



Summary of the Annual General Meeting
held on Wednesday 14th January 2009 in school at 8 pm

Present: Jim Noble, Ezio Ravaccia, Philippa Knapp, Julian Berger, Alicia Romano, Tiziano Furlan, Martina Geromin, Stefano Clini, Marina Lojacono
In Attendance: Robert Dillow, Silvia Saibene

Approximately 50 parents were present.

The Chairman opened the Annual General Meeting at 8 pm and welcomed all those attending. He introduced the new Principal, Mr Robert Dillow.

Mr Dillow gave a brief speech with a summary of his life and career, followed by comments on his first five weeks at Sir James. He stressed his intention to take on a mostly supervisory role and let the two Lower and Upper School Heads, Angela Dean and Gregory Wright, fully manage their Schools with the help of the other members of the Senior Management Team. Despite the economic situation, admissions for next year look promising.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer presented an annual report of the school's accounts. 765 students are currently enrolled in the school. Over the past 5 years SJHS Srl has reduced the cost income ratio from 120% to 99% and achieved an operating break-even.

The Treasurer and the Chairman stressed the need for parents to pay on time because the school is currently spending precious resources trying to recover payments that could be used for educational purposes. At the same time however, the Board and the School realize that given the harsh economic times some families will have difficulties in making payments. In these cases, families are encouraged to come to discuss alternative payment plans which will allow their children to remain in school, so long as these payments are made on time.

The financial statements of the Sir James Hendersen School Srl were unanimously approved.

The financial statements of the Association were unanimously approved.

The Chairman explained that to allow Mr Dillow to take up his duties on December 1, 2008 the Directors of the Srl co-opted Mr Dillow as a Director. This followed Philippa Knapp's temporary resignation (November 25th Srl Directors meeting). She was subsequently reinstated at the AGM, when the Chairman asked the Association to approve the increase in the number of Board Directors from three to four.

Both proposals made by the chairman were unanimously approved.

Mr Robert Dillow was approved by the General Assembly as Managing Director of the Sir James Henderson School Srl. Jim Noble was confirmed as President, Ezio Ravaccia as Treasurer and Philippa Knapp as Director of the Srl. Mr Dillow's compensation was also approved unanimously.

Whilst waiting on the votes to be counted the Chairman invited parents to ask questions to the Board. The following issues were raised:

1. Mr Church's situation

The Board informed the General Assembly of the decision to let Mr Church use until end of May 2009 the apartment in Milano Due given his current health condition.

2. Thanks

A group of parents thanked the Board for their actions in the past months

3. IB

Parents expressed their general concern on how the new IB system has been implemented. Mr Dillow replied reassuring the parents that this insecurity is rather normal considering that this is a first time for students and staff. More meetings will be organized to clarify certain issues: ie Extended essay

4. Unpaid fees

On the balance sheet there are 50K losses due to unpaid fees. Mr Noble explained again the importance of paying the fees on time and urged the parents to come and talk to the Principal or the Bursar immediately in case of problems. The School cares deeply about the children and doesn't

want to reach the point of keeping them out of school because of unpaid bills.

5. New Building

The Chairman gave an update to the parents on the new building situation and on the work done by the Board so far. A careful search has been carried forward in order to lay the foundations of the new building: lawyers have been found, a team of architects and professionals have also been found. The school is ready to start and is waiting for final determination of the plot of land..

The Chairman then announced that the votes for the election of parents to fill the three vacant positions on the Board had been counted and the 3 candidates elected onto the Board of Governors were:

Elena Buzzonetti Bittante 129 votes

Carlo Clavarino 120 votes

Julian Berger 105 votes

Total votes cast: 644 (244 ballots out of a total of 945 issued)

The Board thanked outgoing Governors, Martina Geromin and Tiziano Furlan for their dedication and service over the past few years. The Chairman thanked Mr Furlan , who has been a member of the Board for the past 6 years, for his contribution and hard work with regards especially to the Building project.

The meeting was closed at 9.30 pm