



Sierra Leone Grammar School Alumni Association of North America
Washington, DC Metro Area Chapter

Minutes of the General Meeting held on Saturday, January 15, 2011.

7:30p.m – 9:20p.m.

Members Present: Radcliffe Thomas, Eben ‘Solo’ Collier, Desmond Campbell, Alexander Williams, Emile Duke Allen, Reenold Thompson, John Davies-Cole, Robert Metzger, Bob Thomas, Cyrus Macfoy, Rev. William Lewis, Cyril French, Prince McCormack, Ralph Taylor-Smith and Warren Max-Browne.

- Opening prayer was said by Mr. Desmond Campbell.
- A minute silence was observed for the late Mr. Michael Billy Jones.
- Minutes of the last meeting (December, 2010) was distributed, read, amended and accepted.
- Excerpts of the minutes to be posted on the website were selected by the agreement of members present.

Matters Arising

- Mr. Reenold Thompson will forward pictures taken at the 2010 Dance to Dr. John Davies-Cole to be reviewed by the website committee for posting on the website.
- The President, Dr. Radcliffe Thomas notified members that the science laboratory equipment and books have finally been delivered to the school after influential intervention by some members of the Old Boys’ Union in Sierra Leone.
- The treasurer, Mr. Alex Williams asked members to fulfill their obligations for the payments of the surplus drinks they requested after the dance.
- The President thanked members for the great turn-out and fitting funeral accorded to Mr. Michael Billy Jones.
- Dr. Bob Thomas also thanked Rev. Canon Dr. William Lewis for his outstanding conduct of the funeral service.
- Mr. Cyril French informed members that Mr. Len Jones, the brother of the late Mr. Michael Billy Jones called him to express his gratitude and appreciation for the support given by the association.
- Dr. Robert Metzger opined that Regentonians should not be allowed to participate in any of our formal alumni functions such as Thanksgiving services and funeral services, if they are not in full/complete ceremonial uniform. In this regard, members agreed on the following decisions:
 - a) Prior notices will be sent out to Regentonians informing them that full/complete ceremonial uniform must be worn to participate.
 - b) Written notices will be given out to all Regentonians present at the start of any of these formal ceremonies about being in full/complete ceremonial uniform to participate.

- The Assistant Secretary, Mr. Desmond Campbell was requested to make the necessary follow-up telephone calls to Regentonians whenever e-mails are sent out by the President. Mr. Desmond Campbell also appealed to members to assist him in these follow-up calls.

Annual Thanksgiving Service

- The President notified members that the annual Thanksgiving service will take place on March 27, 2011 at the Episcopal Church of our Saviour at Silver Spring in Maryland. He also informed members that Rev. Canon Dr. William Lewis has made preliminary booking for the church and asked members to present nominations for the Grand Chief Patron, Chief Patron, Chief Receiver and receivers at the next meeting in February.
- Several names for the preacher were presented for Rev. Canon Dr. William Lewis to vet for final selection.

Partnership with Hun Middle School of Princeton in New Jersey

- Dr. Ralph Taylor-Smith briefed members about his communication with Mr. Alim Macauley, a Regentonian in New Jersey who had informed him about the interest of Mr. Jeff Snow, Principal of Hun Middle School of Princeton in New Jersey, partnering with the Sierra Leone Grammar School in Sierra Leone.
- Dr. Ralph Taylor-Smith told members that Mr. Jeff Snow would like to establish fraternal relationship with the association to discuss ways to form this partnership.
- The President, Dr. Radcliffe Thomas promised to contact Mr. Jeff Snow by e-mail to initiate dialogue on this matter.
- Dr. Bob Thomas also notified the President that from discussions he had with Mr. Lasite on his visit to the school in December, 2010, it is evident that Mr. Lasite will be able to make a decision about moving forward with the partnership with Kings College of Jamaica. He therefore implored the President to remind Mr. Lasite about taking further steps with the school partnership.

Other Matters

- As the financial year ends in March, members were reminded to fulfill their obligations for their annual membership dues.
- Dr. John Davies-Cole announced that the website committee will teleconference on Tuesday, January 18, 2011, starting at 9:00pm.
- Mr. Warren Max-Browne volunteered to assist Mr. Cyril French to make telephone calls to solicit funds for the restoration of the Regents Olympic Football Club. Pledges were also made by members at the meeting.
- Mr. Cyril French promised to e-mail Mr. Herbert M'cleod in Freetown with an update about our fund-raising activity for the Regents Olympic Football Club.
- It was unanimously agreed that a message of condolence, on behalf of the association, should be sent to Mr. Lasite on the death of Mr. David Fraser, a very devoted Regentonian in Sierra Leone.
- A decision to continue the yearly publication of the Regentonian magazine/newsletter was made and the committee was summoned to plan on the publication.
- Closing prayer was said by Rev. Canon Dr. William Lewis

Faithfully submitted,
Dr. Eben 'Solo' Collier