

Hamburg, 24.03.2023

AGM Budva 2023; 14.03.23; 06:20 – 07:00 PM

Ms. Amelie Böhmen kindly noted down the below minutes during the AGM.

Welcome by the Chairman and counting of voting members

- ➔ Count of members for the voting: 24 votes, two of them are agencies with single-vote each.
- ➔ Welcome speech/ introduction (during the speech Inga-Lill Fransson comes in, now 25 votes)

Report from the steering committee

- ➔ Name change from IAMI to GMI was much work, especially for Ron.
- ➔ In 2019 Menno left the Board.
- ➔ In 2020 Ron went to the accountant because we could not reach the GMI's bank account during Corona. As a result, we could not see account movements. During that time, expenses were supported by Ron for six months.
- ➔ Actions: Got the name GMI registered + Bank account runs on GMI now + By-Laws updated to accommodate digital voting (remote voting). Latter is essential as the organisation's members are spread out, and times like Corona taught us that we should be prepared to switch to digital voting if needed.

Financial Statements

- ➔ Change of the Treasurer in Q1 2020
- ➔ Got rid of the accountant costs
- ➔ Change of By-Laws
- ➔ No income in the period 2020 until 2022 but costs like bank fees, lawyer, website, GMI 2019 + notary
- ➔ Current balance (10.03.23): 28.670,40 EUR, costs: GMI 2023 + website
- ➔ 2018 "fake invoice": Our then accountant received an invoice from CKG-Warsaw in Poland in 2018 of over 1.493,00 EUR. He paid the invoice on 27.09.2018 without sharing this with the Steering Committee. He must have considered it an invoice about the then ongoing trademark registration, but it was fraudulent. The issue was under investigation by the Police of NL and PL. We did not get the money back and do not expect it any longer. For transparency reasons shared with the Membership.

Discharge of the Current Committee

- ➔ Yusuf: Discharge current committee?
- ➔ Outcome: positive vote 25 to 0.

Election of the next Steering Committee



- Yusuf explains that he doesn't want to candidate again because of health problems and low energy level. He asks who wants to continue that position. No answer to that.
- He adds, that he still wants to help and support the committee when required and when possible and declares his dedication to the organisation.
- Critics: he wishes for a more defined structure in the GMI. He especially recommends hiring someone working in the association's background as there is a lot of voluntary work. But at the same time, he adds, hiring a person also means that the GMI needs more money to pay that person, which leads to higher member fees.
- Ron takes the word: Applause for Yusuf and his work, Yusuf will help with the next seminar, but will be in the background.
- Ron hold a speech of honor for Yusuf.
- The SC is now down to just 3 people – the minimum. He underlined that it is not easy to say “Yes” to something where members not know exactly where say say “yes” to. Therefore the SC will ask members to support in special tasks.
- Tasks we have to do: sending invoices, running the website, handling the financial aspects.
- The way forward is that we need more people to split the tasks to a doable level as it is just too much right now for the few people that are right now working for GMI
- We need a minimum of three people in the steering committee (as we have currently)
- Contribution from member John Ross that you give little tasks to the members in the GMI instead of making the steering committee bigger.
- Member Matthias Mink agrees: We need to give tasks to the members, and it is always hard to nominate oneself. Better suggest people for specific tasks. Everyone needs to be more active.
- Ron: this is a voluntary organisation. Everybody needs to participate. Ron suggests Matthias Böhmen for being the next Chairman (univocal and lasting applause from the membership).
- M. Böhmen: Thanks for the trust, we will continue that way, thanks to Frederico for the great work on the website.
- Yusuf: Mentions that three women from Yusuf's team worked very hard for 2 months for the conference. M. Böhmen adds: They organised and packed the goodie bags (that shows that we need extra people who support the GMI)
- Yusuf: we didn't know during Corona if GMI will survive (applause again for his work).

Place and Date of the next Conference:

- M. Böhmen: Poland and Istanbul are possible next conference locations.
- Asking in the room for destinations (no new suggestions?)
- Question, if the next session should be in March or October (especially for surveyors it is better in October, for others March is better) -> discussion about weather conditions, flights...)
- Outcome: Next conference we plan in Istanbul, or alternatively Poland, for the end of October beginning of November.



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- ➔ We aim at a European certificate program. Question for John Ross if he will lead a working group for this. He confirms.
 - ➔ End of AGM

Sincerely,

Matthias Böhmen, CMI, Chairperson – Global Marine Investigators