



Swiss Pakistan Society

Minutes of the 29th General Body Meeting of the Swiss Pakistan Society Held on 13th of November, 2010 at Basel

Attendees: Signed list at the SPS office – availability on request.

1. The SPS president Mr. Thomas Wernly started the meeting. After his welcome address and some brief comments about his experience and working with the Society.
2. Mr. Wernly asked the Patron of the Society, Her Excellency Mrs. Ayesha Riyaz to deliver her message.
3. The patron spoke about the long standing of the Society. She re-iterated her desire that the SPS should induct more members who could make positive contributions. She also emphasized the fact that the Society is now a well-established and known platform. She appreciated the efforts of the Society during the Swat IDP crisis, the 2010 Flood. At the same time she emphasized the need of broader membership of the Society. She reiterated the commitment of the Pakistani Mission towards the progress of the Society.
4. Mr. Wernly requested the adoption of the minutes of the 28th General body meeting. These minutes were unanimously adopted.
5. Mr. Wernly asked for the deletion of article 12 from the current meeting's agenda. This article pertains to the "Fasnacht" Clique's presentation and as such is not an official activity. Thereafter he asked Mr. Sohail Mirza to proceed with the order of the event and to conduct the meeting.
6. Mr. Sohail Mirza proposed that three gentlemen who are associated with the Society's activities from the very onset should be awarded the honorary membership. These gentlemen are; Mr. Sulyman Attia, Dr. S. Jilani and Mr. Saleem Shaikh, The general body unanimously approved the proposal. The General Body also expressed their desire that the newly nominated Honorary Members would continue their close cooperation with the Society and like in the past will contribute as much as possible.
7. Mr. Saad Khan, VP Zurich and ad-interim VP Humanitarian was invited to make his presentation. His complete presentation can be mailed on request. By and large his presentation addressed the areas of post earthquake rehabilitation, Swat IDP crisis and the great floods. Salient features are:



- a. Spine surgery training with Prof. Max. Aebi.
- b. Collaboration with the Heritage Foundation, Pakistan. This is a very broad area where cooperation was done at the financial, know-how transfer and participatory levels. The undersigned or Mr. Saad Khan will be very glad to send the details to anyone interested in details. It is planned to publish these activities on the SPS website.
- c. Assistance to the Edhi Foundation.

It is important to note that SPS is engaged in this project on a long-term basis. Our goal is to make a lasting impact through involvement in sustainable projects. As a matter of priority, projects geared towards women and children get our highest attention.

8. Mr. Sohail Mirza made his presentation on the social and organizational affairs of the Society. His complete presentation can be mailed on request. The salient features are:

- a. Concert & Fashion Show at Geneva
- b. Picnic 2009
- c. Exhibition "Buddha's Paradise" at Rietberg Museum in Zurich
- d. Picnic 2010
- e. Concerts at Neufchatel
- f. Concerts at Zurich (Moods)
- g. Stall at India-India for Flood Relief Victims
- h. Stall at Schaffhausen for Flood Relief Victims
- i. Dinner at Geneva for Flood Relief Victims

Mr. Mirza took this opportunity to thank Mrs. Nighat Syed, Mrs. Lubna Ghaffar, Dr. Rabbani, Mr. Mohsin Khan, Madam Ambassador and all those who actively supported these events. Thanks are also due to our president for streamlining official issues and his constant encouragement.

9. Approval of the Expenses and Auditor's Report. Mr. S. Attia confirmed the accuracy of the accounts. Mr. Sohail Mirza made the following points:

- a. The Society finances are healthy but we would like to increase our revenues further. The Society would like to be in a position to offer "deficit guarantees" for our cultural activities. What it means is that it will allocate funds for such activities up front. After the activity, the organizers will be required to reimburse the fund to the Society that was made available to them. This off-course when the event has generated sufficient income.
- b. All the board members and members of the Society are requested to enhance the Society's membership.
- c. Corporate memberships are to be sought on a priority basis.



10. Amendments to the Constitution:

The amendment pertains to the Article 11 of the constitution that reads as follows:

OLD ARTICLE QUOTE:

Article 11. The Board shall consist of:

a President

two Vice-Presidents

an Executive Vice President (with Treasury portfolio)

a Secretary

two members without portfolio

The board members of the previous tenure who have handed over their responsibilities to new elected members shall remain honorary members of the board for one more term.

If in a meeting of the Board there is an equality of votes, the President will use his casting vote

OLD UNQUOTE

Through the unanimous vote of the General Body, the constitution of the society shall be amended in the following manner.

NEW QUOTE

Article 11. The Board shall consist of:

a) a President

b) an Executive Vice President (with Treasury portofolio)

c) a Secretary

d) members without portfolio

The Board may elect Vice Presidents with special assignments.

The board members of the previous tenure who have handed over their responsibilities to new elected members shall remain honorary members of the board for one more term."

If in a meeting of the Board there is an equality of votes, the President will use his casting vote

NEW UNQUOTE



Mr. Nazim Rehman / Saad Khan are requested to implement this change in the SPS website.

11. Election:

The result of the Elections is as follows:

- President: Mr. Thomas Wernly
- Executive Vice President: Mr. Sohail Mirza
- Secretary: Mr. Mohsin Ali Khan
- VP Geneva: Dr. D. Rabbani
- VP Humanitarian Affairs: Mr. Saad Khan
- VP Cultural Affairs: Mrs. Lubna Ghaffar
- VP Women's Affairs: Mrs. Nighat Syed
- Electronic Editor: Mr. Nazim Rahman
- Auditors: Mr. S. Attia, Mrs. J. Dobler

Pro-memoria: The serving Pakistani Ambassador in Bern is the Patron of the Society.

12. Miscellaneous: The Clique " DR SCHNUREPFLUDERI " introduced itself and played the Basler Fasnacht music for all participants. By the way, those who want to be a part of this event should come to Basel on 14.3.2011. "Morgenstreich" at 04:00 AM.

13. Dinner was served. We want to thank Mr. Mohammad Wasim for his delicious cooking, which was liked by all.

For the Board

Sohail Mirza
(Executive Vice President)
1.3.2011