



KDDAUK General Monthly Meeting on 29th June 2019

Call to order for the meeting to begin.

Prayers:

1. Christian prayer conducted by Minister Bryant Robinson
2. Muslim prayer was conducted by Haja Kakay

Apologies from Mrs Elizabeth Nganga Tondoneh for not attending the meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting was read by me, the KDDAUK Secretary.

Mr Komba Tondoneh made it quite clear that Sylvester Amara is a qualified and properly ordained minister at the King Memorial Methodist Church in Freetown, Sierra Leone, and must be properly referred to as Reverend Sylvester Amara and not Mr Sylvester Amara as he noticed members referring to him.

The chairman suggested that the Financial Document for KDDAUK must be produced today by the Financial Department.

There was also mention of the Kono Conference Report. Members who made every effort for the Conference to be a resounding success, members like Mr Aiah B. Tondoneh, The chairman of KDDAUK, Mr Aiah Y. Sodengbe, Head of the Conference secretariat, Mrs Elizabeth N. Tondoneh, Dr Kai Ngegba, and a host of important dignitaries from the Diaspora, were completely left out from the final report by Kono Conference Executives. Members present reiterated that participation and contributions of all these people must be included in the revised report.

Matters arising

The Award Committee was supposed to meet and discuss the modalities of giving an award to a deserving member of KDDAUK and the community at large.

Also, to discuss the criteria for the qualification of an individual for an award.

The OSUSU Committee

The Osusu committee was also unable to meet to decide on the modalities of forming the financial association.

The chairman brought in a copy of a document which belonged to a similar group called Milton Keyes Group.

The chairman went to say that with this kind of financial trust will not encourage any cash transaction but bank transfers.

He said that set up the organisation, we will need the following:

1. A Bank account for the organisation.

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2. Signatories to the account.
3. Is the financial organisation (Osusu) be opened to all or will it be selective?
4. Will the members agree on a monthly contribution or otherwise?

Mr Komba Tondoneh asked whether there will be a time limit on the setting up of the financial organisation (Osusu). He said there should be a deadline date on the setting up of the financial organisation (Osusu), it should not be dragged on over long period of time.

He also asked how many members are in the committee?

The answer was four members: Mr Sahr S Kabba, the chairman of the committee, Mr Aiah B Tondoneh, Mr Sahr Queegbana Kamanda and Mrs Finda Ngegba.

Constitutional Review Committee.

Dr Kai Ngegba, the chairman of the constitutional review committee, was not available to provide update because of ill health.

Dinner and Dance Report

Mrs Aminata Brown did not have a prepared report to present on the dinner and dance

Storage facility and Garage Hire

Mrs Elizabeth N Tondoneh was giving the responsibly to contact Quorum for the storage hire and garage lease.

Mr Komba Tondoneh advised that there are garages available for hire in the Hemel Hempstead area and the cost of leasing a garage or storage has increased per month from £40.

The question was asked by the chairman as to how we were going to foot the bill of hiring or leasing a garage.

Mr Komba Tondoneh moved that the minutes be adopted and was seconded by Mr Opas Jimmy kay.

The chairman's welcoming address.

The chairman welcomed all to the meeting including Mrs Haja Kakay.

He referred to the mediation process which took place between the KDDAUK and the concerned and aggrieved group whose grievances were based on the conduction of the 2018 Election and that the constitution was not being followed.

They think that the present KDDAUK was not different from the KDDA in the past.

There were a few recommendations from the mediation process:

1. Send letters of the KDDAUK activities to all the members
2. To come out with a statement to confirm whether the KDDAUK is a charity, family club or social club.
3. To have a financial policy
4. To incorporate members of the concerned and aggrieved group into the KDDAUK trusteeship
5. To maintain a high standard of operations.
6. To encourage all to register their membership and pay up their monthly contributions.

The chairman asked if there was any good news in the community.

The mother of Mr Peter Tutu informed the membership in attendance that his son was getting married on the 12th of July and on the 4th of August 2019, Lilian Lebbie, her daughter will also wed.

There was no sad news.

