

The Malta UNSECO Youth Association Annual General Meeting, 2 May 2012 University of Malta, Common Room

Minutes of MUYA's AGM 2012

Introduction and appointment of Chairperson

The AGM was opened by the President of MUYA, Ms Sarah Suda, whereby she presented the Agenda. Subsequently, Anson Aquilina was appointed to chair the AGM by general consent.

Apologies for Absence

The Chairman asked the Secretary General, Ms Birgit Oidram, on whether there were any apologies for absence. Ms Oidram referred that Mr CJ Saliba, a member of the current Committee of MUYA and a candidate for the upcoming elections, was still not present before the start of the AGM. Mr Saliba later informed that due to a traffic accident, he could not make it in time for the AGM. Ms Oidram also informed that Mr Philip Caruana had sent his apologies for absence, since he was studying abroad. The Chairman forwarded special thanks to Mr Caruana for the latter's support and contribution on the Board of Vigilance.

Votes by Proxy

Following, Ms Oidram informed that two MUYA members Ms Marie Louise Vella and Ms Dorianne Formosa forwarded a written request to the Secretary General to vote by proxy.

Approval of MUYA's 2011 AGM Minutes

The Chairman requested the Secretary General to present MUYA's 2011 AGM Minutes. Ms Oidram read out the 2011 Minutes to the members present at the AGM and subsequently, the Chairman requested the members to confirm the Minutes by a show of votes, which Minutes were approved unanimously.

MUYA's Annual Report for 2011

The Secretary General proceeded with the presentation of MUYA's Annual Report for 2011, where she gave a thorough description of all of MUYA's activity for the mentioned year. This included the following:

1. Celebration of MUYA's 5th Birthday Anniversary in February 2012;
2. MUYA's 3rd Year running the Crocus Project in Malta. Ms Oidram informed that this time MUYA was not able to make final presentation due to lack of response from schools. Nonetheless, the Secretary General confirmed MUYA's participation in Crocus for 2012/13;
3. MUYA Youth in Action Seminar in Marsaxlokk in September 2011, organised with the aim to encourage more MUYA members to apply for YiA projects;
4. A Hike organised in Baħrija in April 2012;

5. The launching of the book *Eleo and the Bubble Planet*. Ms Oidram related the history behind the idea of this project and explained that the book was printed in December 2011 and the launch of the book eventually occurred in January 2012 at De La Salle School where high profile people attended and endorsed this event. The event was also covered by the media including TV, newspapers (printed and online) and also radio;
6. Listed all the international projects that MUYA participated in;
7. The MUYA Committee held other important meetings amongst which with A/DG of UNESCO Dr Francesco Bandarin on 15 September 2011; participated actively in KNZ and also with Agenzija Żgħazagħ;
8. Presented upcoming Projects:
 - ❖ OUT – Training Course on Outdoor Education in June 2012;
 - ❖ A Grundtvig Project on European Partnership on Adult Education and Mobility for Social Inclusion;
 - ❖ A Leonardo Project on Vocational Education
 - ❖ and Training for Volunteer Coordinators; *Eleo and Bubble Planet*, reprinting and translation of the book, Commissioner for Children also showed her support to translate the book in Maltese. Alexander Thenner also informed that Mr Padraig O’Sabhain from Youthwork Ireland – Galway, was in the process of translating the book in Irish;

The report was eventually nominated by Ms Christianne Caruana, seconded by Ms Desiree D’Amato and unanimously approved by the Members present.

Presentation of Treasurer’s Report 2011

Mr Daniel Mifsud proceeded to present the Treasurer’s Report 2011 where he recommended that the said report should not only end with the balance brought forward by the end of the calendar year but also the current balance at the day of the AGM.

The Chairman asked Mr Mifsud whether the money obtained from the various projects would be enough to run MUYA for another year and the latter informed that the money from these projects was not enough and suggested setting up fund raising activities for the following year.

The report was subsequently approved by all members.

Motions proposing amendments to the statute of MUYA

The Chairman presented three motions that were forwarded to the Secretary General to amend the Statute.

The **first motion** concerned amendment to Article 3.2.2 from:

3.2.2 The Committee will have a minimum of three (3) members and a maximum of seven (7); these will be the President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer and up to two (2) other members.

To:

3.2.2 *The Committee will have a minimum of three (3) members and a maximum of seven (7); these will be the President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer and up to **four (4) other members.***

The Motion passed unanimously.

The **second motion** was also approved unanimously where it amended Article 5.6 from:

5.6 A member of the committee who fails to attend 4 consecutive committee meetings without a valid reason may be expelled from the committee by a simple majority vote in the same committee after consulting with the board of vigilance.

To:

*5.6 A member of the committee who fails to attend **3** consecutive committee meetings without a valid reason may be expelled from the committee by a simple majority vote in the same committee after consulting with the board of vigilance.*

The **third motion** suggested the following change:

4.19.2 Junior Members: Upon becoming a member, an individual is a Junior Member for the first three (3) calendar months of membership. During this year the member has no voting rights.

