

**S.THOMAS' COLLEGE, GURUTALAWA OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE 42ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT THE A.J FOSTER MEMORIAL HALL, GURUTALAWA
ON MARCH 02,2002 AT 6.00 P.M**

Members Present:

There was an unusually large gathering of Old Boys present and the attendance of 175 were recorded.

1. The meeting commenced with Mr. G.C. Mendis, Headmaster, and President of the Association in the Chair, preceded by a prayer by the Chaplain Rev. Nihal Fernando. The Headmaster then welcomed the members present.

2. Excuses

The Secretary read out 03 letters of excuse from Mr. K Arthur Perera, Mr.Upali Abeywickrema and Mr.Christopher Gonawela. Mr.Gerald De Alwis & Mr.Suresh Abeywickrema excused themselves from the Meeting.

3. Obituaries

The names of Members who had passed away during the year i.e Mr.Patrick Gunawardena (Head Master) Mr.M R Sinnalebbe (MP) Mr.M H Wicremasinghe were read out and the Members present observed 02 minutes silence in their memory.

4. The Minutes of the Meeting held on Saturday 2nd March, 2002.

The Minutes had been circulated it was taken as read .

5. Adoption of Minutes:

Mr. Prabath Jayasundera raised the question of why the membership had not been informed in terms of on an undertaking given at the 1st Ex-Co Meeting of what projects were identified on a priority basis . The Chairman suggested the new Executive Committee should look into the matter. The minutes were then adopted proposed by Mr. N.D.U. Kuru Uthumpala and seconded by Mr. B.A. Mahipala.

6. Hony. Secretary's Annual Report:

The Hony. Secretary presented his report in the course of which he referred to the New Dining Hall Project. The report alluded to the fact that Mr. Bandu Kodituwakku, Mr. Jayantha Hanthi, Mr. P.H.P. de Silva, Mr. Krishantha Weerawardene, Mr. Kamal Kodituwakku and Mr. M.P.D. Perera had decided to recommence the work provided the Hony. Secy. took responsibility for payments. He thanked Mr. Jayantha Hanthi, Mr. P.H.P. de Silva, Mr. Krishantha Weerawardene, Mr. M.P.D. Perera and Lucky de Silva for their supervision, support and donations and the other members who have given financial support. Accordingly the second phase of the building was completed. The Report was adopted and tabled.

7. Adoption of Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st Dec. 2001.

The audited accounts for the year ended 31st Dec. 2001 were tabled for adoption.

Mr. P.S. Duleepkumar referred to certain items in the accounts which appeared to need representing principally

(a) A sum of Rs. 648,868. 75 had been written off to expenditure under the new Dining Hall Project. The Receipts and expenditure on the New Dining Hall Project should be separately accounted for showing the donations in cash and kind received for the sum expended. In its absence the income and expenditure account showed a deficit of Rs, 432,803.20 There was no built up historical record of the transactions on this project.

(b) S. Thomas' College Gurutalawa was shown as Debtor for Rs. 316,240 under current assets. If this represented the amounts due on the College History Books, the proceeds of sales should be properly accounted for in the OBA accounts, but the intention was that any surplus on this account was to be remitted to College through the Golden Jubilee Fund account. Accordingly strictly speaking this was not a debt due from the College. The Golden Jubilee Fund showed a credit balance of Rs. 218,800.78 which would be due to the College.

The above two accounts should be regularized before presentation of the accounts for the current financial year.

Mr.Sanath Jayatilaka pointed out that a sum of Rs.116,655. 97 is shown as cash-in-hand under Item 10 in the Notes to the Accounts, and questioned why such a large sum was not banked. The Treasurer replied that it was a typographical error and should be read as cash-in-bank. Subject to the above, the Audited Accounts were accepted on a proposal of Upali Panditharatne seconded by Mr.Clifford Ratwatte.

8. Election of Office-bearers and General Committee

a. Mr.Lucien Fernando, a Senior and Pioneer Member, who had sought and obtained the permission of the President to address a few words to the Membership, expressed a few thoughts on the interest that had been generated with regard to the election of the new Ex-Co. He mentioned that there was nothing wrong in forming Groups within the Association; that everybody had the liberty to do so but that they were all part and parcel of the same family; that he himself with Mr.Duleep Kumar belong to one Group but they were part of the Association. The 62 Group had identified certain problems with regard to College and it would be fair to give them an opportunity to see whether they can put matters right and that they should not be castigated for forming a Group which is a lively part of the Association. Mr.Fernando received a standing ovation.

b. Mr.Prabath Jayasundera rose to make certain observations about the election of the new Ex-Co. Two Members pointed out that any speech at this stage was out of order and the President foreclosed any discussions on the matter and held that the Meeting do proceed as per the Agenda.

c. The Election of the new Ex-Co commenced and the following were elected:

Senior Vice President - Mr.P S Duleep Kumar
Proposed: Mr.Prabath Jayasundera
Seconded: Mr.Jabir Junaid
Vice Presidents - Mr.B Munasinghe
Proposed:Mr Sanath.Jayatilaka
Seconded:Mr.N D U Kuru Utumpala

