

S.THOMAS' COLLEGE, GURUTALAWA
OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE 3rd (245th) MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE (2002/2003)
HELD AT THE LIBRARY OF S.THOMAS' COLLEGE- GURUTALAWA ON
JUNE 15, 2002 AT 12.15 P.M

- 1 **PRESENT:**
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|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Mr. Geethal Mendis | - President (in the chair) |
| Mr. P.S Duleep Kumar | - Senior Vice President |
| Mr. Sunil Watawala | - Vice President |
| Mr. Sarath Suraweera | - Vice President |
| Mr. Shervon Fernando | - Hony Secretary |
| Mr. Gamini Fernando | - Hony. Treasurer |
| Mr. Bandula Wanigasekera | |
| Mr. Nihal Wanniarachchi | |
| Mr. K Bandusena | |
| Mr. P Jayasundera | |
| Mr. A N R Munasinghe | |
| Mr. Sujeewa Godage | |
| Mr. A Peitersz | |
| Mr. Rizvi Jalill | |
| Mr. Chandana De Silva | |
| Mr. G.S.S Perera | |
| Mr. Lasantha Perera | |

By Invitation

Mr.Jabir Junaid
Mr.Mahen Ranasinghe
Mr.M.L.U.C. Pinto
Mr.Suresh Thiyagarajah
Mr. L S P Jayatilaka

Excuses

The following Members regretted their inability to be present at the Meeting today:-

Mr.Don Gazara
Bridg.B Munasinghe
Mr.G M S Samaraweera
Mr.M B Ratnayake
Mr. J.J. Rajakaruna

2. **MINUTES:**

Mr. Bandula Wanigasekera pointed out that the word “efficacy” should be deleted and the word “efficiency” interpolated on Page 03 under the head “ Membership Drive” in line 11. Subject to the above amendments, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Ex-Co held on May 17,2002 were adopted as correct.

3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Mr.G S S Perera who had indicated he may know the identity of the members concerned was requested to ascertain the addresses of Mr R L Laknatha and Mr. M.J. Jayaraj in terms of the previous Minutes.

It was also pointed out that the actual amount to be written off as a bad debt from the accounts of the OBA should read as Rs.316,240/- and not Rs.300,000/-. This was to be given effect to by the Auditors in due course. It was agreed that the collection from History books was for the Welfare of the College and to be given to the College Development Fund eventually, and hence it would be in order to treat this amount due as a gift and write off the amount, as it serves no purpose in carrying this amount in the Books of Accounts.

Mr Lakshman Jayatilaka pointed out that at the meeting held on April 08, 2002, the Headmaster had in response to Mr Duleep Kumar's suggestion that the OBA AGM and Re-Union weekend be utilized to have an Art and Science Exhibition to promote better inter action between Old Boys and present students instead of declaring it a Mid Term holiday, indicated that he would speak with his staff and revert. The Headmaster responded that the Staff agreed with him that the current practice should continue for at least one more year.

4. **TO DISCUSS THE PROGRESS THE SUB-COMMITTEES HAVE MADE IN THEIR ACTIVITIES:**

a. **Reports of the Sub-Committee for Rules:**

Mr.Bandula Wanigasekera informed that he had despatched by post to all members of the Ex-Co as well as the Members of the Sub-Committee, a copy of the draft Rules for consideration and he was looking forward to have the comments and observations of all Members. Mr.Duleep Kumar indicated that he had certain observations to make and that it may be more appropriate to discuss the matter at length at a meeting of the Sub-Committee, which could be summoned early instead of taking the matter up at today's Ex-Co Meeting. Mr.Bandula Wanigasekera agreed to inform members of the sub-committee and members of the Ex-Co as well so that those interested could participate and make their contributions. Mr.Lakshman Jayatilaka pointed out that in terms of the existing Rules, it would not be possible to adopt the new Rules at a Special General Meeting as had been inadvertently indicated in Issue One of the Newsletter and that the Rules are required to be approved and adopted at an Annual General Meeting.

b. **Report of the Sub-Committee for Newsletters**

Newsletters-

Mr Lakshman Jayatilaka reported that as at date issue (1) of the Newsletter had been despatched by Registered Post together with the Membership Cards to 593 Members whose addresses were available in the new Register of Members. As at date 23 Newsletters had been returned undelivered by the Postal Authorities. The names of those Members had been deleted from the Mailing List and an endorsement made as regards change of address in the Register of Members. Their names would also be added to the list of members whose addresses are being sought in the future issues of the Directory of Members and Newsletters.

Mr. Duleep Kumar and Mr. Bandula Wanigasekera mentioned that several members who had received the Newsletter were appreciative of the trouble taken etc. Mr. Duleep Kumar specifically referred to a call he had received from an Old Boy Mr. Sri Ragnathan in Toronto pledging a ½ page Advertisement in the Dance Souvenir and the proceeds of a stall the Old Boys were taking at a Fair in Toronto.

