

Berlin IG Meeting Minutes 09.07.2023

IG Officers present:

Katarina Chair

Zach Secretary

Cyril Vice Chair

Ben PIO

Debbie Liaison

John C treasurer

Simon Chip Coordinator

Pascal Leipzig

Brian Region Rep 1

Ryan Literature

Dana YPLO

Julian ECLO

Alex Zoom Coordinator

Bea region rep 2

GSRs present:

Texas T PT meetings

Volkan GSR foundation stone meeting

Ian GSR BBS 0800

Maggie leipzig gsr vote

Soeren Big book surprise

Yannick gsr

John gsr queer meeting

Jesse gsr east berlin

Teddy steps and traditions monday

voting members in total - 22

Guests:

Mike

Minutes of last meeting approved

Intergroup Officers' Reports

Cyril vice chair:

Nothing to report

John Treasurer

This is my first report as your Treasurer. After three months, I am still awaiting access to Intergroup bank account, so I should like to begin by expressing heartfelt thanks to my predecessor; Wolfgang, for his invaluable support in processing all our payments. Thanks also to our Verein Treasurer, Billy, for his efforts to speed matters up with the bank and keeping me supplied with transaction data.

As can be seen from the table below, our expenditure of 3,178.14€ exceeded our income this quarter of 2,661.62€ by 516.52€. Our closing balance of 1,533.26€ was 716.74€ below our prudent reserve of 2,250€. It should be noted that the largest item of expenditure during this quarter was the agreed loan of 1,000€ to EURYPAA. A successful EURYPAA that enables repayment of the loan would mean a significant improvement to Intergroup's financial situation.

Thanks to all groups and individuals who contributed the sum of €1,714.04 during the quarter. A kind reminder to all those who donate via bank transfer, please reference your donation as either "7th Tradition" for individual donations, or "Group Donation" if it is a group, This enables ready identification of receipts into our bank account. Please keep it coming!

Going forward, the intention is to provide an estimate of upcoming income and expenditure thus enhancing the ability of Intergroup to make informed choice when making decisions on expenditure.

The following table, which includes the summer holiday period, shows a worse-case scenario of Intergroup's cashflow during the next three months. This conservative scenario is that our expenditure of 1,842.17 will again significantly exceed our receipts estimated at 1,100.00€, leaving a balance of €761.12, some 1,488.88 below our prudent reserve.

The reality is that the actual outcome is likely to be an improvement on that forecast. For example, no receipts for book or chip sales have been included and the amount for donations has been minimised to reflect a) the summer holiday period, and b) that Q2 included a couple of exceptionally large donations that seem unlikely to be repeated.

On the expenditure side all recurring items such as Leipzig travel, Zoom etc are largely fixed amounts. The amount forecast for literature represents an estimate of outstanding orders to be placed with GSO in York.

It is hoped that in the next report, a more granular picture showing anticipated income and expenditure for each of the forthcoming three months can be shown. For now, it seems clear that we need to exercise great caution in committing to any expenditure not budgeted for.

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Report Approved

Zach Secretary: nothing to report

Brian & Bea - region reps:

Brian defers to Bea because he went to the second day

Bea is on the train, but they are looking for service positions, new secretary etc., it's all on the website, next region thing is in Zagreb in September

Ryan Literature officer

Our total literature sales from April 14 – June 1, 2023, that were paid to Berlin Intergroup by the

literature officer, was 486€. This total is 359€ lower than the total collected from last quarter.

There also appears to be a discrepancy of 286€ from the literature sales accounted for in the treasure's report. Considering the figure in the treasurer's report is greater than the number supplied in this report, there is little concern on my part, as there may be literature sales accounted for in the treasure's report that were outside of my duties, and therefore not accounted for in my report.

There has also been concern raised by some meetings over the amount of literature Intergroup has on hand. As a literature officer, it is my duty to supply the meetings with literature whilst ensuring orders reasonably align with Intergroup's budget. A possible topic for new business will be how Intergroup can/should balance these two imperatives.

