



Verein der Eltern und Freunde der John-F.-Kennedy-Schule zu Berlin e.V.
Society of Parents & Friends of the John F. Kennedy School Berlin e.V.
Deutsch-Amerikanische Schule / German-American School – Berlin

THE JFKS VEREIN • Teltower Damm 87-93 • 14167 Berlin

#

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 22 March 2012

Place: 14167 Berlin, Teltower Damm 87 – 93, Room G 117
Secretary: Susanne Vogel-Küntzle (for Miriam Schmeling)

The interim chair Bettina Moegelin opens the meeting at 7.05 pm. There are 28 members present plus 10 board members plus two auditors, Miriam Schmeling is excused. (attendance list see attachment 1)

1) Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

2) Approval of 2011 AGM minutes

Board apologizes for the wrong date in the headline of last year's minutes. Other than that it is correct.

The minutes were approved.

3) Report of the board

Bettina Moegelin introduces the board members and gives a short report on the board's work in 2011.

There are roughly 800 member families at JFKS whose membership dues contribute € 55,000 to the VEREIN's annual income. Last year's Fun Run raised another € 30,000 (a big Thank-you to Sigrun Roßberg and Barbara Piplat!).

Among last year's projects financed by the VEREIN were

- ▲ final step in campus improvement
- ▲ book project of the German department („...nichts als Gedankenmusik“)
- ▲ renovation of the shop
- ▲ HS library renovation

This year the ES library has already been renovated and all the preparatory work has been finished for the renovation of both entrance halls, ES and HS, so that the actual work can start on the first day of summer break. The VEREIN supports this project with € 54,000. (detailed report see attachment 2)

Andrea Schulte thanks the whole board for another year of successful cooperation.

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4) Report of the Treasurer

Natalja Bednar talks about developments in membership and about the finances.

Membership rate in ES is 61% but remains to be a problem in EC and 1st grade, solutions have to be found to get the parents as members at the earliest stage possible.

Membership rate in HS is 92% thanks to the locker policy. The remaining 8% are a real problem and cause 90% of the work.

In 2005, when the present board took over, the income of the VEREIN was € 51,000 and has now risen to € 123,000 in 2011. A successful Fun Run every two years has helped greatly to achieve this result.

A detailed income/expense statement was sent out to every member and was published in the PN.

(detailed report see attachment **3**)

5) Report of the Auditors

Stewart Schmidt-Haake and Carla Greiner-Pachter attest that the VEREIN's accounting in 2011 was adequate and orderly. Stewart recommends the following changes

- ⤴ giving a consecutive number to all approvals to appear on payment approval
- ⤴ consider setting limits for preapproval of requests to avoid extensive e-mail correspondence and mail votes (e.g. one board member up to € 50, two up to € 250)
- ⤴ hold back report card of non-paying locker users

Third suggestion is legally not possible since the VEREIN is not a part of the school.
(detailed report see attachment **4**)

6) Release of the Auditors

The auditors are released unanimously.

7) Amendment of Constitution

Besides several stylistic changes and adjustments to the new spelling the most important changes are :

- ⤴ in § 4 the deletion of the "honorary member" section
- ⤴ in § 5 the addition: membership expires when the last of the member's children leaves school

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^ in § 11 the introduction of a maximum number of board members (11)

For the unlikely case of the dissolution of the VEREIN it makes sense to name a legal successor other than the "Bezirksamt" (§ 14). There were two proposals: the Landesverband schulischer Fördervereine or the JFK-Friendshipcenter. After a short discussion 22 people vote for the Landesverband, 12 for the Friendshipcenter.

The proposed changes to the constitution were approved unanimously.
(revised constitution see attachment 5)

8) Release of the Board

The board was released unanimously.

9) Election of Board Members

The following board members' time of office is running out:

- ^ James Bell (member at large)
- ^ Barbara Piplat (member at large)
- ^ Sigrun Roßberg (member at large)
- ^ Miriam Schmeling (secretary)
- ^ Andrea Schulte (chair)
- ^ Annette Smith (vice-chair)
- ^ Antje Staritz-Thams (member at large)
- ^ Susanne Vogel-Küntzle (member at large)

One more year in office are:

- ^ Bettina Moegelin
- ^ Isolde Streit

Natalja Bednar is stepping back from her office as treasurer after one year because her daughter is graduating from school.

There are one candidate each for the four offices, all four are voted for by secret ballot:

Chairperson:	Susanne Volkmer	35 votes
Vice-Chair:	Katharine Doeringer	38 votes
Treasurer:	Birgit Parr	38 votes
Secretary:	Susanne Vogel-Küntzle	32 votes

There are nine candidates for members at large out of which the following are voted onto the board by secret ballot:

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⤴	James Bell	35 votes
⤴	Caroline Maas	31 votes
⤴	Dagmar Hoppe	30 votes
⤴	Marion Greeves	19 votes
⤴	Jennifer Güthoff	18 votes

The following people want to be supporting members, which means helping the board if needed but not having the right to vote. They are welcomed but don't have to be voted for:

- ⤴ **Lynn Brinda**
- ⤴ **Tanya Buchwald**
- ⤴ **Leah Hecker**
- ⤴ **Tamara Ingram-Augustin**
- ⤴ **Veronique Reitz**
- ⤴ **Christina Sante**
- ⤴ **Eavon Schmitt-Bleck**
- ⤴ **Theodora Schnauck-Betow**

10) Election of Auditors

Carla Greiner-Pachter is not running again for auditor as her daughter is graduating from school.

The two candidates for auditors, **Stewart Schmidt-Haake and Klaus Stein**, are voted for unanimously.

11) Miscellaneous

Last year the VEREIN decided to give 1% of its membership dues to the "Landesverband schulischer Fördervereine Berlin-Brandenburg e.V." to help them establish parent associations at less privileged schools. The support was limited to one year.

Natalja Bednar suggests to continue this support until further notice to set a good example, also in respect to our children.

The proposal is accepted unanimously.

Old and new board members get flowers as an appreciation for their voluntary work.

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