

**OPASS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA**

**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING**

**ACCESS PHONE NUMBER 712-432 -1620 CODE 873366**

DATE: 15th July 2015

**AGENDA:**

1. Welcome and introduction of new executives
2. Review of 2015 Reunion
3. Update on sick bay project
4. Finances
5. Membership drive and contact information
6. Database
7. A.O.B

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

1. Johnnie Amenyah-----Virginia
2. Alex Boateng-----Texas
3. Charles Appiah-----Virginia
4. Peter Asiamah-----Utah
5. Evans Twum-Danso-----South Carolina
6. Modey (Ben Allve)-----Connecticut
7. Robert Henking-----Texas
8. Ben Awuah -----Texas
9. Roberta Abeka-----Maryland
10. Samuel Quaye-----Maryland
11. Godfried Bugyei-----California
12. Edina Takyi-----TEXAS
13. Sandra Okyere-----Ohio
14. Lartey Kingsley-----Ohio
15. Okonpa Danso-----New York
16. Ruth Osafo-----Ohio
17. Janet Ampadu-----Connecticut
18. Elsie Abu-----Ohio
19. Gina Abu-----Ohio
- 20.

- The meeting started at 9:15 EST

Johnnie Amenyah, the new president introduced himself and welcomed members for making it possible to attend the first general meeting after the reunion.

He then introduce the new executive members

President----- Johnnie Amenyah

Vice President----- Mody Ben- Alive  
Financial Secretary ----- Godfried Abugyei  
Organizing Secretary-----Charles Appiah  
Interim Secretary----- Evans Twum- Danso

It was agreed that all regional ambassadors should continue in their respective positions. Special acknowledgment was given for the pioneering work of the previous presidents and their respective assistants: Ben Awuah, Major (Rtd) Twum-Acheampong, Robert Henking, Edina Takyi and Charles Appiah.

The outgoing President acknowledged how the association has reached the current milestone through teamwork and contributions in diverse ways from all and he further encouraged all members to continue with the great team work to support the new coming president.

## 2. Recap and Review of 2015 Reunion:

By all who managed to attend the reunion in Silver Spring Maryland the 10th anniversary celebration was a big success and special thanks was given to the hosts and the organizing committee.

Financial contributions was also very encouraging

More than 50 members, families and friends were in attendance during the two day celebration, which was very encouraging, and hopefully subsequent celebrations would be attended with increasing numbers.

A big area of improvement is the need to be punctual and show up on scheduled time in order to ensure use of allotted time for reunion events.

## 3. Sick Bay Project

It was reported that finally all construction work has been completed on the sick bay project, including installation of electrical equipment, beds and other furniture.

The official inauguration had been undertaken at the school

The plaque from the association had been installed and Major (rtd) Fred Twum Acheampong and Edith Abbeo who were in Ghana represented the association during the inauguration with full TV3 and newspaper coverage. They will present a full report on their return to the United States. TV 3 Covered the inauguration, made newspaper, video coverage by Edith.

It was also announced that the '93 year group donated a water tank to be used at the sick bay.

It was also brought to members' attention that rumors were going around that the '79 year group were those who constructed the sick bay. Robert Henking indicated that he had cleared the confusion by posting that it was the Old student association of North America who were responsible for the entire project with special help from one 79 year group old student, Nana Agyemang Boadu.

The Association did not need to purchase beds for the sick bay as initially thought. This is because Major was able to negotiate for beds that did not cost us anything. Thanks Major for your dedication and selfless service to the Association. However, it was indicated that the Association should help in purchasing cabinets and other items like a television to make the sick bay complete. Hopefully we shall undertake this without undue delay.

## 4. Finances

Godfried Bugyei, the financial secretary reported that as at July 15 2015 the balance in the association's account was \$7,789.

The recent reunion held in Silver Spring, Maryland yielded a total of \$ 5356 out of which there was an expenditure of \$780, leaving a balance of \$4576

Reunion Income Statement	
Revenue (dues, reunion fees, others) -----	5, 356
EXPENSES:	
Host honorium -----	400
D J fees-----	350
Tips to security men	30
	780
Net Income-----	4,576

The financial secretary said we did well but we can do better. And also some people were not able to attend but they contributed. We should encourage members who cannot make it to the annual reunion to send their donations.

Membership Drive:

Updating of contact information:

Mr. President said we have about 95 email addresses and when he sent out messages, there was only 2 that did not go through. Also out of 90 phone numbers only 2 appeared incorrect and as such we all should make every effort to contact as many as we can.

Floor was opened for ideas that would help in bringing more members to the association.

It was suggested that the ambassadors have to contact identified folks in their respective regions including updating them about the association's activities to

There is the need to update the association's database, to get and share non-private information about members

A suggestion was made to create a Group WhatsUp account for the association as long as members would be mindful of what they post on group site which should be strictly for the association business.

OTHER BUSINESS;

Dr. Kingsley Lartey expressed his sincere thanks to members of the association who joined him for his mother's funeral in Columbus Ohio and all those who in diverse ways including prayers also supported him during his loss. He did mention that we made history by our association members attending a funeral and presenting ourselves to the community

The financial secretary indicated that overall we roughly spent about \$25,000 and the 79 group contributed about 2000ghc towards the sick bay project

The president said there will be a report about the history of the sick bay.

Samuel Quaye moved to bring the meeting to an end

Robesta Abeka seconded and the president adjourned the meeting and schedule the next general meeting for the 13<sup>th</sup> of September 2015.

Prepared by Evans Twum Danso, Secretary