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Minutes of the AGM of the Swiss Society of New Zealand

Held on Sunday, 2nd June 2019,
2pm, at the Clubhouse in
Wainuiomata, Wellington

Present

David Vogelsanger - Patron, Juerg Bono from the Embassy, and 53 members

Welcome

Hans Vetsch, President of the Swiss Society of New Zealand, welcomed all present, with special thanks to David Vogelsanger, Ambassador and Patron of the Society. This is David's last year and his support has been huge during his term. Also thanks to Juerg Bono from the Embassy whose support has been very much appreciated. Thanks to Wellington Club for hosting the weekend.

Apologies

- Hamilton: Anna Blaettler, Willetta Staheli, Manuela Epp, Sandrine Smith,
- Wellington: Craig and Petra Press, Rene de Monchy and Elisabeth Vontobel
- Auckland: Adrian Blaser, Henry Werfelli
- Taranaki: Emmi Kiser, Erna and Remigi Zimmermann, Heidi Werder, Gabrielle Saville

Moved Peter Canziani, seconded Walter Zuber

Appointment of Scrutineers

Bernie Napp and Marianne Drummond, nominated Othmar Hebler, seconded Trudi Fill-Weidmann

Minutes AGM 3 June 2018

held at Kaponga

Appeared in Helvetia and distributed today.

Matters arising – Nil

Moved Peter Canziani, seconded Marianne Drummond

Obituaries

Sadly, some of our members have passed away in the past year:

Auckland: Greg Boyed, Adolf Amstutz
Taranaki: Ernst Denzler, Freda Wilson, Chris Suter, Rosanna Sherman, Joe Kuriger, Martha Wutherich, Franz Haesli, Margaret Clark

Hamilton: Herb Schuler, Heidi Leuenberger, Ricky and Wally Unternährer, Lina Rufer, Rene Ruf, Peter Studer, Sepp Santner

Wellington: Nico Staudemann, Marc Schleiniger

Society: Nil

A minute's silence was held in remembrance of these members

President's report (Hans Vetsch)

Published in June Helvetia and taken as read

Moved Hans Vetsch, seconded Herbert Staheli

Editor's report (Heidi Wehrle)

Published in June Helvetia and taken as read.

Moved Heidi Wehrle, seconded Jürg Bono

Treasurer's Report (Sandrine Smith)

– read by Anita Zuber, from 31 March 2019

The accounts have been reviewed by an independent party in May 2019. Based on the review, nothing has come to the reviewer's attention that caused him to believe that the financial statements didn't give a true and fair view of the financial position. The Swiss Society of New Zealand has made a net loss of \$841 compared to a net profit of \$1242 for the year ending 2018. Expense for the printing of the Helvetia has increased by 51.86%. The Treasurer recommends members to opt into subscribing to the digital issue. Expenses for conferences: \$1000 to Peter Ehrler for the 2018 OSA Conference, \$300 to Adrian Blaser and \$500 to Hans Vetsch for the Presidents Conference and \$1000 to Taranaki for hosting 2018 AGM. Sourced locally, the expense for the medals has decreased by 58.5%. The company Swiss airlines has sponsored \$720 instead of advertising. Six issues of the Helvetia were produced. The costs of the 6 issues were \$16,576. The income from the subscriptions and adverts were \$16,250. That represents a loss of \$326 for the year or \$55 per issue. If the company Swiss had advertised instead of sponsoring, the production would show a profit. The Society has 596 paying members as per 31 March 2019. Swiss Society: 60, Auckland 141 (7 honorary); Taranaki 202 (1 honorary); Wellington 61 (2 honorary). Total 596 – 2 more than last year.

Matters arising: questions raised and answered about increase in printing costs, online Helvetias (maybe one quarter support this) and number of honorary members

Moved Anita Zuber on behalf of Sandrine, seconded Peter Ehrler

Update on 2020 Oceania Presidents Conference

– Hans gave an overview of what is planned and how this event will be funded. Deposit has been paid by Society for Novotel Ellerslie. If not enough sponsorship found

then it will be user-funded. Most clubs have promised some form of support (money, brunch, transport, music). Marianne queried how Society members benefit from this conference.

Rifle master's Report (Manuela Epp)

– read by Hans Vetsch

Statistics on participation: Auckland: 45 participants with 13 medal placings, last year 47 participants – down 2; Hamilton: 84 participants with 23 medal placings, 98 last year – 14 down; Taranaki: 91 participants with 26 medal placings, last year 93 – 2 down; Wellington: 27 participants with 8 medal placings, 19 last year – 8 up. In Total 247 participants, last year 257. *Moved Hans Vetsch on behalf of Manuela, seconded Neil Kaiser*

Delegate for Swiss Abroad Report (OSA), Peter Ehrler.

- Hundreds of phone calls and emails received in last year, mostly queries on Section 70 and AIA
- Attended Delegates Conference in Visp 10-12 August. Topics discussed were E Voting; Banks (Cantonal Bank of Geneva will let Swiss Abroad open an account); Swiss losing second passport
- Busy lobbying parliamentarians and MPs
- Luca Betti, an independent Swiss Italian journalist has been working on several articles
- Will be attending OSA Delegates Conference in Montreux 18-20 August 2019
- OSA 2020 summer conference will be in Lugano
- Meeting with committee for 2020 Presidents conference in Auckland
- Latest update – If your partner gets an overseas pension from 1 July 2020, your NZ Super won't be affected.

Peter thanked the Society for the \$1000 contribution towards his travel.

Moved Peter Ehrler, seconded Peter Canziani

Hans expressed a vote of thanks and congratulated Peter on everything he has achieved.