Mr.Sunil Watawala
Proposed: Mr.Lakshman Jayatilaka
Seconded: Mr.B A Mahipala

Mr.S Suraweera
Proposed: Mr.Jabir Junaid
Seconded: Mr.M Anzary

Mr.P J Fernando
Proposed: Mr.P Jayasundera
Seconded: Mr.Ranjith Gunaratne

Treasurer Mr.Gamini Fernando
Proposed: Mr.T Sundararajah
Seconded: Mr.Neelendra Karunaratna

Secretary Mr.Nihal Wanniarachchi
Proposed: Mr.Lakshman Jayatilaka
Seconded: Mr.Don Gazara

Asst.Secretary Mr.M B Ratnayake
Proposed: Mr.B A Mahipala
Seconded: Mr.Don Gazara

General Committee

Mr.P Jayasundera Proposed: Mr.Rizvi Jalill
Seconded: Mr.Ranjith Gunaratna

Mr.Rizvi Jalill Proposed: Mr.Vajira Amarasooriya
Seconded: Mr.Sujeewa Godage

Mr.A N R Munasinghe Proposed: Mr.Rizvi Jalill
Seconded: Mr.P J Fernando

Mr.Shervon Fernando Proposed: Mr.P Jayasundera
Seconded: Mr.Vajira Amarasooriya

Mr.A Peitzers Proposed: Mr.Lucian Fernando
Seconded: Mr.Kamal Kodituwakku

Mr.Chandana De Silva Proposed: Mr.J J Rajakaruna
Seconded: Mr.P S R Fernando

Mr.Bandula Wanigasekera Proposed: Mr.Lakshman Jayatilaka
Seconded: Mr.T Sundararajah

Mr.G M S Samaraweera Proposed: Mr.Sanath Jayatilaka
Seconded: Mr.Don Gazara

Mr.Mervyn Wijesinghe Proposed: Mr.Lakshman Jayatilaka
Seconded: Mr.T Sundararajah

Mr.J J Rajakaruna Proposed: Mr.Neelendra Karunaratne
Seconded: Mr.Lakshman Jayatilaka

Mr.Milton Fernando Proposed: Mr.P H De Silva
Seconded: Mr.Jabir Junaid

Mr.Mohamed Najeeb Proposed: Mr.Rizvi Jalill
Seconded: Mr.V Murugesu

Mr.S Balaramesh Proposed: Mr.V Murugesu
Seconded: Mr.M Z M Zuhair

Mr.G S S Perera Proposed: Mr.S Balaramesh
Seconded: Mr.V Murugesu

Mr.Lasantha Perera Proposed: Mr.S Balaramesh
Seconded: Mr.M Z M Zuhair

(i) On Mr.P.S.Duleep Kumar's name being proposed Mr.Kamal Nilaweera wished to know from Mr.Duleep Kumar whether he was offering himself for election. Mr.Duleep Kumar confirmed his availability in emphatic terms.

(ii) Mr.Don Gazara suggested that when anybody proposed a name a short introduction be made of that individual in case he was not known to the general membership.

(iii) As no names were available in the age group of 40 yrs - 50 yrs members were elected to the General Committee from other age groups.

9. Election of Auditors

On the proposal of Mr.K B Kotagama seconded by Mr.N D U Kuru Utumpala Messrs.S & J Associates were appointed as the Auditors for the next fiscal year.

10. Headmasters Report:

The Headmaster took the opportunity to thank Messrs P.H.P. de Silva, J. Hanthi M.D.P. Perera and Chrisantha Weerawardene for their splendid contributions to completing the 2nd phase of the Dining Hall Project.

He further listed out the needs of the school on a priority basis. (Include your list under Headmasters Report to OBA).

11. Any other Business

1. D U Kuru Utumpala suggested that a Committee be appointed to go in to the Rules of the Association to study same and suggest any amendments.

2. Mr.P S Duleep Kumar suggested that as many members as possible make arrangements with their Bankers via standing orders to remit at least 100/- per month toward a separate fund for Secretarial expenses so that necessary expenses of the Secretary could be met at least to some extent.

3. Mr.P S Duleep Kumar suggested that the new administration and dining hall be named after Mrs.Mary Hayman. This was approved by the House. Mr.Kamal Nilaweera opined that the Haymans had no desire to perpetuate their memory by having buildings named after them and that Mrs.Hayman would not like the implementation of the suggestion that was made. Mr.Duleep Kumar then pointed out that the new Laboratory was named after Dr.R.L Hayman and that Dr.Hayman himself had declared it open. The House then decided it was best to communicate in writing with Mrs.Mary Hayman and inquire from her whether the unanimous view of all old boys could be implemented.

4. It was pointed out that hitherto no representation was sought of members of the age group 20-30 years in the General Committee of the Ex-Co. It was decided to make this possible henceforth.

There being no other business the Meeting was declared closed by the President after the singing of the College Song.

Confirmed as correct

Chairman