

THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF GUYANA ASSOCIATION (UK)

(Registered Charity No 801250)

**(UNADOPTED) MINUTES OF THE
TWENTY-FIFTH POST-INAUGURAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON SATURDAY 23RD NOVEMBER 2013
AT THE GUYANA HIGH COMMISSION, LONDON**

1 PRELIMINARIES

1.1 Present

Non-Executive Officers

Vice-Presidents Henry O Edwards and Derek G Hugh.

Management Committee

S Mark D Dalgety – Chairman J Mark Adamson

C Ian C Wishart – Actg Hon. Secretary Dr Peter D Fraser

Praveen D Hanoman – Hon. Treasurer

Co-opted members: Mrs E Claire Carballo, Dr Christopher J Chunnillall, and Bruce M Nóbrega (part time).

Other Attendees

Eight members and four guests as listed in the appended attendance sheet.

1.2 Apologies for Absence

Mrs Patricia F Brewster, (President) Dr Neville O Linton, Leila D Persaud, Ruth-Anne Lynch, Peter E McLean and Ivor E Ying.

1.3 Chairman's Introductory Remarks/Valete

The meeting opened with Mark Dalgety in the chair. He explained that Neville Linton was unable to attend due to a recent eye operation, and welcomed those present, with special reference to first-timers and guests. He then asked the meeting to stand and observe a minute's silence for those former pupils known to have died since the previous AGM. The names were read out by Mark Adamson.

2 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH POST-INAUGURAL AGM HELD ON 10.11.12

Noting that the minutes had been previously circulated, President called for a motion that they be taken as read. This was proposed by Joseph Le Roi-Smith, seconded by Fred Weston, and carried *nem.con*.

There being no amendments to the minutes, Chairman then called for a motion for their adoption. This was proposed by Joseph, seconded by Mark Adamson, and carried *nem. con*.

3 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4 ADOPTION OF TRUSTEES' REPORT AND THE ACCOUNTS

Treasurer noted that copies of the Independent Examiner's Report, the Trustees' Report and the Accounts and Notes thereon were before the meeting. He briefly ran through the reports explaining the contents under each heading. On the accounts, he highlighted the cost of ties and microscope bulbs donated to the school, at a cost of £2365. The Association's income had significantly decreased compared with the previous year, but that year's income had been enhanced due to the response by life members to a special appeal.

Secretary emphasised that the ties were donated to QCOSA for them to sell to the students, the resulting income being used for initiatives such as the special awardees' programme. Although the profit on the Family Barbecue was disappointingly low (£70), extra income was obtained from members who made donations in lieu of their attendance.

There being no questions on the Trustees' Report and Accounts, Chairman called for a motion for their acceptance. This was proposed by Joseph Le Roi-Smith, seconded by Claire Carballo, and carried *nem. con.*

On behalf of the meeting, Joseph then thanked the Committee for their work during the year.

5 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER FOR 2013–14

Carl Warren had expressed his willingness to remain as Independent Examiner. The motion for his appointment was then proposed by Peter Fraser, seconded by Fred Weston, and carried *nem. con.*

6 SPONSORSHIP WEBSITE

Chairman said that a special website would soon be launched, whose aim was to raise funds for the school from alumni wherever they were. In the past we had been the foremost of the alumni associations in making donations to the school, but we were not making as much profit from our events as before. Reduced attendance could be attributed to the membership growing older. However if we could tap into even 10% of the wider diaspora and encourage them to donate regularly, we should be able to raise significant funds. Payments would be made through PayPal. Secretary said one problem to be addressed was the need to identify UK taxpayers who "gift-aided" their donations. The site would display a "wish list" obtained from the Headmistress, but to which individual teachers could contribute

Members welcomed the initiative.

Dave Debidin suggested that a way of attracting income would be to diversify the Association's activities, for example organising a cricket match to which an admission fee could be charged. He could offer a ground free of charge. The Barbados High Commission ran a successful annual event by attracting certain well known players. Secretary suggested the Clive Lloyd might be able to help in this regard. Dave said he was in touch with Clive.

7 ICQC MATTERS

7.1 Presentation

Chris Chunnillall began his report by briefly outlining ICQC's terms of reference. There had been little activity during the last year, but he felt that the new committee, elected at the Annual Business Meeting held here in London, should improve matters. Overseas delegates attending the ABM were from the Guyana, New York and Toronto Associations. There was a new headmistress who had compiled a "wish list". However further discussion was needed between

the headmistress, the Board of Governors and ICQC to refine and prioritise the list. Individual alumni associations could target items on the list.

An on-going project, led by the Toronto Association, concerned improvement in the teaching of physics. Toronto is prepared to fund a visit to Guyana by (former head- and physics master) Clarence Trotz. However feedback was awaited from the school and the Board.

Other proposals were to build a sports pavilion/stand, and to install a classroom intercom system – funded by Toronto – and a PA system for the auditorium – which may be funded or partly funded by a donation from the Guyana (Masonic) Lodge (UK).