Haja Kakay asked the chairman to clarify the contribution issues. The chairman addressed the question by saying that to become a member of KDDAUK, you pay a £10 registration as a member and a £10 monthly contribution, totalling up to £120 for the year.

Bereavement Policy Amendment.

Mr Komba Tondoneh was finding it difficult to understand the amount of money contributed by the organisation to the family of an active member on their demise. He said the amount was very small (£300). Which is the baseline for contribution must be increase. The new baseline should be set at £1000 suggested by Mr Komba Tondoneh.

This prompted the decision to review the bereavement policy, wherein the baseline for contribution on the demise of an active member will be reviewed by the members and publicised.

Mrs Sia Jaward what happens to a member who decides to have nothing to do with the organisation?

The answer was that he/she becomes dormant.

What about members who make their contributions but do not attend functions and meetings?

They are also categorised as dormant members.

What about members who are retired and pay their membership contributions but do not attend any meetings or functions, are also considered dormant members.

Minister Robinson also made the point that members in good standing are those who are regular meeting attendants and pay their regular monthly dues.

Therefore, regarding the lump sum payment to any bereaved member of the organisation,

2 people voted for paying out 50% of the lump sum.

12 people voted for paying out 75% of the lump sum.

This decision goes under clause 5 in the bereavement policy.



Mrs Alice Tutu asked, if she paid only three months contribution and then becomes unable to make any further monthly contributions, what happens to her situation?

The answer is simply no benefit because of inactivity and non-payment.

Mr Sahr S Kabba suggested that for a member to qualify for any bereavement payment, the time frame should be:

1. After the registration, 1-year uninterrupted monthly payment. 10 members voted for this option.
2. After registration, 2-years uninterrupted monthly payment. 5 members voted for this option.
3. After registration, 6 months continuous payment. No member voted for this option.

Mrs Mariama Mafinda, suggested that we look at the financial situation of the organisation before we make any change in the bereavement payment.

Mr Opas Jimmy Kay made the point that we cannot just be reviewing and amending a policy. This review can be done with other policies down the line with other reviews like the constitution.

Mr Komba Tondoneh asked if this policy is included in the constitution, if so then a time frame should be set to review this policy.

Dinner and Dance

There was no report on the dinner and dance because the report was not done at the time of the meeting.

Mr Komba Tondoneh suggested that the organisation seriously consider reviewing the way we organise our yearly dinner and dance. Two points he suggested we consider seriously:

1. Marketing our African cuisines.
2. The cost and venue for the dinner and dance.

Mrs Aminata Brown suggested that we should not go to any hotel next time for the purpose of making our dinner and dance, we should try to do it at other venues to maximise our profit margin.

The rev. Sylvester Amara said the cost of staging the Dinner and dance at the hotel was too exorbitant and suggested that next time around, we get a decent hall and pay on the cheap.

Mrs Patricia Saffa suggested that to get the 27th April date for our dinner and dance next year, we should start organising now.

Rev. Sylvester Amara asked we shouldn't find another date in the calendar rather than the 27th of April, which is our Independence Day because choosing day will clash with other arrangements that will impact our dinner and dance.

He advised that we leave the responsibility of finding a convenient date for our dinner and dance with the Social department.

Clarity on KDDAUK as a Charity

Mr Opas Jimmy Kay made it quite clear that we have a duty to make people understand that KDDAUK is a registered Charity.

Outing to Hastings

There was meeting scheduled that week and the information will be posted on our WhatsApp forum.

Mrs Elizabeth N Tondoneh suggested that adverts on the outing should go out now. Three coaches have been hired and cost for the trip to Hastings on the coach is:

1. Adults 10 years and above £25
2. Children Under 10 years £15

A guy named DJ who organises outing for other Sierra Leonean organisations suggested that KDDAUK contribute towards the cleaning and security on the Hastings Beach.

Folding Chairs to be brought and help needed to bring the barbecue stands.

Mr Komba Tondoneh asked to get in touch with anyone who attended the Jaiama Secondary School.



Sahr Queegbana Kamanda

KDDA UK Secretary

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