Many Members had responded by providing the current addresses of Members also. Wherever possible they are being contacted on the telephone. Newsletters are being sent to them and their data entered in the Mailing List and in the data base for future issues of the Directory. Mr. Bandula Wanigasekera mentioned that already some OBA members had made voluntary contributions to the College Development Fund in the form of outright payments or standing orders. We should therefore express our gratitude by mentioning their names and saying that the contributions ranged from (Rs. 2000/- to Rs. 15,000/-) in the next issue of the Newsletter.

College Magazine – Mr.Lakshman Jaytilaka stated that he had discussed the matter with the Head Master who had nominated Mr.Ellepola, Mr.Nesaseelan and Mr.Sumanapala from his staff to co-ordinate with the OBA in respect of the English, Tamil and Sinhala articles respectively. Mr.Shervon Fernando who will undertake the printing of the College Magazine had indicated that all matter should be on white paper, written or printed in black to facilitate printing. This was conveyed to the Masters concerned. An early meeting is to be held at Gurutalawa with the Masters in charge of Sports activities in the various age groups as well as Clubs and Societies with a view to get this project moving.

c. **Report of the Sub-Committee for Membership**

Mr Lakshman Jayatilaka states as follows with regard to the following matters : -

New Register of Members

As at present, there were 767 Members on the Register of whom 174 were without addresses. The addresses of 593 were available. With the expected return of undelivered Newsletters, the figures would change.

Membership Cards

Membership Cards have been sent out to all Members of the OBA whose addresses are available.

The Directory of Members

The Directory of Members had been printed and was available for purchase at a nominal price of Rs.150/-. This was the first time a Directory of Members has been put out by the OBA. A copy was displayed. About 30 copies were available for sale at the Meeting.

Membership Drive

There had been approximately 7,818 students admitted to Guru since January 1947. The number admitted from 1942 to December 1946 was not available in the College Office. Application Forms have been handed over to all Members of the Ex-Co. It was available at the College office to be given to school leavers. Forms had also been made available for distribution amongst the staff. The format of the Application would also go out with future Newsletters.

d. **Report of the committee for Finance**

Mr.Gamini Fernando mentioned that :-

A sum of Rs.7,000/- from advertisements and Rs.8,000/- from banners out of monies due on account of advertisements and banners relating to the Fellowship Dinner of October 2001 had been received.

Mr.Chandana de Silva who had handled the Souvenir in connection with that event was requested to make every effort to collect the balance sum of Rs.50,000/-

Mr Chandana de Silva mentioned that he had handed over Rs.5,000/- to Mr.Upali Jayawardena, (the former Secretary) and Rs.6,000/- to Mr.Keerthi Kotagama (the former Treasurer) and that he had seen Mr.Keerthi Kotagama writing out the receipts therefor. Mr.Gamini Fernando- Hony. Treasurer, pointed out that all Receipt books had been handed over by Mr.Keerthi Kotagama to him and they had been examined by him and his accountant very carefully and no such counterfoils were available. After much discussion, it was decided that Mr.Chandana de Silva will make every effort to recover payments and report back at the next meeting of the Ex-Co.

e. **Report of the Sub-Committee for Projects.**

Mr. Sunil Watawala presented the progress of the Sub-Committee for Projects. Mr B A Mahipala who undertook the rehabilitation and refurbishment of the senior dormitories had completed his project and the students had gone into residence. The members highly commended the effort put in by Mr. Mahipala and it was resolved at the suggestion of Mr Lakshman Jayatilaka to show the appreciation of the OBA and the College to him in an appropriate manner. The Head Master indicated that he would be writing to Mr. Mahipala in this connection.

Mr. Ruwan Munasinghe mentioned that individual desks and chairs for 2 Classrooms in the old block of class rooms would be delivered that day itself at Gurutalawa in replacement of tables and benches that have existed since the 1950. The furniture was on the way. At this stage, the Head Master requested that an additional 6 tables be provided for the Year 11 Tamil stream. Mr Duleep Kumar, Mr Suresh Thiagarajah and Mr. Prabath Jayasundera agreed to fund the cost of 1,2 and 3 units respectively. The cost of one desk and chair would be Rs.1,532/-.

f. **Report of the Sub-Committee for Social and Dinner.**

Mr. Sunil Watawala proceeded to give a detailed account of the progress made by his Committee as regards the Dinner Dance. The Sapphire Ball Room had been reserved. The Bands Sohan and the Experiments and Zodiac were booked. Mr. Faizal Bongso has been engaged as Compere. Sponsors have been found for various events.

