

**OPASS ALUMINI ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA**  
**MINUTES FOR THE GENERAL MEETING**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 22, 2016

CONFERENCE CALLING NUMBER: 712 432 1620 CODE: 873366#

AGENDA:

1. Previous minutes discussion
2. Update on proposed KVIP
3. Plans for next reunion
4. Membership drive
5. Other Matters

MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. ELSIE ABU-----OHIO
2. GINA ABU-----OHIO
3. JOHNNIE AMENYAH-----VIRGINIA
4. EVANS TWUM-DANSO-----SOUTH CAROLINA
5. CHARLES APPIAH-----VIRGINIA
6. BEN AWUAH-----TEXAS
7. ALEX BOATENG-----TEXAS
8. DORIS AWUAH-----TEXAS
9. MABEL GYAMBIBI-----VIRGINIA
10. ROBERT HENKING-----TEXAS
11. EDITH ABBEO-----NEW YORK
12. GIFTY OFORI-----NEW YORK
13. DERRICK AMANKYE-----DELAWARE
14. SAMUEL QUAYE-----MARYLAND
15. BEN MODEY-----CONNECTICUT
16. JANET BREDU-----MISSOURI
17. EDNA TAKYI-----TEXAS
18. JANET AMPADU-----CONNECTICUT
19. OPOKU OBUGYEI-----CALIIFORNIA
20. VIDA MANU ----- NEW YORK

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Maj. (Rtd) Fred Twum Acheampong

The meeting started at 9: 15 pm eastern time, with greetings and special welcome to all and those joining the forum for the first time by the President, Johnnie Amenyah. A review of the previous minutes which had been mailed out earlier to all was carried out and there being no corrections, the minutes was accepted and made of record. He indicated that Major Twum-Acheampong would not be joining us as he was away attending a funeral.

1. Update on KVIP Project

First item on the agenda was the previously discussed KVIP Project. The President discussed how we had thought we could build the KVIP with the amount of \$5,000, but upon further

inquiries it now appears, the money needed for the project would be about \$25,000, which is more than what we were in a position to raise and commit to the project. The floor was opened for discussion. The financial secretary indicated he believes this project would be very capital intensive, would take quite some time to complete based on our experience with the sick bay project. He suggested that we should take a project that we can afford and finish on time. It was suggested that Major had initially, brought the idea of the KVIP and the estimated amount of about 5,000 dollars was thought to be reasonable for us to build this KVIP. Maybe Major would be needed to shed more light and provide details further details on how he came up with the initial estimate for the proposed project.

Dr. Amakye suggested that we should come up with another project if we think we could not afford the KVIP.

During the discussion it was suggested that we should contact the school authorities to find out if the KVIP project had been started so that we can assist them to finish it, however it was agreed that we should rather decide and come up with a project that we can start and complete by our group entirely. However, if the school brings a proposal and we can afford it we will give it serious consideration. The President indicated that our decision regarding the KVIP would be communicated to the school authorities

A suggestion was made that we should think and come up with a plan for maintaining the sick bay on a regular basis such as repainting the building every two years.

## **2. Finances**

The financial secretary reported that our current balance at the bank was \$7,789.33. Members were encouraged to continue paying their dues and make voluntary contributions in order to increase our financial position.

## **3. Next Year Reunion:**

It was reiterated that our 2016 reunion was fixed for Houston Texas. The Planning Committee briefed members on what had been planned so far the preparation of the re-union. Mr. Alex Boateng and Edna indicated they have started looking for a venue and affordable hotels but the Sunday brunch will be held in Edna's home. Any progress on the planning will be reported during our next meeting in December scheduled

## **4. Membership Drive:**

The President indicated that all should update their emails and other pertinent information so all communication can reach as many as possible. Members should also continue to keep linking up as many old students as possible and advertise the existence of our Alumni Association in order to expand and broaden our group as we invite new members to our meetings.

## **5 Other Matters**

The President gave a brief update and report on the Sick Bay inauguration and the handing over to the school authorities. Arrangements have been made for a nurse to visit two days in a week. For maintenance purposes we have agreed in principle to paint the building for them every two years.

There was a suggestion that we should send further furnish the Sick Bay with first aid items to which there was another suggestion for voluntary contributions to purchase the first aid items. It was suggested that all present at the meeting should each contribute \$20 towards this project. Members agreed and members were encouraged to send their contributions to the financial secretary. Castro said he will send his address to all members, so that they can channel the money to him. He will then buy the first aid items and ship it to the school. Mr. President, once again thanked each and everyone who attended the meeting. Ben Modey, the Vice President moved the meeting to a close, and it was seconded by Samuel Quaye. The next meeting was scheduled for Sunday 20th December, 2015.