



Association of the Friends of India Basel

Vereinigung der Freunde Indiens Basel (AFIB)



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING 2016

Date. Saturday, 9th April 2016

Venue: Tandoori Palace Petersgraben 21, 4051 Basel

Present. 17 Members

President Ram Mitra opened the meeting at 1615.

1. Last year's AGBM minutes as such accepted. Except, the treasurer (Suresh Agarwal) pointed out an error in the account statement for the year 2014/2015. The 4000.00CHF donation of Riehen Gemeinde should have been included in the assets as transition payment and not as the income of the year 2014/2015. The assembly accepted this oversight. The revised statement of account has been attached herewith (see Appendix... B....).

2. President Ram Mitra updated the members on the annual activities of the last year as under:

Dear friends of India,

I would like to welcome all of you for coming and joining the AGBM today. I am honored to have the opportunity to lead our Association of Friends of India; Basel for the year 2014/2015 as president. And I can't do this without your support and without your input. The association has started events to help connect and re-connect with one another and to re-engage with the people in and around Basel.

I would like to thank each and every one of you to make it happen. Specially, the members of the EC to support me in the process of making things happen. Although it was not always easy but at the end of the day the good will has overcome the bad. As we take a look back on how far we have come as an organization, I am proud and look forward to inheriting the legacy of our great leaders and great members like you! I would like to take a moment to share with you some highlights of the major events organized by AFIB in 2015.

MEMBERS: We have total 56 members (22 Single members, 28 family members + 6 new Family members). 21 members have not renewed their Membership and we are following up on them. Unfortunately, most of them left Switzerland.



Association of the Friends of India Basel / Vereinigung der Freunde Indiens Basel (AFIB)
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50th ANNIVERSARY OF AFIB: This event was organized on 30th May, 2015 and was a great success. This event was free of cost and attended by over 4, 500 people from 14:00 to 24:00 PM.

I would like to thank all of my friends and well-wishers and Govt. authorities in and around Basel who have helped us to finance/sponsored the event by giving direct financial help or by giving their contribution through advertisements.

The other background helpers, who have continuously supported me to design the booklet, set the program, organized the sound system and looked for the appropriate functionality of the system.

A huge number of support and help came from my friends in media and presses. I would like to express my deepest gratitude and thanks to Riehenerzeitung, Baselerzeitung, Vogelgryffzeitung and TV Basel for their support to make the event such a great success.

Further, I would like to express my thanks to "Kalashari" for their different charming performance during the day by the students of different age group. It took lots of patience and hard work not only for the teachers but also for the parents of the students. Special thanks also to Ken Zuckerman and Uday Majumdar for their help in the Cultural program on the event.

My special thanks go to "Samarkand", and their decoration without whom we were not even able to create such an Indian ambience. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all the performers Swiss and non-Swiss of the day.

Sponsors:

- Swisslos Basel-Landschaft 1000.00CHF
- Swisslos-Fonds Basel-Stadt 4000.00CHF
- Gemeinde Riehen 4000.00CHF
- Pilatus Werke 1000.00CHF
- India Tourist Office 2500.00CHF
- INDITOURS,HOTELPLAN 250.00CHF

Advertisers: (Listed below, 150.00CHF each)

- Listed below, 150.00CHF each
- Hatha-Yoga & Thai-Yoga Massage, Basel
- Blumen Breitenstein, Riehen
- Mobiliar Versicherung Generalagentur Basel
- Kostüm Kaiser, Aesch
- Kunst Relocation, PHKR, Basel
- Birla AG, Zug
- Neue Aargauer Bank
- HISTO TV- und HEIMBEDARF AG, Basel
- Vogel Gryff (Complimentary)

Karima Sengupta 500.CHF





PICNIC: was organized on 16th August 2015. Unfortunately due to bad weather and timing (summer vacation) the event was not attended by many members as previous year. However it was a very cosy familiar get-together attended by 15 Members and 3 Non-Members

DIWALI: was celebrated on 7th Nov. 2015. This was one of the greatest events with live puja, music dance and bhajan. Attended by 98 people plus 10 performers (30 Members, 42 Non-Members, 6 Children and 20 guests + Performers).

NEPAL AID: The AFIB has contributed 2000.- for the disaster relief after the earthquake in Nepal.

