



The Sierra Leone Grammar School
 Alumni Association of North America – Washington, DC Metro Chapter
 Minutes of the General Meeting held on Saturday, January 17, 2009.
 7:15p.m – 9:25p.m.

Members Present: Billy Jones, Eben ‘Solo’ Collier, Radcliffe Thomas, Alex Williams, Desmond Campbell, Bob Thomas, John Davies-Cole, Mohamed Fadika, Cyril French, Claude Taylor, George Nicol, Chrispin O’conner, Rev. William Lewis, Robert Metzger, Prince McCormack, and Reenold Thompson.

- Opening prayer was said by Mr. Desmond Campbell.
- Minutes of the last meeting (December, 2008) was distributed, read, corrected and accepted.

Matters Arising

- Mr. Chrispin O’conner appealed to the President to ask the alumni chapters in Atlanta and California to make known their activities to this association which he said is the parent body and the primary representative of alumni in North America. After much discussion on the constitutionality of this association being the representative body of alumni in North America, it was resolved that communication between all the chapters should be improved so that ideas can be exchanged, important matters/projects collectively discussed and minutes of meetings shared regularly to all members.
- The President, Dr. Radcliffe Thomas promised to convey this message to the other chapters in Atlanta and California by drafting a letter to be presented to members at the next meeting.

Thanksgiving Service

- The President informed members that this year’s Thanksgiving service will take place at the Episcopal Church of Our Saviour at 1700 Powder Mill Road in Maryland at 3:30p.m.
- The association’s chaplain, Rev. Dr. Canon William Lewis promised to prepare the church service program by the next meeting in February.
- The following people were voted to serve at the Thanksgiving service on March 29, 2009, in these capacities:
 - Grand Chief Patron – Dr. Keddy James
 - Chief Patron – Mrs. Daphne Williams
 - Chief Receiver – Ms. Joyce Bennette
 - Receivers – Ms. Saudatu Zubairu and Ms. Ifeh George
- Due to the unavailability of detailed information about one of the nominated preachers, it was decided that members visit his website, then vote by e-mail communication during the week of January 19, 2009 to select the preacher.

- Mr. George Nicol volunteered to print the flyers and envelopes for the Thanksgiving service for distribution by the next general meeting in February, 2009.
- It was agreed that members will donate money and drinks towards refreshments for the Thanksgiving service at the next general meeting in February.

Website

- The President informed members that the website committee decided to have the association's website active on the internet by March 29. He also told members that \$200 was sent to Mr. Emile Faux in Atlanta to register the domain names for the associations in Freetown, Washington, DC Metro Area, Atlanta and California.
- Mr. Gerald Cline-Cole, Mr. Emile Faux and Ms. Georgetta Nicol will work together to have a framework for the website that will be presented to members at the next meeting in February.
- Members agreed that the association will pay the fees to maintain the web pages for the association in Freetown.

A.O.B.

- The President appealed to members to pay their dues as the financial year comes to an end in March. He suggested for another "Paying back the Gift" telethon by next meeting in February.
- The Vice President, Mr. Cyril French was appointed by the President to be in charge of brainstorming members on how to get additional funds to support special projects.
- Mr. George Nicol presented samples of the school's hats, ties and crests that were ordered and have been received. He was also assigned the duty to check on a shipper to send the materials and books to Freetown.
- Mr. Alex Williams reported that on his visit to the school in December, 2008, Mr. Lasite promised to look into the request for an account to be opened where money can be transferred from the US account.
- Dr. Bob Thomas who also visited the school, told members that the school enrolment has reached 900 and they were informed of potential investment to assist the school financially. He also indicated that the library, computer room and classrooms are the major building projects.
- The treasurer, Mr. Alex Williams distributed copies of the December financial statement showing an actual cash balance of \$55,261.05
- Closing prayer was said by Dr. Oliver Davies-Cole.

Faithfully submitted,
Eben 'Solo' Collier