

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF LES AMIS DE VERBIER HELD FRIDAY MARCH 25, 2016

Number of members present at the AGM: 62

Those excused include: Chantal Toulouse, Françoise Spiers, Aline Robard Lesaffre, Sabine Popescu, Simone Giordan, Jean-Pierre Jurth, Tony de Kettenis, Gérard and Daniëlle Fellay.

Members of the board attending: André Gorgemans, Antoinette de Wolff, Anne Gachoud, Claude Roux, Christian Cloché, Tim Watkins, Eliane Gachet, and future member Hugues Duchâteau.

Members of the board not attending, with excuses: Doug Sager and designated future member Géry Daeninck
Every member was sent a letter of agenda and invitation to attend the AGM

According to the published agenda:

1. **Nomination of examiners**

Anne Berger and Yves Degiacomi were appointed as examiners.

2. **Report of the president**

The president of the association André Gorgemans convened the AGM at 6:30pm in the Verbier Cinema by welcoming all members and thanking them for their attendance and loyalty. He recapitulated the changes regarding the fiscal year approved in 2013, which saw a period of 20 months during the years 2014 and 2015, with a return to 12 months beginning in January 2016. Expenses for rental of event locations and refreshments impacted the budget during these 20 months, as detailed later in the meeting. Also during this time there has been ample attendance at events and a significant increase in new members. The president thanked the continued support of honorary presidents John Dean and Janine Burrus and he noted the success of ski outings with Claude Roux, with somewhat less interest in ski touring outings. Curling continues to be a popular and well attended activity. The bridge club is in need of someone to take overall responsibility of administration. News of the library collaborating with the regional network of libraries is exciting and will be explained in detail by Anne Gachoud later in this meeting. The members greatly appreciated the president's slide show of 30 events.

3. **Approval of previous minutes for AGMs of August 4, 2014 and August 5, 2015** by unanimous acclamation

4. **Approval of the present agenda** by unanimous acclamation

5. **Presentation and approval of the accounts for the period May 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015** by Eliane Gachet: the accounts [see annex for details] were approved with applause

6. **Report of the supervisory body by Charles Teicher and discharge of the committee**

Charles Teicher recommended acceptance of the accounts and the discharge of the committee. He was enthusiastically thanked for his longstanding diligence and loyalty.

7. **Presentation and approval of two new board members Hugues Duchâteau and Géry Daeninck**

Géry Daeninck was excused from attendance. By profession an engineer, he is executive director of the renowned Queen Elisabeth Musical Chapel in Belgium. Hugues Duchâteau is by profession a civil engineer in the transport sector and consultant in the expansion of the Paris underground project. Both new members were strongly applauded by the members.

Presentation and approval of the 2016 budget by treasurer Claude Roux

(See the annex for details.) This budget was accepted with applause and the present treasurer took the opportunity to offer very warm thanks to previous treasurer Eliane Gachet for her exemplary work for so many years without any recompense. The association has engaged the accounting firm FIDAG directed by Stephane Fellay to handle accounts as of the current fiscal year, at a cost of CHF 2000 per year. This firm will oversee billing of association fees directly to each member by post.

8. **Report on the Library by acting director Anne Gachoud**

Thanks to very cordial relations with the communal library in Chable and with the director of cultural affairs of the Commune, Bertrand Deslarzes, the municipal government has voted a sum of CHF 17000 to modernize the Verbier Library computer system so as to make the catalog linked with other libraries in the Valais. The Netbiblio software system of the Bern firm Alcodia will bring the library into the 21st century with code bar technology. John Dean, always the foremost benefactor of the Library, has generously donated the funds to purchase a new computer and other equipment required by the advanced cloud-based system. Doug Sager is working with Alcodia remotely from America and it is hoped the system will be operational by July. The loyal and hardworking volunteers have welcomed the change, albeit with some worries about adjusting. The Amis de Verbier will continue to fund operational costs and purchases of books and DVDs, as before. The Library has decided to issue every member of the association a library card, at no cost, in hopes that they will visit and use the library. Assurances from the Commune have been given of continued support for the Library should the current chalet be lost due to development of the 'terrains Besson'. It is important to note that the Library will continue to operate exclusively on a volunteer basis and as an independent entity. However closer collaboration with the municipality and other regional libraries is a highly valued recognition

of the social value attributed to the Verbier Library and its volunteers. Anne Gachoud also pointed out that a great number of new members of the association joined at and because of the Library.

9. Other business

Mister Schmit raised the issue of exterior lighting for the chain across the path to the bridge club. His concern will be forwarded to the responsible authorities in the municipal government. Martine Piaget asked if a family price category could be added to the present fee schedule, but was told that was not anticipated. Honorary President Janine Burrus took the floor to give a heartfelt and emotional thanks to the members for their loyalty. As there were no further questions the meeting was declared adjourned at 7:45pm and followed by refreshments.

Fait à Verbier, le 26.03.2016

AG
Anne Gachoud pour le PV
Secrétaire

AG
André Gorgemans
Président