To

*4.19.2 Junior Members: Upon becoming a member, an individual is a Junior Member for the first **twelve (12) calendar months** of membership. During this year the member has no voting rights.*

This motion was put forward by Mr Anson Aquilina where he suggested a change from 3 months to 12 months; Ms Sarah Suda suggested the motion to read 3 months, Ms Christianne Caruana suggested 6 months. Ms Audrey Spiteri stated that 12 months was too long while Mr Daniel Mifsud stated that 12 months was ok since 6 months might be too short. On the other hand, Mr Alexander Thenner suggested that 12 months was too long because a young person might lose interest after all that time. The voting occurred as follows:

- ❖ Motion 3 months: 1 favour, 12 against, no abstention
- ❖ Motion 6 months: 11 favour, 1 against, 1 abstention
- ❖ Motion 12 months: 2 favour, 11 against, no abstention

The motion in favour for 6 months passed but instead of 'during this year' should read 'during this period';

Mr Anson Aquilina continued by suggesting the waging of a membership fee, as practice with other ngos, of €5 and a €25 participation fee for those participating in international projects on behalf of MU YA. The suggestion was upheld by the members present.

Presentation of MU YA's Goals for 2012

Ms Sarah Suda, took the floor and related how she was a founding member of MU YA and also served as secretary general and was currently president. She informed that she would not re-candidate herself as president.

She continued by presenting a slide show with photos of activities of the first 5 years of MUYA. She also presented a list of activities that MUYA did in the past 5 years and also stated the objectives of MUYA and its purpose in the life of young Maltese. She Presented her prospects for the future which were the following:

- 1) Build up on good: the Book, Crocus ecc;
- 2) continuous network building esp with UNESCO Orgs;
- 3) Have a younger member base;
- 4) New Projects especially on the local level tackling current local issues of interest to young people;
- 5) new collaboration and partnerships on a local and international level;
- 6) be a better voice and;
- 7) Be better listeners.

The Chairman thanked Ms Suda and praised her for being there for MUYA from the start and for the courage she had to take the organisation to the next level. He hoped that she will be behind the next president and vouched his helped as well.

Elections for the new MUYA Committee

The chairman proceeded with the nominations. He explained that MUYAs statue does not allow that the whole committee changes at one go because there is a rotating formula. The elections were for the post of president and 3 committee members of which one will be nominated international officer by the new committee.

The chairman invited Ms Desiree D'Amato to present herself for the nomination of President, which she did and then the chairman proceeded to read Mr CJ Saliba's email related to his nomination of President.

Subsequently, the chairman invited everyone to start voting and informed that Mr Alexander Thenner would be collecting the votes and Ms Joanna Bonnici will help with the counting. He also informed that Ms Suda and Ms Oidram had a proxy vote each as stated above.

In the meantime, the chairman explained that during the second round of voting the members have to elect 3 members, meaning 3 crosses on the ballot paper. He informed that whoever will be elected president will be crossed out for the second round of voting as committee member.

Following the counting process, Ms Bonnici informed that there were a total of 14 votes, 13 for Ms D'Amato and 1 for Mr Saliba. Consequently, the chairman informed that Ms D'Amato would be crossed out from the next ballot.

Upon being invited by the chairman Ms Cynthia Ellul and Ms Robert Bonnici were invited to promote their candidatures as members of the committee. The same opportunity was given to Ms Sarah Suda and Ms Thelma Bonello. The chairman informed that votes with less or more than 3 X would be considered null. Subsequently the voting occurred as follows:

- ❖ Casted votes: 14; Annulled votes: 0;
- ❖ Cynthia Ellul: 9 votes

- ❖ CJ Saliba: 4 votes
- ❖ Roberta Bonnici: 8 votes
- ❖ Sarah Suda: 12 votes
- ❖ Thelma Bonello: 9 votes

Members elected were Sarah Suda, Thelma Bonello and Cynthia Ellul. Furthermore, the chairman thanked Ms Joanna Bonnici for her contribution throughout the years especially as a founding member of the Organisation.

Election of new Board of Vigilance

Ms Christianne Caruana was nominated on the Board of Vigilance by Ms Sarah Suda and seconded by Mr Daniel Mifsud while Mr Anson Aquilina was nominated by Ms Birgit Oidram and seconded by Ms Joanna Bonnici. There were no further nominations and therefore Ms Caruana and Mr Aquilina were confirmed as the new Board of Vigilance for the coming year.

Conclusion

The chairman wrapped thanked all the members for participating in the AGM and in conclusion the Secretary General informed about a weekend of work in Gozo especially for the old and the new committee to be there working together and invited the members present to join.

Adjournment

The chairman adjourned the meeting *sine die*.

Christianne Caruana

10 June 2012