

# Hamilton Estonian Society 2022 Annual General Meeting

Sunday, March 6, 2022

3 Mapleside Avenue (the church manse)

Since quorum was not present for the meeting at the advertised starting time, it was called to order 15 minutes later, in accordance with the by-law. 21 members were present. It was agreed that either Estonian or English could be used, according to the preference of the speaker.

## Minutes

### 1. Call to Order.

Leila Hess called the meeting to order at 17:15. Rein Ende was named to record minutes. Riina Knowles and Krista Alexopoulos were appointed vote counters. A minute of silence was observed for departed members.

### 2. Approval of minutes.

**MOTION:** (Rein Ende/Kairi West) That the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, held January 26, 2020, be approved. **(CARRIED)**

### 3. Reports for the previous year.

#### a) Activities for 2020-21.

Leila Hess outlined the activities from the previous year.

**MOTION:** (Merike Koger/Lia Hess) That the report of the years' activities be accepted. **(CARRIED)**

#### b) Financials for 2020-21.

Lisa Ross provided a written report.

Leila Hess explained the need to transition to a fiscal year ending in March 31, because of the timing of our Independence Day event in February, a significant expenditure.

**MOTION:** (Evy Beraldo/Merike Koger) That the report of the Treasurer be accepted. **(CARRIED)**

#### c) Internal audit for 2020-21.

The Internal Audit Committee, consisting of Toomas Aasa, Kai Eichenbaum and Evelyn Eichenbaum, reported that the accounts were found to be in good order.

**MOTION:** (Kristiina Aasa/Krista Alexopoulos) That the report of the Internal Audit Committee be accepted. **(CARRIED)**

### 4. Membership fee for the year 2022.

**MOTION:** (Kairi West/Lia Hess) That the annual membership fee be \$ 10. **(CARRIED)**

### 5. Stipendium for the year 2022.

This year's winner of the HES Stipendium was named as Häli Puust.

### 6. Program and budget for 2022.

Leila Hess outlined a proposed program of activities for the year 2022. Preparations have begun for our annual Independence Day event, "We the Nordic."

Merika Koger suggested that notices be sent by e-mail as well, for a wider distribution, not just members. Lia Hess suggested that the Estonian Foundation be informed of our events. Leila Hess said that some of the privacy restrictions on our website would be removed to permit this. Merike Koger asked about any plans for a March Deportations event. Options include holding it at the City Hall, or in cooperation with the Estonian School.

**MOTION:** (Kairi West/Krista Alexopoulos) That the programme of activities be accepted as outlined. **(CARRIED)**

**MOTION:** (Lisa Ross/Evy Beraldo) That the proposed budget for the year 2022 be approved. **(CARRIED)**

### **7. English version of HES Põhikiri.**

Consideration of the distributed draft bylaw was conducted as a committee-of-the-whole.

The concept of *auliige* was to be maintained.

There should be only one class of members.

The Audit Committee should have two “spare” candidates.

Section 7, Indemnification, was to be left out.

The need for a working, “living” document was stressed.

**MOTION:** (Leila Hess/Kristiina Aasa) That the proposed draft bylaw be approved with corrections and changes as noted. **(CARRIED)**

### **8. Elections according to the By-laws.**

Seven candidates put their names forward: Krista Alexopoulos, Toomas Eichenbaum, Rein Ende, Leila Hess, Riina Knowles, Lisa Ross, Kairi West.

**MOTION:** (Lia Hess/Kai Eichenbaum) That the seven candidates be declared elected. **(CARRIED)**

Candidates for the Internal Audit Committee were: Toomas Aasa, Evy Beraldo, and Evi Pertens.

Evelyn Eichenbaum, and Kai Eichenbaum as spare members.

They were declared elected by unanimous consensus of the members present.

### **9. Discussion.**

Toomas Eichenbaum offered kudos for the We the Nordic celebration, as well as our participation on Independence Day at City Hall.

Eero Teene offered thanks for the donation to the Estonian School.

With the completion of the agenda, the meeting ended at 18:15.

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Rein Ende, Secretary