Tickets were being printed and should be available in 02 weeks time. The 1st flier had been despatched by post and monthly updates would be sent to all members of the OBA until the event. Dummies of the Souvenir have been already distributed and were required to be returned by the 1st week of October. The payments in connection with the Advertisements should be handed in within 2 weeks of the conclusion of the event, i.e. November 16, 2002. All persons who procure the advertisements would be personally responsible to pay in the respective amounts. The Dinner tickets were priced at Rs.1,500/-. The menu for dinner and whether this would include breakfast would be decided shortly together with table décor etc. Mr. Rizvi Jalill had already made arrangements to have special blue and black balloons with the words “Diamond Jubilee” embossed thereon as part of the table décor.

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To Table and consider the Head Master’s Report.

The Head Master tabled his Report which stated inter alia that,

- (a) College was the Uva District Champions in Basket Ball.
- (b) Life Saving and Scouting has re-commenced, and 10 Scouts from College would attend the Pedro Camp during the 3rd week of June in connection with which Sirasa T.V was doing a recording.
- (c) Rukmal Weerasinghe was appointed as the Cricket Captain for Uva District Schools.
- (d) College also became Runners Up in Hockey in Uva and also secured the first place for Music as well as for Dancing in the All Island Contests. These achievements were highly commended by members of the Executive Committee.
- (e) The Uva Cricket Club had donated a new Matting for Cricket to the School.
- (f) Several Old Boys, viz, Mr. Kamal Kodituwakku, Mr. Bandula Kodituwakku, Mr. Upali Panditaratne, Mr. Upali Abeywickrema, Mr. Jayantha Hanti, Mr. P H P de Silva, Mr. Mahinda Ranasinghe and Mr. Upali Rajapaksa had made contributions and purchased a re-conditioned engine for the Head Master’s van which was now back in use.
- (g) The Head Master also mentioned the need for 2 T V sets for the students recreation. This matter was discussed at length on the advisability of providing this facility and whether there would not be any advantage or misuse. The Head Master assured the members that there would be supervision and the duration be limited and adequate security be provided.

- (h) Mr. Rizvi Jalill had repaired the College generators and returned same for use.
- (i) The Head Master was grateful for the Books donated to the Library and equipment donated for life saving. He however indicated that 80% of the books would serve no purpose although they were good books, as they were of a standard higher than what the present students could absorb.

6. **The Current Financial Position.**

Mr. Gamini Fernando tabled a Report and also brought up the matter of arrangements to meet the commitment on cheques issued by the previous Ex-Co in excess of funds in the Bank. It was agreed that these requirements will be met when money due from the Board of Governors is received. Both Mr. Duleep Kumar and Mr. Bandula Wanigasekera said that the money was passed at the Meeting of the Board of Governors of 13th May and that it was assiduously being followed up. The delay is due to Mr. Rajan Asirwatham not being available due to Medical reasons and they were confident of receiving some payment by 15 July latest. It was resolved that any monies for activities / dues prior to March 2002 should be credited to the existing account. It was also resolved to open a new account for all monies collected after March 2002 and to credit same to the new account. The Treasurer also agreed to ensure that all monies collected for the Dinner/Dance will not be used for any other purpose. The two accounts will be amalgamated in due course after satisfactory assessment of the existing accounts is finalized.

7. **Any Other Business.**

- (1) Resolved that a new account be opened at the Standard Chartered Grindlays Bank and called the 'No.2 Account' in the name of the Association, and that the said Bank be so informed, and the Bank is hereby authorized and requested to honour Cheques, Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, drawn signed, accepted or made on behalf of the Association by: -

EITHER 1. Mr. Shervon Fernando (Hony. Secretary)
OR 2. Mr. Gamini Fernando (Hony. Treasurer)

AND ANY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Mr. P.S. Duleep Kumar | (Hony. Vice President) |
| 2. Mr. B. Munasinghe | (Hony. Vice President) |
| 3. Mr. Sunil Watawala | (Hony. Vice President) |
| 4. Mr. Sarath Suraweera | (Hony. Vice President) |
| 5. Mr. P.J. Fernando | (Hony. Vice President) |

and to act on any instructions given by the persons so authorized with regard to accounts and transactions of the Association.

It was also resolved that the address for all purposes be:

C/o. Hony. Treasurer, STCG OBA,
No. 1 Gamini Place, Kawdana Dehiwala
and the Bank be so informed.

It was further resolved that any or all changes that take place from time to time in authorized signatories or address, be advised promptly to the Bank under the hands of the President and Secretary holding office at the time and that the prescribed mandate form of the Bank be completed and delivered to the Bank.

