

Minutes of the First General Assembly of The Business Machine Europe

Held on 18 March 2012, 16h in Bern (with some participants via the internet)

Present:

1. Stephan Brun
2. Stefan Kappeler
3. Meinrad Koch
4. Adrienne Beck
5. André Hodel
6. Marina Korzhenievich (via Skype from Denmark)
7. Diana Gigova
8. Stephanie Morris (new passive member)
9. Adrian Stucki (new passive member)

Excused:

- Nadine Koch
- Nabila Vollmeier
- Reto Meili

Initially, 7 members have the right to vote. The absolute majority is therefore 4. More than one third of the members are present, therefore the General Assembly has a quorum and all decisions are binding. After the admission of the two new passive members, the absolute majority is 5.

Guests:

1. Awraris Girma
2. Oswald Bachmann
3. Hansjürg Brun
4. Lea Graber (via Skype from Argentina)

Information event before the General Assembly

Different presentations about the vision and the history of The Business Machine and about the current progress of the different groups are given before the official meeting.

Admission of new active or passive members

The following persons have requested a membership:

1. Kathrin Balmer (passive)
2. Paola Mora (active)
3. Ursula Brun Klemm (passive)
4. Markus Klemm (passive)
5. Stephanie Morris (passive)
6. Adrian Stucki (passive)

The General Assembly decides about the admission of the new members as one single group.

Result: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstention

→ All candidates are accepted as new members.

For the following votes there are 9 members and the absolute majority is 5.

Approval of the board's narrative report

The narrative report was sent to the members before the General Assembly. Copies are furthermore available in the meeting.

The members have nothing to add for discussion. They vote directly on the reports acceptance.

Result: 8 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention

→ The report is accepted.

Approval of the financial report and the auditor's report

Representing Nadine Koch (head of finance) Stephan Brun presents the 2011 financial report. After a short discussion and some questions, Stefan Kappeler (auditor) presents the findings and recommendations of the statutory auditors and reads out their report. The auditors recommend to accept the financial report.

The members vote on the approval as follows:

Result: 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstention

→ The financial report is approved.

Grant discharge to the board

The members decide, if they want to accept the board's work of last year.

Result: 8 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention

→ Discharge is granted by the members

Budget 2012

Stephan Brun, replacing the absent head of finance Nadine Koch, presents the budget 2012 to the assembly. He underlines that the current scenario stands for the "best case" and will only become reality when all the external funds can be collected. Otherwise, no expenses will be made and the budget will be very low (< 1'000 Franks). After some discussions, questions and clarifications, the members vote on the budget.

Result: 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstention

→ The budget is approved as proposed by the board

Modification of articles of association

The board suggests a few smaller modifications, whereof the most important is the one concerning the relation between passive and active membership fees. All the modifications are read out before the assembly votes on the new version of the articles of association.

Result: 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstention

→ The new articles of association are approved and can be handed in to the tax authorities.

Adaptation of the membership fee

After the foundation of the association, the board had temporarily set the membership fees to 40€/ 50CHF for both active and passive members. The board suggests to lower the fee for passive members in order to find much more supporters, especially also in other countries, where the same amount is relatively higher than in Switzerland. The board suggests to change the fee for passive members to 20€/ 25CHF.

There is a discussion about the appropriate amount. Some members suggest that 25CHF is too low. There also is the suggestion to communicate the amount as the minimum fee and to give different other amounts as suggested contributions.

As there are no counter-proposals to what the board suggests, the members vote on the suggestion to set member fees at 20€/ 25CHF for passive and 40€/ 50CHF for active members.

Result: 6 yes, 0 no, 3 abstention.

→ The new fees are 20€/ 25CHF for passive and 40€/ 50CHF for active members. The board will work out a proposal how to motivate members to pay more (for example with a range of suggested amounts).

Elections

During the elections, Adrienne Beck (active member) chairs the assembly.

For the board, the following persons are suggested:

- André Hodel (new)
- Nabilla Vollmeier
- Diana Gigova
- Nadine Koch
- Reto Meili
- Stephan Brun

The assembly agrees to vote on the whole board as a group.

Result: 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions

→ All the members are re-elected or elected.

For president, only Stephan Brun is candidate.

Result: 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions

→ The president is re-elected for one more year.

The 2 statutory auditors Elisabeth Beck and Stefan Kappeler are ready to take over their function for one more year. The assembly agrees to vote on them as a group.

Result: 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions

→ The statutory auditors are re-elected for one more year.

Other official proposals by members

There are no further discussions or suggestions from the members.

The official part of the General Assembly is closed and some more information is given to the members and guests about the next steps intended by the board.

Bern, 26 March 2012