

**OPASS Old Students Association of North America
General Meeting, held Sunday April 26, 2015**

In Attendance:

- Robert Ampaw Henking
- Ben Awuah
- Doris Awuah
- Charles Appiah
- Edith Abbew
- Evans Twum Danso
- Johnnie Amenyah
- Godfried Bugyei (Castro)
- Major (Rtd) Fred Twum Acheampong
- Edna Takyi
- Okoampah Danso
- Gifty Ofori
- Jayne Ampadu
- Dorcas Pabbi
- Bern Alive (Bernard Modey)
- Positive Sowarnii
- Joyce Mensah
- Sam Quaye

Absent with Apologies

Derek Amakye

Agenda

Opening Prayer

Minutes – review

Correspondence Mail

Financial Report / Treasurer's report

OLD BUSINESS – UPDATES

Sick bay update -Keys, Electricity, Plaque, Ceremony

2015 Reunion - Theme, Food, Drinks, Brunch

Supplemental Sports Equipment Update

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Bereavement – Dr. Lartey, Charity Dankyi

7. Adjournment / next meeting

Meeting started at 9:15 with opening prayer by Mr. President

Mail/Correspondence

No correspondence has been.

Alex Boateng sent a check for \$100.

Account Balance

Current account balance is \$3,930.62 plus a check of \$100 yet to be deposited.

Sick Bay Updates

Castro has been to the school and has officially handed over the keys to the Headmaster.

Bugyei provided an update on his recent trip to the School. He met with the Headmaster a week ago. A tour of the facilities was done and an official handover was done to the headmaster. The Electricity power is still yet to be done. There was a little bit of plumbing work was yet to be completed and Nana Addo is already taking care of that. A discussion was held about the plaque/name of the sick bay was held. The Administration was thankful. The expressed deep appreciation to the people who contributed to the construction of the Sick Bay.

With respect to furnishing the Sick Bay, the headmaster acknowledged that they know it is their responsibility now to furnish the place.

He encouraged the old students to continue supporting the school. They also expressed gratitude for the sports equipment donation. He could not track down the Sports master and hence could not see

In addition, Bugyei toured the dining hall and the kitchen facilities in the school. The kitchen was in a state of severe disrepair.

An update has been shared by Major (Rtd) Fred Twum Acheampong on the plaque for the sick bay. The prices are as follows

- 8" x 14" - \$355.00
- 10" x 14" - 424.00
- 12" x 14" - 480.00
- 14" x 16" - 590.00

It takes about 4 weeks to get it ready and shipped to us.

Based on e-mail votes and general discussions at the meeting, members were in favor of the 12" X 14" plus shipping, it will costs roughly \$550.

Charles Appiah moved that we spend the money from our accounts to get the plaque

We will arrange a formal dedication ceremony for the Sick Bay in the summer

2015 Reunion

Location: Silver Spring, Maryland.

This Year will be our 10th Anniversary. Memorial Day Weekend, May23/24th 2015.

Everything is on course for the reunion. The next steps are to promote the event through African Stores, Radio stations and Social media.

The Sunday brunch will be held at Vida Somuah (Asante)'s place. The hotels etc. are close to Vida's place.

A suggested Theme was: **“A Decade of Dedicated Services to our Alma Mater”**

Preparation updates are as follows:

1. Finger foods for the Saturday night. We will try and use the same caterer used for last year.
2. Drinks - The gentlemen will provide as usual
3. It is recommended that we use suit/evening wear /evening dress for the occasion/Decently dressed to make it formal and appropriate to the milestone event.
4. Sunday brunch, we will encourage members to come in the anniversary T-shirts. Some contribution will be made to help the hosts for the brunch
5. A suggestion to make a cake for the anniversary

Elections

Positions of President and other key positions are up for re-elections this year and we need to have volunteers step forward to help steer the affairs of the association

Fund Raising

We currently do not have a main target to raise funds to. Past experiences with fundraising activities like the inter-houses have not been very successful. Some pledges were never paid up. A member suggested that we still do the inter houses fund raising drive but we should not take pledges. In order to help raise some funds from our guests, members suggested that we do a brown envelope donation

Supplemental Sports Equipment Donation

Missing items were about \$82. Alex Boateng pledged some support at the last meeting, and hence with prior approval from the President, Major (Rtd) has already bought the items and the shipper has picked them up for shipping

Appreciation for Nana Agyemeng

A plaque for Nana Agyemang for his support during the construction of the Sick Bay was discussed. Charles Appiah will look into what we can do and report back at the next meeting. It may be nice to have the presentation made to Nana Agyemang at the dedication of the sick bay.

Anniversaries/Bereavements

News gleaned from Facebook suggests that former Headmaster, Adwedaa passed away

Dr. Lartey's Mother passed away in Ohio. Her body will be sent to Ghana

Charity Dankyi also lost the Mother.

Okoampah Danso's will have the funeral ceremony for his mother in Ghana in June and in NYC in July

We will have a minute's silence at the Reunion

A.O.B

Flyers and radio announcements should be started as soon as possible on Akwaaba radio and Highlife radio to advertise the event. We are planning to make 10th anniversary T-shirts. Sticking to the idea of having the T-shirts in OPASS colors, we will make some blue and white T-shirts.

We are also making Key Chain souvenirs.

The next monthly meeting will be Next Sunday May 3, with final update meeting on May 17.

Edith moved for the closure and was seconded by Johnnie for closure. The meeting ended at 10:34