Julian Eclo

Lots of contact from people in the spring and lots of inquiries about EURYPAA. I would like to change our plans for hosting, we use wordpress and only 300 mb of storage, increase it to 2 gb for an extra 10 euros a month for example. The meetings that are defunct have been eliminated, the meetings online are accurate now.

Alex zoom coordinator

We are hosting 46 meetings every week, including some meetings from all over germany. We usually pay 225 per month for a zoom business account. This will be reduced to 189.90 euros because zoom has changed its prices. A proposal to further reduce costs, to be raised in new business.

Ben - PI

Nothing to report, also due to give up position today.

Simon Chip coordinator

Gregs been super helpful with the transition. 86 euros 17 cents in sales for chips, made an order with Gred for 228 euros, gred is picking them up from the us, would like to make a motion later to get them from the UK because less expensive.

19.05.23 Karl – Tuesday "Secret" meeting 4 chips €5.36

27.06.23 Karl – Tuesday "Secret" meeting 3 chips €4.02

27.06.24 Ciara – Mon/Weds Mitte 92 chips €56.03

27.06.24 Queer Step Circus 20 chips €23.24

Total sales €88.65

02.07.23 New order (From USA – pending) 270 chips €228.70

28.06.23 Master stock (full stock list attached) 556 chips €505.72

Debbie German Liasion:

Not much to report. German fellowship is thriving, new contact center is not so new anymore,

hospital and prison service going on, if anyone wants to get involved, go to the contact center for more info. Al Anon has spoken to me, and is it possible to promote an al anon event from us?

Pascal - Leipzig Coordinator:

Just couldn't go in may due to a book fair, tickets were sold out quickly. Everything else is good.

Dana YPLO:

EURYPAA is in a few weeks, if anyone would like to do service at the convention, please contact me. If you are planning on attending it would be helpful if you are preregistered online at eurypaa2023.org! My position is up now, but I haven't found a replacement but maybe someone here is interested.

Tenzing Safeguarding Committee - not present:

- flyers have been distributed to all the meetings that wanted them
- There has been some discussion to make new flyers
- Some attempts to connect with other groups in the UK are underway for information exchange on the topic of safeguarding
- The committee will organize a presentation/ workshop during Eurypaa

Stefan hotline coordinator not present:

nothing to report. my service is over i think soon, i started in august 2021 i believe, i will start making announcements to find candidates

we receive calls in the average every other day

for the new coordinator i d recommend to „cast“ / rotate the fellows who do service since some people do it since years and there is no rotation system. i always wanted to start it but well...now towards the end of my period i realize i didn't.

GSR Reports

Volkan GSR foundation stone - nothing to report, except a donation of 300+ to the inter region and we are the only meeting in germany with a one hour speaker at the last tuesday of the month.

Ian B GSR BBS 0800- interested in the cost of zoom, and how to get the reports of this meeting. Zach will send out the minutes if you send the email list.

Dana GSR meditation- nothings changed there, still on zoom. Our 7th tradition is there.

Texas T GSR Primetime- attendance is fabulous. What's the breakdown for zoom payments? Then we would like to pay for 2 meetings. But need that info.

Maggie Leipzig GSR- we have more regular attendance, gradually increasing. Appreciate the support from Berliners. We are looking into H&I outreach. Christian P will be the new point of contact for the Leipzig group for the trips from Berlin. We are solvent and will bring up another intergroup contribution next meeting.

Soeren GSR big book surprise-

All is running smoothly. Steady meeting base has increased. Good health and financially well. Able to give about 230 to euryppaa.

