



Swiss Society of the Kansai

March 3, 2018

### Minutes of the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

held at Restaurant "RValentino", Kobe on Saturday, March 3, 2018, 7.00pm

Philip Spaelti, President of the Swiss Society of the Kansai, opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees. He informed that 2017 was a busy year with many successful and well-attended events and thanked the Committee for all the work they put into preparing and running the events.

With 15 members attending, the quorum (20% of all the current 34 family members/50 individual members) was reached and Mr. Spaelti proceeded with the ordinary business of the 39<sup>th</sup> AGM.

#### 1. Approval of the Minutes of the 38<sup>th</sup> (last year's) Annual General Meeting (AGM)

→ The Minutes of the 2017 AGM were approved by acclamation.

#### 2. Approval of the 2017 Annual Report

The President presented the activities report for 2017. It was another big success for the Swiss Society with numerous, very well attended events. He thanked everyone for their support and looked forward to welcoming the members again in the coming year.

The following events took place in 2017:

- March 4: Annual General Meeting, RValentino
- May 20: Spring BBQ, Shiawase-no-Mura
- August 1: Swiss National Day Party, Kobe Club
- September 24: Swiss Fair, Oyamazaki (Raclette stall)
- September 26: Swiss Folk Music, Kobe Club
- October 21: Autumn BBQ, Okuike
- December 10: Raclette and Santa Claus Party, KR&AC

Further to the distributed annual report, the President reported the following members' movements during 2017, resulting in 34 active family or 50 individual members respectively.

##### New Members

- Fenstermaker Mike & Akemi
- Hunziker Ritsuko & Patrik
- Momoi Kuniko
- Rüegger Thomas

##### Outgoing Members

- Dupertois Noémi (no activity)
- Rüesch Heinz (passed away)
- Strübi Silvan & Yasuko (left Japan)
- Villela Alex & Jamilla (left Japan)

Mr. Hauptmann remarked that the activities of the SSOK should get more attention in the official calendar and reports at the Embassy in Tokyo. In particular he remarked on the fact that the report on the visit of Lisa Stoll to Japan did not mention the event in Kobe.

→ The Annual Report for 2017 was approved by acclamation.

#### 3. Approval of the 2017 Treasurer and Auditor's report



The activities of 2017 ended in a loss of Yen 26,816, decreasing the assets of the Swiss Society by the same amount to Yen 1,441,159. Mr. Nelson Izquierdo (Treasurer) explained, that the deficit was caused by delayed collection of membership fees for 2017, most of which were however then collected in early 2018.

Mr. Fenstermaker pointed to the rather big deficit of the Raclette & Santa Claus event and asked if the participation fees for that event should be raised. Mr. Nelson explained that the target of the Society was to break even for the full year and not focusing on individual events. While some events make a profit, others result in a deficit. This is then mitigated with the membership dues.

Mr. Andy Mueller (Auditor) confirmed on February 17 by email addressed to the President, the Committee and the Members of the SSOK that he has examined the financial statements, detailing all monetary transactions of this past fiscal year, including the year-end bank and cash balance, and found all to be in perfect order.

The President thanked the Treasurer for keeping the books of the Society.

→ The Financials for 2017 were approved by acclamation.

#### 4. Election of an Election Chairman

Mr. Daniel Aviolat was proposed as Election Chairman.

→ Mr. Daniel Aviolat was elected as Election Chairman by acclamation.

Mr. Daniel Aviolat said that it was an honour and his pleasure to be the Election Chairman and proceeded with the business.

#### 5. Discharge of the outgoing Executive Committee

Mr. Daniel Aviolat thanked the outgoing Executive Committee and the Auditor for their dedication and time spent for the Society throughout the last year and proposed to discharge them.

→ The Executive Committee and the Auditor were discharged by acclamation.

#### 6. Election of the new Committee

The following members were proposed as Committee Members / Auditor for 2018:

President	Philip Spälti
Vice President & Secretary	Herbert Bucher
Treasurer	Nelson Izquierdo
Ordinary Member	Urs Pfenninger
Ordinary Member	Thomas Rüeegger
Ordinary Member	Oscar Egli
Ordinary Member	Eduard Herbst
Auditor	Andy Mueller

→ All proposed Committee members and the Auditor were elected by acclamation.

Mr. Daniel Aviolat congratulated the new Committee and the Auditor, in particular the newly elected members Thomas Rüeegger, Oscar Egli and Eduard Herbst. He mentioned that the Committee's work was highly appreciated by the community.



He further expressed his thanks to William Jolley, who was serving on the Committee for the last 3 years but was stepping down this year.

#### 7. Budget and Annual Membership Dues for 2018

The treasurer proposed the membership dues to remain unchanged at Yen 5,000 for family membership, Yen 3,000 for individual membership and Yen 1,000 for student membership. The proposed budget foresees equal income and expenses.

→ The membership fees and the budget for 2018 were approved by acclamation.

#### 8. Approval of the General Directives for 2018 for the activities of the Swiss Society

Proposed events calendar for 2018:

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| - May 19 (Saturday)     | Spring BBQ, Okuike                        |
| - August 1 (Wednesday)  | Swiss National Day Party at the Kobe Club |
| - October 20 (Saturday) | Autumn BBQ, Okuike (place tentative)      |
| - December 9 (Sunday)   | Raclette & Santa Claus Party at the KR&AC |

→ The events calendar for 2018 was approved by acclamation.

#### 9. Miscellaneous

##### 9.1 Change of Statutes of the SSOK

A proposal was presented to change Article 5 "Membership", which limits the number of non-Swiss members to one third of the total number of members. After lively discussions, the assembly agreed to combine sections 1 & 2 of Article 5 with the following wording:

*quote*

Article 5 Membership

A) Ordinary members

Any person aged at least 18 years, and being either of Swiss nationality or of whatever nationality and with a genuine interest in or attachment to Switzerland.

*unquote*

→ The amendment to the Statutes was approved by acclamation as per the above proposal.

As there was no other business brought forward, the President closed the meeting at 7:50pm.

Kobe, March 3, 2018

Herbert Bucher  
Secretary of the SSOK