

MINUTES FOR THE GENERAL MEETING

OPASS ALUMINI ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA

DATE: SUNDAY JANUARY 17, 2016

CONFERENCE CALLING NUMBER: 712 432 1620 CODE: 873366#

AGENDA:

Previous Minutes discussion

1. General Updates
2. Plans for next reunion
3. Membership drive
4. Other Matters

MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. POSITIVE SOWANI ----- VIRGINIA
2. JOHNNIE AMENYAH-----VIRGINIA
3. EVANS TWUM-DANSO-----SOUTH CAROLINA
4. CHARLES APPIAH-----VIRGINIA
5. BEN AWUAH-----TEXAS
6. ALEX BOATENG-----TEXAS
7. DORIS AWUAH-----TEXAS
8. MABEL GYAMBIBI-----VIRGINIA
9. ROBERT HENKING-----TEXAS
10. EDITH ABBEO-----NEW YORK
11. GIFTY OFORI-----NEW YORK
12. OKOAMPA DANSO-----New YORK
13. SAMUEL QUAYE-----MARYLAND
14. BEN MODEY-----CONNECTICUT
15. JANET BREDU-----MISSOURI
16. EDINA TAKYI-----TEXAS
17. JANET AMPADU-----CONNECTICUT
18. GODFRIED (CASTRO) BUGYEI-----CALIFORNIA
19. VIDA MANU ----- NEW YORK

Meeting started at 9: 15 p.m. eastern time, Mr. President welcome all members. He started by expressing his apologies to members for not be able to forward the minutes of the previous meeting to members. He went through the minutes and said he will forward it later. He then started with the agenda for the meeting. He informed us that Major Twum- Acheampong had left to Ghana, Castro Bugyei will give an update on our finances and Henking will provide some feedback following his recent trip to Ghana.

The President informed the meeting based on the cost involved we could not go forward with the idea of undertaking the KVIP Project. He indicated we have decided to put a first aid kit together for

the Sick Bay and this will be financed with voluntary contributions from members. A list of needed supplies has been received from the school nurse and the list had been given to the committee handling the first aid kit for review and action as necessary.

Edna, the committee spokesperson, said they have gone through the list and suggested that we cannot provide all the medication. The committee decided that they will check over the counter medication and come out with a new list of items we can provide for the next meeting.

Castro suggested that we should contact Nana Agyeman in Ghana, and send him the money to buy the medication in Ghana for us. Mr. President asked the financial secretary if we have collected enough money and it was indicated we only have \$270 collected out of the proposed \$500 we initially intended to raise.

It was suggested that whatever has been collected so far should be sent for the first aid to without going into the association's coffers to supplement.

Henking gave a brief summary of his observations when he went to the school during his recent visit to Ghana. He said everything looks good so far about the Sick Bay. The building was equipped with a refrigerator and medicine cabinet among other things. Currently a resident registered nurse has been employed and sometimes she spends the night on campus, so there is the need to provide a television set in one of the rooms for her. The rooms have beds that can hold at least 10 students at any time.

Finances:

Balance as at meeting time is \$8109 on deposit in our bank account in addition to the \$270 donations collected for the first aid supplies. Those who have not made any donation towards the first aid supplies were encouraged to contribute whatever they could. It was also indicated that Nana Agyemang in Accra is ready to provide any assistance we may require in procuring the first aid items.

2016 Reunion:

Scheduled for weekend of May 26, 2016 in Houston, Texas.

Host committee provided updates as follows: The hall which can be occupied by at least 50 people had been secured.

Hotels locations and prices will be sent to the president to be made available to all members. Folks were encouraged to purchase their tickets early in order to take advantage of traveling deals.

Nearest airports are Bush International or William Hobby Airport.

Hotels are 5 to 10 minutes away from the hall.

It was suggested to try and see if all members can stay in one hotel.

Additional Information for the Reunion:

Location:

The address of the Hall for the Reunion is:

12709 Beechnut St., Suite 160

Houston TX 77072

Edna Takyi Residence:

17822 Planters Path Lane

Richmond TX 77407

Recommended Hotels:

Below are 4 hotels recommended and close to the venue

1. Scottish Inns & Suites

8415 Hwy 6 south
Houston TX 77083
Tel: 1-866-573-4235

2. Comfort Suites

7111 Rancho Mission Dr.
Houston TX 77407
Tel: 1-866-678-6350

3. Holiday Inn Express & Suites

2205 Barker Oaks Dr
Houston TX 77407
Tel: 1-866-767-0278

4. Hilton Garden Inn Houston/Sugarland

722 Bonaventure Way,
Sugar Land TX 77407
Tel: 1-866-925-8676

Membership Drive:

Membership drive is of great concern for the growth of the association, therefore each member should make it their priority to invite their classmates as much as possible. It was suggested that the ambassadors in the various regions should take charge of the membership drive. An attempt should also be made to reconnect with those who have become dormant.

Other Matters:

The 88 group which is Ben Awuah mates, had donated a Urinal KVIP to the girl's dorm to ease the acute sanitary concerns in the school. There are about 1000 girls students using only one KVIP in the girl's dorm which is not normal and healthy. Despite our concerns it was indicated that, at the moment we do not have the finance to go build the needed additional KVIP for the dormitories. A suggestion was made to explore finding other less expensive projects to undertake and also seek new estimates for the KVIP project.

In the absence of any more questions, contributions or discussions, the next meeting was scheduled for Sunday February 21, 2016.

Samuel Quaye moved that the meeting be adjourned and this was seconded by Edith Abbeo.
Meeting ended at about 10:15PM.

