



Members' Pages

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2011

of the Firebird Foundation, convened on 6 December 2011, in the FFMembers forum

A roll-call was taken, to which 33 voting members (a quorum) responded as present. The tenth Annual General Meeting of the Firebird Foundation Inc. was convened at 12:09 GMT 6 December 2011, with Philippe Makowski in the Chair.

Apologies

The Secretary reported that the following members had tendered apologies:

Lateness: P. Vinkenoog

Absence: M. Rotteveel, H. Dembele, T. Watters, J. do Prado Jr, J. Duff, J. v.d. Waeter, H. Tappe, A. Knappstein, C. Saeta, R.

Keri, S. Hernandez, A. Vaz, W. Bream, H. van Landeghem, F. Guéllien, R. Schubert, A. Harrison, M. de Groot, G. Cappelletto, C.

Pobo Herrera

Minutes of the Previous AGM

The Minutes of the 2010 AGM were tabled. In Matters Arising, D. Achermann drew attention to two minor typos, which were corrected by the Secretary.

AGM2011-01 :: It was moved from the Chair, "that the Minutes of the 2010 AGM be accepted."

Carried unanimously.

President's Annual Report

The President, P. Makowski, presented his annual report on the activities of the Foundation.

Matters Arising

E.C.Bin queried why the President's Report stated that we had seven Platinum sponsors while the website showed the count as eight. The President replied that the eighth Platinum sponsorship had commenced since he wrote the report.

AGM2011-02 :: It was moved by A. Peshkov, seconded by F. Codebue, "that the President's report be accepted."

Carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was tabled, showing all figures in US dollars and Australian dollars, for the year ending 9 June, 2011.

AGM2011-03 :: It was moved from the Chair, "that the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Carried unanimously.

Raising of Membership Fees

Members were asked to discuss the possibility of raising membership fees to counter inflation. Under the Rules, such changes must be decided by the membership at a general meeting. Some suggestions mooted by the committee were:

- Raise voting membership from \$300 to \$400 and associate from \$50 to \$100
- Retain current \$50 Associate and \$300 Voting but flag the amounts as "minimum" for each and leave it up to members' discretion
- Associate to \$55, Voting to \$330
- A percentage raise for each, based on inflation figures since 2002

Members discussed these and other models for a week. While many stated they would not object to paying membership fees that were modestly higher, several were of the view that increasing membership numbers would gain more revenue than raising fees, which might cause some members to decide not to renew and put potential members off the idea of subscribing.

Eventually, the following motion (moved S. Heymann, seconded. F. Codebue) was put:

AGM2011-04 :: "I propose an increase to the FF membership fees of 5 %, whereby Associate membership would rise from \$50 US to \$53 US and Voting membership would rise from \$300 US to \$315 US; AND that those numbers be declared as the minimum fee so people can add more at their own discretion."

The motion was lost: 12 votes against, 9 votes in favour.

Election of Officers

Ballot scrutineers were C. Pirtea and J. Johnson.

The following members were elected to the committee for the 2011-12 year:

President: Philippe Makowski (nom. F. Codebue, sec. O. Mascia)
Vice-President: Steve Summers (nom. H. Borrie, sec. P. Makowski)
Treasurer: Raymond Cl  roux (nom. P. Makowski, sec. O. Mascia)
Secretary: Helen Borrie (nom. S. Summers, sec. F. Codebue)

Committee: Paul Beach (nom. O. Mascia, sec. P. Cisar), Tony Christiansen (nom. O. Mascia, sec. F. Codebue) Pavel Cisar (nom. P. Beach, sec. O. Mascia), Fabio Codebue (nom. S. Heymann, sec. L. Franzen) , Stefan Heymann (nom. O. Mascia, sec. H. Borrie), Alexey Kovyazin (nom. H. Borrie, sec. S. Heymann), Olivier Mascia (nom. H. Borrie, sec. P. Beach), Thomas Steinmaurer (nom. H. Borrie, sec. O. Mascia), Trevor Watters (nom. P. Makowski, sec. H. Borrie).

The President, P. Makowski, thanked those who acted as scrutineers during the elections and welcomed the new Committee members.

There being no further matters, the Chairman closed the formal business of the meeting at 15:27 GMT on 21 December, 2011, thanking Calin Pirtea and John Johnson for their efforts as ballot scrutineers and the Treasurer and Secretary for preparing for the meeting. Wishing all members the season's compliments, he expressed hope that together the Foundation would have a successful year, giving our best to help the Firebird Project grow and to celebrate the Foundation's tenth anniversary with more members and sponsors.

Helen E. M. Borrie
Secretary