



The Sierra Leone Grammar School
 Alumni Association of North America – Washington, DC Metro Chapter
 Minutes of the General Meeting held on Saturday, February, 7, 2009.
 7:15p.m – 9:35p.m.

Members Present: Billy Jones, Eben ‘Solo’ Collier, Radcliffe Thomas, Alex Williams, Desmond Campbell, Claude Taylor, George Nicol, Prince McCormack, Reenold Thompson, St. Claire Sillah, Edward Pratt Jr., Claude Ina Taylor, and Cyrus Macfoy.

- Opening prayer was said by Mr. Desmond Campbell.
- The President, Dr. Radcliffe Thomas welcomed back two former members, Mr. Claude Ina Taylor and Mr. Edward Ottis Pratt, Jr.
- Minutes of the last meeting (January, 2009) was distributed, read, corrected and accepted.

Matters Arising

- The President, Dr. Radcliffe Thomas read the drafted letter he prepared as requested by members at the last meeting. The letter suggested more open communication about the different chapters’ activities, and will be sent to the other chapters in Atlanta and California.

Thanksgiving Service

- The President informed members that Ms. Joyce Bennett declined the invitation as the Chief Receiver but Ms. Vida During accepted to serve in that capacity at the Thanksgiving service. He also told members that the Grand Chief Patron, Chief Patron, and the preacher, Rev. Alhassan Macauley, have all accepted their invitations.
- Mr. Billy Jones will be in charge of selecting the collectors (Regentonians) at the Thanksgiving service.
- Due to the absence of the chaplain, Rev. Canon Dr. William Lewis who was out of town, the president assured members that the program will be ready for review at the next meeting in March.
- The organizing secretary, Mr. Claude Taylor was requested to enquire about payment and arrangement of the church hall for the reception.
- The assistant organizing secretary, Mr. St. Claire Sillah was assigned the responsibility to contact caterers for the food and report back to members via e-mail in two weeks’ time by February 22, 2009.
- Members present, donated cash and drinks for refreshments at the reception.
- Mr. Desmond Campbell was asked to contact Mr. Babs Decker to videotape the Thanksgiving service, whilst Mr. Reenold Thompson consented to photograph the ceremony.
- The President reminded members that during the reception, members should only serve themselves after the patrons and guests have been served.

Funeral of Mr. Elnathan Osho Coker

- The President informed members that the funeral service of Mr. Elnathan Osho Coker, a former active executive member of the association, will take place on Saturday, February 14, 2009 at 10:00a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Hyattsville, Maryland. He appealed to all to attend the funeral in full ceremonial uniform to pay their last respect to someone who has contributed tremendously to the growth of the association.
- The President also told members that the family of the deceased requested the association to give a tribute eulogizing the late Mr. Osho Coker and for Regentonians to be pall bearers at the funeral service. Members unanimously agreed that the President, Dr. Radcliffe Thomas (as required by the constitution) will give the tribute on behalf of the association.
- On the request by the President to revisit the eligibility of disabled active members as defined in the constitution, the following members were placed on the list: Mr. Leslie Gooding, Mr. Arthur Johnson and Mr. Tunjie Baker.

Website

- The President expressed his desire for the association's website to be active on the internet by March 29, 2009.
- Mr. Claude Ina Taylor made a presentation on the layout of the website he is developing for the school in Freetown. After much discussion about the development of the website, members decided that Mr. Ina Taylor should also communicate with Mr. Emile Faux in Atlanta, who is developing the association's website.

Textbook Drive

- The President showed members a textbook pick-up calendar he created and asked members to select a date on the calendar they can pick up textbooks from the warehouse in Baltimore, Maryland.
- Mr. George Nicol volunteered to check on a shipper and the cost of sending the textbooks to Freetown by the end of February.

A.O.B.

- The President updated members about the new hall contract for the November dance as there had been a change in management.
- The treasurer, Mr. Alex Williams distributed copies of the December financial statement showing an actual cash balance of \$53,111.22
- Closing prayer was said by Desmond Campbell.

Faithfully submitted,
Eben 'Solo' Collier