



Cuttington University
Alumni Association in the Americas

**Business Meeting Held Saturday, August 18th, 2018
9896 Bissonnet Street, Houston Texas
9AM to 1PM**

CALL TO ORDER/ OPENING REMARKS

Meeting was called to order by the President , Ms. Glendy Junius Reeves. President Reeves requested a moment of silence to remember our Deceased CUAAA members. The Rev. Fr. James Wilson led the group in opening prayer.

The President then informed the Body that Elections will be held today, promptly at 11: 30 AM .

President acknowledged and recognized the presence of First-time attendants. Those recognized were as follows : Mr. Lionel Fredericks , Mr. Byron Moore, Dr. Golakai and Ms. Fatu Kroma. However, Ms. Kroma made it cleared that this was not her very first time but rather a “ come back ‘ after a long period . The President then ask the Regions to present their reports .

REGIONS REPORTS

Region I- Ms. Felecia Kollie stated that they will present their written report at a later date . Ms. Kollie reported that they had couple of meetings and their region is looking forward to hosting the Reunion in 2020.

Region II- There was nothing in writing, but Ms. Massa M. Richards gave a brief statement that the Region had not done anything meaningful due to serious challenges it was facing in the past year. However , the Region is looking forward to stepping up its game and becoming more vibrant . Ms. Richards did not elaborate on the challenges.

Region III- Ms. Toushi Zubah-James reported that they held meetings and events were being planned. Ms. James also stated that their Chairman , Mr. Emanuel

Gbedee relocated to Liberia to facilitate in the development of the Nation by utilizing his unique talents. Ms. James noted that their Region had about ten members present at the Reunion, which show a sign of good leadership and organization within their Region.

Region IV- Chairman, Mr. Hermann Blumenthal shared flyers for next year's reunion (Minnesota-2019)- Mr. Blumenthal presented gifts to the President and Ms. McGowan, Chairlady of the hosting Region 2018- TX. Mr. Blumenthal gave a brief report on their activities. Mr. Blumenthal stated that they held meetings and currently have a Steering Committee in place to plan the activities for the Reunion in Minnesota 2019. Mr. Blumenthal stated that a fundraiser was held during which \$250.00 was raised to start the Reunion planning process. Mr. Blumenthal stated that a Hall has been reserved as well as a DJ and at this point his Region only needs to "fine tune" the process towards the 2019-Reunion. Mr. Blumenthal then welcome Ms. McGowan to Region IV since she is relocating to the area and he looked forward to her participation towards the 2019 Reunion.

Region IV was recognized by the President for having 13 members present at this Reunion.

President Reeves reiterated that all Regions present their reports in writing.

Region V - Ms. McGowan reported that Region V had already presented their written report, which was inclusive in the President's report. Chairlady McGowan stated that they had been working and due to their hard work, we were all there in Houston, TX to celebrate. Ms. McGowan acknowledged her Team by stating that they are like "family". They are referred to as "Aunts/ Uncles" by the kids of the Region members. Ms. McGowan stated that they held two successful events during the year – one of which was in partnership with another local TX Organization. Ms. McGowan urged members to continue to strengthen the bond between them for the success of the Organization.

President Reeves read her report which centered on projects that were implemented by CUAAA on the campus of CU – Liberia. President Reeves recognized Ms. Massa M. Richards for her contributions to the Association by assisting with WhatsApp, Twitter and Facebook. Ms. Reeves encouraged CUAAA members to like and acknowledge CUAAA Facebook page.

President Reeves mentioned that the \$24,000.00 raised by CUAAA was used to implement several ongoing projects such as the solar electrification ,face lift / renovation of the main Campus through the purchase and use of lawn mowers, paint etc.

President Reeves informed the Body that the 250 mattresses donated by Mr. Quaqua at the 2017 Reunion in North Carolina was yet to be released in Liberia. President Reeves stated that there were some road blocks at Port of Monrovia that had caused the delay in the release of the mattresses . President Reeves informed the Body that more money will be needed for its release.

President Reeves recommended the following:

1. That the Association develops a project proposal for the Organization – to solicit funding
2. CUAAA members should co-ordinate their visits to Liberia and donate some time to work on CU campus while in Liberia .

