Report Annual Assembly, Vienna 8th June 2023

At 17:30, Members and guests assembled for our Annual Yearly Assembly in the Meeting Room of the Theatre Museum on Lobkowitzplatz 2 in Vienna.

1) Welcome, quorum, acceptance of protocol for the meeting

The attendees were welcomed with by our Vice President, Olivier Perrin, standing in for our President Helena Koenigsmarkova, who was unfortunately unable to attend. The Protocol for the meeting, as distributed by the secretary in advance, was unanimously accepted.

2) Introduction of new members/ Absences

Several new faces were introduced to the group, the family Bakalowits, with Aglaja, Sophie and Maximilian, Oliver Schach from the Bayerischen Schlossverwaltung and Dr. Otto Baumgärtner, also from Münich. This year, we had several absences of regular participants, these all forwarded their regrets and wished Lobmeyr much success with their celebrations.

3) Election of the vote counters

Paul Schuster agreed to count the votes

4)Presidents Report of activities 2022-2023 and Program for 2023-24

In Mrs. Koenigsmarkova's absence, our Secretary Christina Perrin read out the Report of Activities, praising the meeting in Lisbon the year before, where we also received the invitation from Mr. Peter Rath to attend the festivities in Vienna this year. Otherwise, we had relatively little activity in 2022, a couple of notable reports were published on the website, we lost a couple of members and Mr. Rath and the Working Group Vienna have made some progress on the inventory-taking of chandeliers in Austria.

The outlook for 2023 /24: A further exhibition in celebration of "200 Years Lobmeyr" will open in the UPM in Prague on the 15th or 16th of November, an announcement will be made when the exact date is known. Mrs. Koenigsmarkova had suggested holding the next meeting in Northern Bohemia in 2024. Other options are also welcome and were briefly discussed and noted as possibilities for further years.

5) Treasurers Report for 2022 and Budget for 2023

The Report was reviewed and found to be in order. The controller, Julia Hennig was satisfied with the report. Income has decreased – some members only pay when they attend a meeting, this makes it difficult to support any extra activities of the Association. Despite this, a small profit was made for 2022. (Report is in a separate file available)

6) Relieving of board and election of new board members

Mr. Peter Rath announced last year that this year would be his last year as an active member, we are therefore seeking a replacement for his position as "Keeper of the Minutes" and Reporter.

The existing Board was relieved, new board members are being sought to replace Mr. Rath. Unfortunately, nobody was willing at this time to step forward and assist the Secretary in running the organization, therefore, Mr. Rath agreed to remain in his position for another year. It is a difficult thing to replace him. A 'Reporter' is required, who can write up reports of activities of the association, such as the meetings etc. Someone who can assist with 'PR' work would also be appreciated. Contacting institutions and persons that could be interested in our activities, such as schools and museums would be a bonus. This is naturally a project that anybody could and should do, when appropriate. Olivier and Christina Perrin mention that when they are underway, they frequently mention the Society to people who could find it of interest. Some promotional material is still required, such as a little brochure.

Activities in other countries, inventory etc.
Nothing to report at the moment.

8) Various

No other outstanding topics during the Assembly.

On Saturday, 10th June, we also held a general discussion forum.

During this session, we discussed the need for new members and new ideas. It was suggested that we extend a "Call for Papers" in Universities/Schools in the towns where we hold our meetings. In this way, it would be possible to attract young people that could be interested in our activities and gain their input. We would also like to support their studies by publicizing more openly that our lecture series are open to all, and that students would not be charged to participate. We can perhaps also sponsor some students for our excursions by including them free of charge. The Secretary was concerned about the graphic presentation of invitations/call for papers, other members assured that a simple paper with a description would suffice.

It was suggested that next year, we invite students from the Kamenicky School of Glass for example. Although we have visited Northern Bohemia before, we have never involved the school directly in our activities.