

## MINUTES OF OPASS ALUMNI OF NORTH AMERICA MEETING

DATE: March 4, 2012

LOCATION: Via conference call

IN ATTENDANCE: Robert Henking, Benjamin Awuah, Maj. (Ret.) Twum Achampong, Evans Twum Danso, Johnny Amenyah, Dr. Arthur, Franklin Agyekum, Charles Appiah, Godfried Opoku Bugyei, Edna Takyi, Albert Modey, Steve Oduro, Elsie Abu and Doris Awuah.

Sam Agyei sent text during the meeting to indicate his inability to join the conference.

Meeting was called to order by the President Robert Henking at 9:20PM. Issues discussed were as follows:

### CORRESPONDENCE:

A review of the latest monthly banking statements indicated the association's account is being charged a monthly fee (\$10-\$15) for failing to meet a minimum amount in the account requirement. Maj. (Ret.) Twum Acheampong (Major) indicated this was due to ongoing changing banking regulations and that he will check with Bank of America and find how best to handle the association's account without incurring any unnecessary charges. A report of his finding and recommendations will be submitted at the next meeting for consideration.

### UPCOMING CONFERENCE:

- The President reported that hotel information for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion scheduled for Woodbridge, Virginia on May 26, 2012 is available and will be provided as part of the announcement for the Reunion to be put the OPASS website.
- During discussion on whether to have food catered for the meeting in Voorhees, New Jersey, Major indicated that an amount of \$400 was voted for last year's meeting and used to buy supplies such as paper plates, cutlery, napkins and other miscellaneous items. The decision on whether to cater and/or provide food for the meeting was put off for subsequent association meetings.
- With regard to the time for the meeting, it was agreed that due to the time constraints on the use of the venue – Silky Smooth Dance Studio, the meeting will be as follows:  
8:00PM – Set up  
9:00PM-2:00PM – Meeting/Party  
2:00PM – Clean up  
An additional hour at the cost of \$100 was to be negotiated at the signing of the contract for the venue, bringing the total cost for the venue to be \$900.00.
- Following a short discussion, it was agreed that the theme for the 7<sup>th</sup> Reunion shall be: OPASS GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION. On the issue of a Guest Speaker for the occasion, it was agreed that efforts should be made to contact some old OPASS teachers who are currently in the United States and Canada to see if any of them will be available to chair the occasion.

Franklin Agyekum indicated he will try and contact Mr. and Mrs. Sarweh who were in Ames, Iowa and report back at the next meeting. Major also suggested that the authorities at OPASS should be contacted so that a copy of the official video for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration would be made available to be shown during the reunion in Virginia. Steven Oduro hinted he will be in Ghana during the third week of March and will endeavor to return with the copy of the video if it is available.

- Major (Ret.) Twum Achampong volunteered to get the banner for the reunion updated accordingly.

#### SICK BAY PROJECT UPDATE:

- Information available indicated that the roofing sheets have been ordered and should be ready for pick up within the next two weeks.

#### NEW BUSSINESS & MATTERS ARISING:

- Committee made up of Major, Ben Awuah and Godfried Bugyei is working on constitutional amendments regarding benefits for the general membership and other matters such as direction and restructuring of the format for the reunion meetings.
- Members in the various regions were encouraged to try and hold regional meetings as part of membership drives prior to the annual reunion meeting in Virginia.
- Next meeting is scheduled for Sunday March 18 at 9:00PM prompt Eastern Standard Time.

Meeting ended at 10:05PM after the motion to end was moved by Major and seconded by Evans.

Respectfully submitted by Charles Appiah