Yannick GSR sunday solution-

We have 2 months ago changed from a bilingual into a fully english speaking meeting. This has produced some controversy in the german intergroup and because our meeting takes place in the german contact center the issue of insurance has been raised. the question is if we are stopping to contribute to the german intergroup, which brings up the question if we can use the german contact center? We have decided to contribute 120 euros to this intergroup. Our attendance is about 7-8 people. Pretty steady. Another issue cannot be shown on the meeting guide app, julian has been kind to try and help out with it, but can't find a solution. If anyone knows anything about that, would be happy to hear about a solution.

John GSR Queer meeting

4-5 people, now consistently 30 people. We had a surplus, and given some of that to EURYPAA and intergroup.

Teddy GSR monday step -

We do not have anything to report.

Pascal GSR BIPOC -

The meeting has moved from sunday to thursday and has therefore changed its name. It's a small but very lively meeting with fellowship. Out of a group of 20, about 10 regularly attend. All

service positions are filled.

New time and place

Another country book shop

Riemannstr. 7

10961 Berlin

In the backroom

John GSR Zehlendorf

20 people every week. Fully self supporting. Small surplus of prudent reserve. Looking forward to greater engagement. Still have second hand literature we inherited, see last minutes. Get in touch if you are interested in taking some literature. As mentioned, one of our members have a lot of berlin convention material in his basement as is interested in getting it taken.

Jesse GSR east berlin-

20 in attendance, just received books.

Alex womens meeting

Everything going well, plenty of newcomers, business meeting's last tuesday, more of a surplus and we are donating 200 euros to intergroup.

Zach YPAA GSR

Everything is going well, 548.42 euros in the bank account. 100 euro donation to intergroup happening next week. Meeting has lots of attendance, and doing all we can to support EURYPAA.

Audrey GSR West Berlin Group - Not Present

Nothing to report

Elections:

PIO

- Nobody takes position, so we table.

YPLO

- Nobody takes position, tabled.

Old Business:

Officers and GSRs do not get the same amount of information.

John C recommends put this into old business for the next meeting, really important issue about transparency, clarity and inclusion

- Tabled.

New Business:

1. Discuss how to balance literature orders through intergroup and our budget
 - a. If groups order literature, can they prepay?
 - b. Motion we keep 40 big books and 40 12&12s on hand in case meetings need them and they are in Berlin.
 - i. 3 against.
 - ii. 6 abstentions
 - iii. Minority opinion heard and discussion ensues.
 - iv. Motion is amended for 20 big books, 20 12&12s and 30 living sobers. Would cost 200-300 euros.
 1. 2 against
 2. 2 abstentions
 3. Motion passes
2. Zoom
 - a. Working out a plan to reduce zoom costs.
 - b. Motion proposed that we can allow alex to change zoom business plan to zoom one pro and reduce number of users to 4 which will reduce price, starting from mid august
 - c. Amended that we do this provided that meeting info (including IDs) don't change, we do this. Otherwise, we postpone until we find a different solution.
 - i. Motion passes unanimously
3. Chips
 - a. Moving getting chips from the US to the UK to cut costs
 - b. Table this until next meeting for more info
 - c. Amended to just trusting simon to be responsible for making chips as affordable as possible
4. Prudent Reserve
 - a. Motion that we prioritize a better prudent reserve for the future by the end of the year
 - i. 2 abstentions
 - ii. Passes
5. hosting
 - a. To raise the cost of hosting by 10 euros so we have more space
 - i. 1 against
 - ii. Minority opinion → goes against our last motion?
 - iii. Motion passes
6. John to get the financial reports from region
 - a. After discussion, we will receive reports from region reps before the meeting from now on, no motion necessary
7. Rotation positions
 - a. Motion that anyone who's service position is expiring, they not only make announcements, but also consider or recruit people to replace them.
 - i. Motion taken back, turned into something to keep in mind for the future
8. Turning intergroup into a hybrid meeting
 - a. Tabled

Positions open next time:

YPLO (Young People Liaison Officer)

PIO (Public Information Officer)

Vice-chair

Next ig meeting is 8th of october