I have booked the most cost effective and transport convenient picnic venue in Riehen for 2016, Sunday 4th September for new committee otherwise it's difficult to get an appropriate place so late

Thank you all for your support once again. Some people may be disappointed and disagree to my way of leading the association but this was my challenge and I have certainly done it well for the last two years without spending a single frank from the association. Even, the asset has increased year by year and at the same time was able to set milestone and organized events for the association. Of course, this does not work without personal involvement and great networking.

3. Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer Dr. Suresh Agarwal gave the meeting a summary of the accounts of the last year. Copies of the balance sheet, duly signed by the auditors were circulated to the members present. (for details see Appx A at the end of these minutes.) Treasurer stated that 16 members had not paid their dues this year. Most of these were new members. There was a discussion as to why these new members had not paid. Ram Mitra stated that most of these members had left Switzerland. There was a further discussion on as to how to get new members interested and join the association.

Saleem Ismail gave his opinion that we should have more informal functions where members could meet each other as also the guests and this could pave the way to have the new attendees interested.

Saleem Ismail sought a clarification about the Nepal Aid undertaken by AFIB. Dr. Suresh clarified the situation and there were no further questions.

4. Auditors Report.

Auditors Naresh Kochar and Dr. Leslie Kurichiyil confirmed that they had carried out audit of the AFIB accounts and found them in order. The meeting thanked the auditors for their work.

5. Relief of Treasure.

Treasurer Dr. Suresh Agarwal was relieved of his responsibilities of treasurer of the AFIB with thanks from the members.





6. Discharge of Executive Committee.

The executive Committee's report was unanimously accepted by all members. Mr. Pyare Seth proposed that the Executive Committee should be discharged of its duties. Mr Saleem Ismail seconded the proposal. The EC was discharged with thanks

7. Election of Chairman for Elections.

Dr. Suresh Agarwal proposed Mr Pyare Seth as chairman for elections. This was unanimously accepted and Chairman proceeded with the elections. Mr. Pyare Seth asked each incumbent if he/ she was prepared to continue. Ms Zivka Frank declined to continue as Vice President. Ms Sandra Flury proposed Mr. J.Singh as Vice president. Mr. J.Singh accepted and was unanimously elected. The following is the new Executive Committee:

President.	Mr. Ram Mitra
Vice President.	Mr. J.Singh
Secretary.	Mr. Brindabandan Kundu.(if he accepts on his return from India)
Treasurer.	Dr. Suresh Agarwal
Ordinary Member	Dr. Charu Kochar
Ordinary Member	Dr. Heinz Weber
Ordinary Member	Dr. Satish Khanna

Auditors.

Dr.Pyare Seth
Mr. Leslie Kuruchiyil
Mr. Naresh Kochar

9. Annual Fees.

It was decided to maintain the same fees structure as of the preceding year.

10. Confirmation or cessation of membership.

There was no issue brought up by the EC.

11. Resolutions and Constitutional Amendments.

Dr. Suresh Agarwal had proposed 2 amendments as under.

- a. Every EVENT must be, as far as possible, financially self-supporting. At the most, the TOTAL YEARLY LOSS TO THE ASSOCIATION, including the expenditures for all other activities, must not exceed 5% of the TOTAL ASSETS on the day of AGBM of the preceding year.**





The members discussed the above amendment. J.Singh pointed out that this restriction amounted to the fact that the EXEC could not spend on any major event as the amount would be approximately Chf 900 which is too less. Mr. Saleem Ismail suggested that we raise this limit to 20%. After many suggestions and discussions from members it was agreed to raise this limit to 15%. The members agreed that the amendment would be as under:

“TOTAL YEARLY LOSS TO THE ASSOCIATION, including the expenditures for all other activities, must not exceed 15% of the TOTAL ASSETS on the day of AGBM of the preceding year. Should EC expect higher losses / require more funds, an EAGBM has to be called. This will be applicable with immediate effect.”

b. None of the EC MEMBERS is allowed to have any personal COMMERCIAL or FINANCIAL INTEREST in any of the association's activities.

The members discussed the above amendment. J.Singh pointed out that this point was not acceptable as it would restrict many members who had their own business from holding any position in the EC. Members suggested that the EC was competent to decide use of funds and ensure that no misuse took place. A vote was called and it was unanimously (including proposer) decided to reject this proposal.

12. Dr.Suresh Agarwal pointed out the futility of membership cards of members. It was unanimously accepted that the membership card scheme would be abolished. At 1830 President declared the meeting as closed.

J.Singh

Secretary AFIB

22 Apr 2016

Ram Mitra

President AFIB

22 Apr 2016

