for Society AGM 2008
17. Meeting closure

Annual General Meeting Of The Swiss Society of New Zealand



**Queen's Birthday Weekend 2/3 June 2007
at Wellington Clubhouse,
21 Moores Valley Road, Wainuiomata**

The Clubhouse will be open from 3pm onwards. A special dinner will be served from 7pm onwards, followed by "Gemuetlichem Beisammensein".

The Final of the Cowbell Competition will be held Sunday morning. Everyone is welcome to join us, even if you aren't taking part in the competition. Lunch will be served around 12 noon.

At 2pm the *Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Society* will be held, followed by Afternoon Tea.

In the evening we celebrate the
50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB
at the Working Men's Club, 47 Udy Street, Petone.
Great things are in the making, and invitations will follow

\$43,464.16. We will be looking at applying for funding again this year.

Moved : Walter Seifert
Seconded : Franz Schuler

Matters arising : Anita Zuber felt that the executive should be under no pressure to apply for funding, bearing in mind the healthy position that the Society is in.

Delegate for the Swiss Abroad's Report : Heinz Leuenberger reported the AHV issue has received some media attention, thanks to initiatives by the Dutch. He reported about the Congress that he attended in Interlaken, and some issues that arose. Heinz advised that e-voting will be in place in the future.

Moved : Heinz Leuenberger
Seconded : Heidi Wilson

Rifle master's Report : Mark thanked all the clubs for sending their Society Competition results on time. He congratulated Hamilton on their terrific effort in having so many participants in the competitions.

Moved : Mark Kiser
Seconded : Heinz Leuenberger

Setting of Subscriptions for 2006/2007 : It was recommended that subscriptions remain the same for the next year.

Moved : Marianne Drummond
Seconded : Mathias Seifert

Election of Officers :

Walter took the chair for election of president.

President : Marianne Drummond
Moved : Walter Seifert,
Seconded : Fritz Scheidegger

Vice President: Roland Schuetz
Moved : Marianne Drummond,
Seconded : Vitus Ackermann

Treasurer : Walter Seifert
Moved : Marianne Drummond,
Seconded : Anita Zuber

Secretary : Silvia Schuler
Moved : Walter Seifert,
Seconded : Heidi Leuenberger

Rifle Master : Mark Kiser
Moved : Marianne Drummond,
Seconded : Walter Seifert

Editor : Paul Amstalden
Moved : Walter Seifert, Seconded : Edith Hess

Auditor : This was left for the executive to organise.

Committee Members: will be appointed by the above executive as required.

General Business :

Club reports :

Christchurch : Unfortunately we have had very little news from the Christchurch Swiss Club, but it appears that they are struggling to form a committee. Mr Nobs advised that he would be visiting them in due course.

Hamilton : Herbert advised that their club was proud of the great number of participants in the medals competition, and their good muster of people travelling to Taranaki to compete in the Cowbell competition final. They are in the midst of six card evenings with average attendance 44. Jubilee will be held on 22 July and would like support from other clubs. Entertainment will be provided by the Swiss-Kiwi Yodellers and Holzhaecker Band. September will have their fondue evening. Have regular walks. Good support of events. Herbert thanked his whole committee for their help.

Auckland : Fritz Scheidegger greeted everyone, and congratulated Taranaki on winning the Cowbell.

Membership of the Auckland Swiss Club is currently 147. They have had good attendance at functions, and at the Christmas function, Santa came via helicopter. Last year they held their 1st August celebrations in the city as opposed to the Swiss Farm, which proved to be a pleasant change.

On that day the Swiss flag was raised on the Harbour Bridge, an event that Fritz enjoyed. Their 50th jubilee is coming up. Due to recent vandalism they have installed cameras at the farm. Their long-standing treasurer Heinz Matysik has resigned his position but has remained on the committee. Fritz brought up the subject of indemnifying clubs against accident (re : OSH / ACC).

Wellington : Roland said that it was always nice coming to Taranaki, and thanked the Ambassador and his family for coming to the weekends' functions - 'they are special'. Roland thanked Walter for his work as vice-president of the Swiss Society and didn't want to do him out of a job. Roland did advise Walter that he could become a member of the Wellington Swiss Club and continue his good work!!! He hopes that they will achieve their goal of a new roof by next year. They have attracted a few young members recently. They have had good attendance at functions, and he feels that the club is stronger now than perhaps ten years ago. They will try their best with the Helvetia when they take over.

Taranaki : Othmar said he has taken great pleasure in hosting this weekend, and had an enjoyable time last evening with the Ambassador, his wife

and children and other Society members. Taranaki has a membership of approximately 230. Good attendance at functions. Keglen evenings good, as are the smallbore and karabiner shooting events. Fondue evening coming up on Saturday. Othmar appreciates the great help of his committee members.

Other matters :

Records : Beatrice has advised in the past that she still has Swiss Society records, and Marianne asked Heidi if she could ask Beatrice to forward them on to the executive for filing. We will then forward everything on to the Wellington Swiss Club when they take over running the Societys' affairs.

Competition: Ruth Waldvogel asked that the Societys' rules be printed in the November or December / January issue of the Helvetia, as there have been some differences of opinion regarding the cards. It was also requested that the rules be printed on separate pages for the various disciplines in the Society games to avoid some points being missed out, and these be sent to all club secretaries. All rules are to be read out before each event with all participants being present.

Membership: People 18 years and under can be included under their parents' membership, but once they reach 19 years of age they must pay their own subscription to the Swiss Society.

AHV: Hans Iten brought up the issue of AHV versus NZ Superannuation, and the Ambassador reiterated his previous speech, that unfortunately it was the law of the land, and he as Ambassador could not change that.

The Ambassador advised that his son would be selling chocolates tonight if we would kindly support him. He also has some pins to distribute, but advised that unfortunately he did not have sufficient for everyone. He will also try to get the raising of the Swiss flag in Auckland on Swiss TV in the future.

Venue for the next meeting : Roland Schuetz thanked Taranaki for their wonderful hospitality and invited all Swiss Society members to Wellington for next years' AGM to be held on Queen's Birthday Weekend.

Meeting Closure : On behalf of the Swiss Society, Marianne accepted Roland's invitation on behalf of the Wellington Swiss Club, to host the next AGM. Grateful thanks to the Taranaki Swiss Club for organising such a wonderful weekend for everyone, and I hope that you all enjoy the dinner and entertainment tonight. Marianne thanked everyone for attending and participating in the AGM and wishes all a great evening and a safe trip home.

The 2006 Annual General Meeting was declared closed at 3.55pm.