ICQC officers for the next two years are:

- President – Mark Dalgety (ex officio, as Chairman of the ABM's host association)
- Executive Secretary – Alfred Granger (New York)
- Deputy Executive Secretary – Gordon Wilson (New York)
- Recording Secretary – Victor Moses (Toronto)
- Fund-raising Coordinator – Eden Gajraj (Toronto).

Chairman added that he had visited QC in October, and found the new headmistress to be enthusiastic and communicative. On a tour of the school he found that the chemistry lab lacked reagents. The headmistress and those teachers that he met were supportive of the sponsorship website. However he felt that the pupils were spending too much time on extra lessons (a way some teachers supplemented their incomes), and there was a need for a more rounded education.

[The full report is appended.]

7.2 Discussion

Derek Hugh questioned the need for a pavilion/stand as sports were not being played and the ground was not being maintained. Ian Wishart interjected that he had raised the same point at the recent ABM. Derek reminded the meeting of his previous proposal that the sports ground be leased to a local club that would maintain it [2010 AGM] and had asked Clive Lloyd, now resident in Guyana, to pursue the matter.

Allison Lindner asked whether the annual sports still took place, and Chris replied that they had been held last year.

Secretary reminded the meeting that the Guyana Lodge's promised donation was dependent upon there being a plaque installed to commemorate the donation. The auditorium PA system had to be kept separate from Toronto's classroom intercom project. Chris replied that this could be achieved, but there was common technical input.

Secretary went on to mention that a thank you card had been received from the headmistress for our recent donation of microscope bulbs.

On the subject of sport, Treasurer said badminton, table tennis and basketball were regularly played – sports that did not require a ground.

8 CHARITY COMMISSION'S NEW DRAFT STATEMENT OF RECOMMENDED PRACTICE

Secretary apologised for being unable to deliver the briefing. He had asked Carl Warren for guidance on the salient points, but left the follow-up too late, and Carl was away. He could find no reference to the document on Charity Commission's website. However any changes affecting the Association would be for the Committee – the Trustees – to action. Treasurer added that the changes were likely to affect only the larger charities.

9 ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

Chairman announced that the Management Committee proposed that **Neville Linton** be re-elected President; nominations could also be made from the floor. There being none, Neville was duly declared President.

10 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-PRESIDENTS

Chairman said that the Management Committee proposed that the following be re-appointed Vice-Presidents:

- **John O V Rafferty**, MBE (immediate past President)
- **Brigadier David A Man**
- **Sir Shridath S Ramphal**, GCMG, OE OM(Jam), OCC
- **M Trevor Phillips**, OBE
- **Henry O Edwards**
- **Derek G Hugh**
- **Ivor E Ying**
- **J R Gary Ramprashad**.

The above were re-appointed by acclamation. Chairman then proposed that Ian Wishart be appointed a Vice-President. This was seconded by Claire Carballo. It being understood that the Constitution did not prevent VPs from serving as executives, Ian accepted the nomination, which was agreed by acclamation.

11 ELECTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman announced that seven persons were to be elected, and each member had seven votes. Adrian Smith agreed to be teller. Chairman then called for nominations. These were [**candidate** (proposer, seconder)]:

- **Mark Dalgety** (Christopher Chunnillall, Praveen Hanoman)
- **David Blackman** (Mark Dalgety, Praveen Hanoman)
- **Praveen Hanoman** (Derek Hugh, Joseph Le Roi-Smith)
- **Allison Lindner** (Mark Dalgety, Praveen Hanoman)
- **Bruce Nóbrega** (Mark Adamson, Claire Carballo)
- **Ian Wishart** (Mark Dalgety, Claire Carballo)
- **Claire Carballo** (Derek Hugh, Fred Weston).

Mark Adamson then proposed that nominations be closed. This was seconded by Andrew Terrill and carried *nem. con.* Chairman declared the above duly elected.

12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

On behalf of the meeting, Claire thanked Derek for his efforts in securing the Dinner-Dance venue free of charge. Treasurer added that an overall profit of £1189.88 had been made, split 50-50 between BHS Alumni Association and ourselves.

Secretary announced that tickets were available for the Annual Dinner on 26th January at the Bunga Raya Restaurant, Thornton Heath. Also BHSAA were holding a Carol Service, in

which certain QCA members would be giving readings, on Sunday 1st December at Wesley's Chapel, City Road, London.

13 CLOSURE

Chairman thanked the High Commissioner for the use of the premises, and Carl Abrams-Browne for his helpful support. The meeting was brought to a close by the singing of the two verses of *Carmen Collegii Reginae*.

Prepared by _____ (outgoing) Actg Sec.
(C I C Wishart)

Adopted _____ President
(N O Linton)

Date _____

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Officers of the Association

Nine Non-Executive and Executive Officers as listed in the Minutes.

Members and Guests

David R Blackman

D D P (Dave) Debidin

Mrs Radha Debidin (guest)

Joseph Le Roi-Smith

Allison Lindner

Colin G McWatt

E L (Ted) Murray

Keith Nobrega (guest)

G A (Gerry) St Hill

Adrian Smith (guest)

Carmeletta Subryan (guest)

Andrew C Terrill