Setting of Society Subscriptions 2020/21

- Subscriptions for the following year starting 1 April 2020/21. Move that they stay the same.

Moved Hans Vetsch, seconded Herbert Staheli

Election of Officers

No changes to current office holders except for Vice-President – elected for a four year term.

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Minutes of the AGM of the Swiss Society of New Zealand

Re-elect the current committee en bloc.
Moved Hans Vetsch, seconded Vitus Achermann
Nomination from Taranaki for new Vice-President: Othmar Hebler
Moved Marianne Drummond, seconded Verena Kull

Club Reports

Wellington – Bernie Napp, President
They have new President and new committee, a generational change. Would like to recognise Roland Schuetz, now an honorary member and also Hans Scherrer. Busy calendar and look forward to another busy year. Hope to strengthen shooting participation, cowbell competition (25 turned up for last event). Thanks to Trudi Bruehlmann who looks after the Jass.

Taranaki – Marianne Drummond, Secretary

They have about 320 members with great attendance at functions. Thanks to Othmar for leading the club. Lou Butler is in hospital. Congratulation to the two new Wellington life members. Thanks to Hamilton for doing the Helvetia and Society tasks. Thanks to Wellington for hosting this event and safe travels.

Hamilton – Herbert Staheli, President
They have had very successful function fun= run by a committee of 10. In the middle of 5 card evenings – four new young participants. Also two new committee members and Vitus doing his last year at 80.

Auckland – Neil Kaiser, President
They have a new committee and have had new members join recently. Ran= Celebrated Fasnacht with quite a few non-members attending. Just had 10th market but no market next year due to low numbers of volunteers. Discovered value of keeping good records as having problems with plan change on farm. There is a lot of history missing with new people on board and need better communication. Medal numbers were down.

Hans expressed his thanks for club reports.

Review of Constitution and Sports Rules

A lot of work has been put into this by Anna, Anita and Marianne. There was some discussion about change 2e to read "should be club members" instead of "must" due to legal liability issue in Taranaki. The majority agreed that this should not be changed and agreed to take the changes to the next stage with

Incorporated Societies.
Moved Marianne Drummond, seconded Neil Kaiser. Agreed by all. Sports rules to be looked at by clubs during the year and need to send written changes to Society committee.

General business

- Hans updated the meeting that 6 Christchurch committee members have now joined the society and will provide some club news in future.
- Ambassador Vogelsanger addressed the meeting saying this was not a farewell speech but reluctant to give up Patron's job. Last 5 years he has had very close contact with the Swiss community and proud to be part of the team.
- Herbert moved that Society pay \$1000 to the Wellington Club for hosting this event, seconded Othmar Hebler.
- Herbert did a brief update of forthcoming joint Australian Jass event to be held in Hamilton on Queen's Birthday weekend 2021. Other three clubs agreed on this concept.

The meeting closed at 4pm.
Next meeting to be hosted by Auckland Club, Sunday 31st May 2020. Neil extended the invitation.

Anita Zuber, Secretary – Swiss Society of NZ

Japonais

(Helen Staheli's specialty)

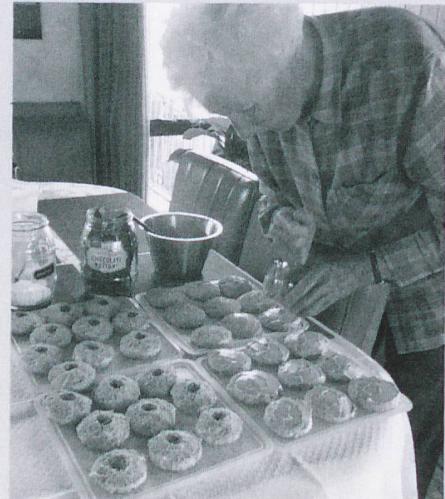
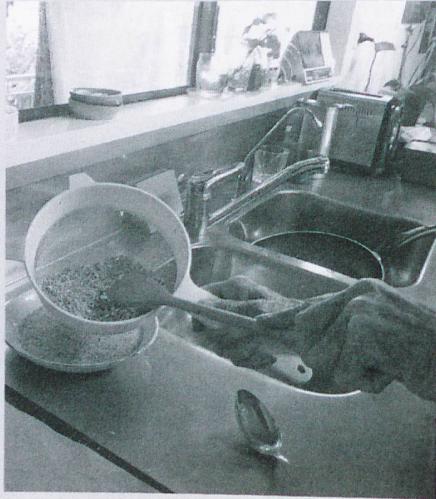
60g Hazelnuts finely ground
4 Eggwhites
160g Sugar
1 tsp Vanilla Essence
20g Flour

Mocca Icing

160g Butter
140g Icing Sugar
1/2 cup strong coffee

Sprinkle

40g Sugar
40g Hazelnuts finely ground
Chocolate buttons



Beat egg whites until stiff and fluffy. Add sugar, flour, vanilla essence and hazelnuts and gently mix together. Put in spoonfuls on baking tray covered with baking paper. For more even sizes spoon into a round cookie cutter. Bake on medium heat for about 25 minutes. Makes about 20.

For mocca icing soften butter and add icing sugar and coffee and mix to a smooth consistency.

Sprinkle can be done in advance. In a hot frypan melt sugar together with ground hazelnuts until brown and caramelised. Let the sprinkle cool off and then put through a fine grinder or crush to create fine sprinkles.

Coat each cookie with the mocca icing and dunk in a plate of sprinkles and add chocolate button. Keep in fridge until you're ready to eat them. Enjoy!!