



European Association for Banking History e.V.

Minutes: 13th General Members' Meeting
To: Members
Date of meeting: 31 May 2002
Location: Berns Hotel, Stockholm

Professor Manfred Pohl, acting Chairman, opened the meeting and welcomed the members to the Thirteenth General Members' Meeting stating that, in accordance with the Articles of Association, a quorum had been constituted.

He announced that Professor Gabriel Tortella had stepped down as Chairman of the Academic Advisory Council of the EABH and thanked him for his valuable contribution and commitment to the Association. Professor Tortella thanked Professor Pohl and informed the members that Professor Philip L. Cottrell, University of Leicester, had been elected the previous day as the new Chairman of the Academic Advisory Council.

Manfred Pohl announced with great pleasure the new members won during 2001 and 2002 (please see list in the Annual Report) and introduced Mr. Roumen Avramov and Mrs. Jana Kraycheva, the representatives of Bulgarian National Bank who were attending the General Members' Meeting for the first time.

He then informed the audience that Mrs. Roberta Sneider will go on maternity leave in mid September 2002 and that Ms. Gabriella Massaglia will be taking over from Mrs. Sneider during her absence.

1. Financial Report

The Chairman apologised for the delay in sending the documentation, this was due to administrative issues. He thanked Mr. Javier Santillán and Mrs. Sneider for providing the EABH with an excellent report and asked the Treasurer to present his report.

Mr. Santillán offered a brief summary of the contents of the written financial report and accompanying tables submitted to the General Assembly. He explained that the expenses are mainly due to the organisation of the main conferences and the workshop series dedicated to the Archive Year. He pointed out that the annual surplus was due to special contributions from the National Bank of Greece for the Additional Conference *From the Athenian Tetradrachm to the Euro*, to two donations from Bank of Portugal and Bank of Greece for the implementation of the online central banks inventory and from the 1999 – 2000 annual surplus of the Financial History Review. He explained to the audience that the main discrepancy between the actual annual surplus and the budgeted deficit was due to the outstanding publication of several volumes of the Association.



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As far as the 2002 Budget is concerned, he forecasted a deficit of about 50.000 EUR which would almost compensate the surplus obtained in 2001. For further details, please see the Financial Report.

The Chairman thanked the Treasurer and asked Mr. Edwin Green, Auditor of the Association, to present his report.

2. Report of the Auditor

Mr. Green thanked the Frankfurt office for preparing the accounts. He pointed out that the EABH has never been in a more stable financial position. He said that both he and Luis de Abreu Nunes were satisfied that the EABH accounts were being compiled efficiently and thoroughly. He concluded that the finances of the EABH are sound and thanked the EABH staff for a good, conservative management of the finances.

The members did not raise any further questions.

3. Approval of the Balance 2001 and release of the Board of Management from responsibility

The accounts for 2001 were unanimously approved by the Members and the Board of Management was released from responsibility.

4. Approval of the Budget 2002

The General Assembly approved by unanimity the figures for 2002.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Santillán and Mr. Green for their reports and for their work on behalf of the Association.

5. Annual Report of the Board of Management

Professor Pohl asked Professor Tortella to present his report to the Members.

Symposia

Professor Tortella summarised the past academic activities of the EABH as presented in the written annual report.

He thanked Nordea and SEB for giving the Assembly the opportunity to hold the General Members' Meeting and the staff for the valuable advice and help in organising the event. He also thanked the academic committee for having constituted a very interesting programme. Mr. Claes Holmberg (Nordea) thanked the EABH for the good co-operation and wished the members a pleasant stay in Stockholm.



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Professor Tortella announced the main conference in Bratislava in 2003, *Popular Banking and the Financial System*, which will be kindly hosted by the National Bank of Slovakia. Marián Tkáč was asked to briefly present the purposes of the conference. Mr. Tkáč invited the members to attend the conference in 2003 in the new premises of the NBS.

Professor Tortella also announced the main conference in Athens in 2004 *The Human Factor in Banking: Entrepreneurs, Managers, Organisation and Personnel*, which will be kindly hosted by Alpha Bank on the occasion of its 125th anniversary.

Professor Tortella also illustrated to the members the actual state of the EABH publications as indicated in the Report.

Future of the EABH

Professor Pohl explained to the members his views on the future development of the EABH. In his opinion the academic programme should widen into brighter topics, involve the top management level of the banks and internationalise. He said that the EABH's internationalisation is important if the Association wants to keep pace with the changes in the banking sector.

Sir Evelyn de Rothschild and Manfred Pohl approached, in writing, all the members of the Board of Management as well as the members of the Board of Patrons presenting a project on a potential restructuring of the EABH. This project's goal is to analyse the advantages and disadvantages of a structural and thematic change of the Association. Manfred Pohl had asked Luis de Abreu Nunes to chair a Structural Committee (**SC**) whose aim is to carry out this study. The results will be brought to the attention and approval of the General Members at the main conference in Bratislava, 2003. The members of the Structural Committee are as follows: Gerald D. Feldman, Peter Hertner, Luis de Abreu Nunes, Manfred Pohl, Javier Santillán, Willem F. V. Vanthoor. The AAC appointed Ulf Olsson as a link between the SC and the AAC. Luis Nunes presented the outline of possible steps to undertake in the future. Professor Pohl asked Luis Nunes to present this project to the members.



6. Elections

- Board of Management

Professor Pohl informed the members that Mr. Enrico Meucci resigned from his position as a member of the Board of Management and that Professor Gabriel Tortella, resigning from his position as Chairman of the Academic Advisory Council automatically steps down from the Board of Management.

Professor Pohl continued with the elections of some members of the Board of Management:

Philip L. Cottrell	Member (Chairman of the AAC)
Daniel Lebègue	Member
Javier Santillán	Treasurer

All nominees were unanimously re-elected.

- Board of Patrons

The Chairman informed the members that Mr. Hilmar Kopper wished to stand down from his function as Chairman of the Board of Patrons and he proceeded with the election of some members of the Board of Patrons:

Rolf-E. Breuer	Member
Theodoros Karatzas	Member

All nominees were unanimously re-elected.

The Chairman informed the members that Dr. Breuer has agreed to take over the chairmanship of the Board of Patrons for a term of five years. In accordance with our Articles of Association, the Chairman of the Board of Patrons must be elected from amongst its members. Prof. Pohl stated that the Frankfurt Office would complete the required legal steps.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

Manfred Pohl
Deputy Chairman

Roberta Sneider
Secretary General

Frankfurt am Main, 15 November 2002