President Reeves stated that these recommendations will be turned over to the Executive Committee. The committee needs to know who wants to teach or provide other services to the University in Liberia.

President Reeves stated that she will send out an email to create a database to know who has what talents (Nurses, lawyers, teachers etc.)

It was moved by Reuben Horace and Seconded by Gmansnoh Crayton that the project proposal be sent to the Executive Committee for review.

Ms. Massa M. Richards suggested that the name of the Association be changed to CUAAA International. Ms. Richards' suggestion was tabled for a later date.

As a side note the Body was informed that Dr Herman Brown will be reinstated as President of CU shortly by the Board in Liberia .

The President then recognized the presence of our Guest Speaker, Mr. Wilmot J Collins , Mayor of Helena, Montana. Mayor Collins informed the Body that his mother who is a 1955 graduate of Cuttington University College asked him to

present her greetings to the Body and urge the Body to continue its good work . President Reeves then informed the Body that Mayor Collins was not just the Guest speaker but had become an “ honorary member “ of CUAAA.

The floor was then turned over to the Nominating Committee.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Nomination Committee, Ms. Toushi Zubah- James expressed her thanks and appreciation to the President and Officers for granting her Committee the opportunity to serve. Ms. James then turned the floor over to Mr. Archie Stewart who read the Committee’s report . The Committee received only two candidates for office in the person of Mr. Magnus Cassell as Vice President and Ms. Glendy Reeves as President. It was also noted that these candidates had been cleared by the Financial Secretary as being in “ good financial standing” with CUAAA. The Committee then turned over the two names to the Election Committee. The Committee made it cleared that none of its members could run for any office in this Elections as prescribed by the Constitution. The Committee should have been dissolved immediately but the President asked the Body to have the Committee stay on because another one of its functions is awarding scholarships . This request was overwhelmingly accepted by the Body .

The Nomination Committee comprised of the following members : Ms. Toushi, Zubah James , Mr. Hassan Tall , Mr. Archie Stewart , Mr. Emmanuel Gbedee and Ms. Bea Weah- Itoka.

ELECTIONS

Mr. Johnny Chowoe , Election Chair read the election guidelines as outlined in the Constitution. However, given that there were only two candidates and all positions were opened for election it was put to the Body for a motion to allow candidates to be nominated from the floor. Such motion was brought to the floor by Mr. Hassan Tall and seconded by Mr. Rueben Horace . This motion was overwhelmingly accepted by the Body. Thus, in addition to the two candidates , Mr. Cassell and Ms. Reeves , other candidates were nominated by the Body.

The Positions being sought were as follows :

- President ,
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Financial Secretary
- Treasurer
- Parliamentarian
- Chaplain
- Public Relations Officer

As a result of elections 2018 , the following corps of Officers were duly elected by the Body . Those elected to serve for another two-year term were as follows :

- ❖ **President:** Ms. Glendy Junius Reeves
- ❖ **Vice President-** Mr. Magnus Cassell
- ❖ **Secretary-** Ms. Phoebe Koha
- ❖ **Financial Sec.** Ms. Ropo Sanvee
- ❖ **Treasurer-** Ms. Maria Johnson
- ❖ **Parliamentarian-** Ms. Betty Kolleh, ESQ.
- ❖ **Chaplain-** Ms. Felicia Bessman
- ❖ **Public Relations-** Ms.Massa M. Richards

The newly elected officers were introduced and presented to the Association by the Elections Committee . The elected officials were presented gifts our Host , the Houston, Texas Reunion Team.

NOTE : An official tally of the Elections results held will be forwarded by the Elections Committee – But it will be noted here that there were only twenty (26) members who were in “ good financial standing” with the Organization to participate in the elections.

The Elections Committee Members were : Mr. Johnny Chowoe , Chairman, Fr. Edward Thompson , Ms. Rachel Bright Neal and Fr. James Wilson

CLOSING

Closing remarks were made by President Glendy Junius Reeves.

Ms. Effua McGowan passed on the Reunion Torch to Mr. Hermann Blumenthal for the 2019 reunion in Minnesota.

Closing Prayers were led by Fr. Wilson

The Meeting was called to adjournment by the President.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Sampson-Thomson

Barbara Sampson-Thomson

&

Archie Stewart

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