

# **Minutes of the EBMA Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)**

**Date: January 29, 2024**

**Location: Online Meeting**

## **1. Welcome and Validation of the Online EGM**

The meeting commenced with a vote to approve the online format of the EGM, as the Association Bylaws (2011) did not explicitly permit online meetings.

Decision: The assembly approved the online EGM and all votes taken within it as valid.

## **2. Interim Board 90-Day Activity and Financial Report**

### **2.1 Overview**

- Formation: The Interim Board was established following the approval of the manifesto on October 25, 2023.
- Election Process: Initiated with 16 applications and 8 offers to assist by the December 6, 2023, deadline.
- Resignations: Due to internal conflicts, the following members resigned:
  - Nadia Sardjoe (December 21, 2023)
  - François Vola (January 14, 2024; also withdrew candidacy on January 19)
  - Lili Drumeva (January 16, 2024; withdrew due to health concerns)

### **2.2 Interim Board Statement**

- The board chose not to publicly respond to allegations and rumors.
- Resignations were officially communicated during this EGM.

### **2.3 Financial Report**

- Expenses:
  - IBMA booth presentation materials: \$174
  - Zoom Pro subscription (Nov-Jan): €48.48
  - MailChimp: \$28.05
  - Bank charges: CHF30
- Income: Two memberships paid (€150).

### **2.4 Conclusion**

- The Interim Board fulfilled its commitments:
  - Organized an election within 90 days.
  - Drafted recommendations for the new board.
- The financial impact was minimal.
- The board remains optimistic about EBMA's future.

Decision: The assembly approved the 90-day interim report and financial statement.

## **3. Recommendations for the New Board**

- Review bylaws (2011) and mission statement (2012).
- Define EBMA's role in supporting both individuals and the community.
- Establish membership levels and fees.
- Memberships set to expire on January 31st will automatically be extended until March 31st, 2024.
- Develop a communication strategy and service offerings.

Decision: The EGM approved these recommendations.

#### **4. Transition from Old Board to New Board**

- Roles of the New Board:
  1. Administrative: Legal, financial, and membership management.
  2. Steering Committee: Coordinating activities across bluegrass communities in Europe.

#### **5. Election of the New Board**

- Voting: Conducted online. Extraordinary general assembly approved the extension of the Board Election to include all currently active members.
- Changes Approved:
  - Allowing online voting.
  - Electing board members by a simple majority instead of 50%+1.

Meeting Adjourned.

Online voting 5 days until 4th February 2024.

##### **5.1 Elected Board Members**

The following candidates were elected to lead EBMA:

1. Kent Gustavson (USA, resident in Germany) – Artists
2. Owen Schinkel (Netherlands) – Artists
3. Angelika Torrie (Switzerland) – At Large
4. Christopher Howard-Williams (France/UK) – At Large
5. Charlotte Saelemakers (Belgium) – Events & Bookers
6. Guido de Groot (Netherlands) – Events & Bookers
7. Kathleen Coker – Industry & Education
8. Ti' Pierre – Industry & Education
9. Ronnie Norton – Media
10. Heidi Jamila – Membership & Development
11. Piero Biasi – Membership & Development

Dornach, February 15, 2024