- (2) The Head Master was anxious that the school should have a proper marketing strategy. His aim was to increase the student population by 100 during 2002 and by a further 150 by 2003 reaching a maximum student population of 550. He stressed that he would not wish to exceed the 550 limit. To date there had been 94 new admissions during the current academic year.
- (3) Mr Sujeewa Godage inquired from the Head Master whether he was selective in admissions. The Head Master indicated that he was not in a position to be selective at this stage and that once the required number was in place, he would be selective in admitting students. Mr. Duleep Kumar at this stage pointed out that Dr. Hayman's policy had been to admit students from all backgrounds, refine and fine-tune them in College and when leaving College make them fit to take their place in society.
- (4) The Head Master inquired from Mr. Ruwan Munasinghe whether it would be possible to have a school bus originating from Bandarawela to College and to return after school to Bandarawela. Mr. Ruwan Munasinghe agreed to pursue the matter if the Head Master could assure that a sufficient number of students would patronize the service.
- (5) Mr. Nihal Wanniarachchi suggested that the electronic media be utilized to market the school and that it would be possible to do a filmlet on college which would give tremendous exposure. He undertook to make necessary arrangements to have TNL TV attend to this.
- (6) The possibility of having write-ups in the Newspapers was also discussed. Mr. Mahen Ranasinghe informed that he would speak to the Times Group of Newspapers and give some publicity to the school.
- (7) Mr. Duleep Kumar suggested to the Head Master to work closely with the Journalists and Newspaper correspondents of the

Welimada, Bandarawela and Haputale areas to get the maximum mileage in connection with all activities pertaining to sports achievements where College appeared to have done well. He also suggested that they be invited to the College Prize Giving in July, to which the Head Master agreed.

- (8) Members raised the question of having a Web Site. It was pointed out that there would be a monthly hosting fee of approximately Rs. 2200/- plus an additional fee of Rs. 40,000/- to Rs. 60,000/- to design a site. As this was a continuing expense, it may not be feasible at this stage. However, Mr. Lakshman Jayatilaka informed that there had been an Old Boy who had shown an interest in creating a Web Site for College and this may perhaps avoid any expenditure. An effort was to be made to have him contact the Head Master to see whether the project could take off the ground.
- (9) The Head Master also mentioned that a sum of Rs. 1,000,000/- was realized from the sale of trees that had been felled with the permission of the Board of Governors. These trees in any event would have to be cut due to widening of the public road, running above College. He mentioned that College had 1020 trees on the campus. He also mentioned that 500 saplings were planted, 100 of them in the 9 acre block and the balance in the main campus by the students and the minor staff on a shramadana basis. He mentioned that approximately 80 plants have survived in the 9 acre block. Mr. Ruwan Munasinghe informed the Head Master that Mr. Sujeewa Godage has specialized knowledge in this field and it would be advantageous to obtain his advice in the planting of trees etc.
- (10) Mr. Duleep Kumar undertook to provide the College with experienced personnel to do a thorough examination of the Accounting and Book-keeping practices and procedures and ways and means of improving it.
- (11) Mr Rizvi Jalill mentioned that 02 experts in Software were at that moment in the College Accounts Department studying the systems and practices and developing an Accounting Package for College.
- (12) Mr. Suresh Thaigarajah mentioned the importance of English and stressed that the students should be encouraged to speak in English especially in the dorms. Mr. Jabir Junaid explained ways of enforcing this tactfully.
- (13) The Head Master mentioned that students are accommodated in the Senior dormitories according to their Houses and not their ages and classes. Members commended the Headmaster for reverting to this practice.

- (14) The ugly spectacle of clothes being hung out to dry on the fences in front of the dorms was referred to by Mr. Mahen Ranasinghe. He also referred to the fact that beds were not being made and clothes were strewn all over and the general untidiness of the senior dorms. In fact he had that morning given a lesson on how a bed should be made to some students in the senior dorms. The Head Master undertook to look into this matter and advice students to keep their dorms in a better state.
- (15) Mr. G.S.S. Perera pointed out that students were walking alongside the pool and proceeding to the areas of the dorms at non-swimming times and this should be prohibited, that they should be made to use the path outside the pool. The Head Master agreed to enforce this.
- (16) Mr. Suresh Thiagarah pointed out that students were not taking care of the quadrangle in the Junior Dorm area; that students be punished for misuse. The Head Master undertook to look into this matter and ensure the lawn is protected.
- (17) Members pointed out that the Campus was not being cleaned effectively and the lack of bins to collect litter. The Head master undertook to provide litter bins at strategic points and direct the students and minor staff to keep the Campus clean.
- (18) Mr. Sujeewa Godage undertook to conduct a workshop on Leadership having the target as Prefects in the College so that they would be an effective force to discipline the students and help the Head Master. Members pointed out how previous Head Masters had utilized the Prefects to enforce discipline and how Dr. Hayman even sought the assistance of Vice President, Sunil Watawala who was the Head Prefect in 1962 to have the Prefects lay the tables and serve food in the Dining Hall.
- (19) Members discussed at length the non-availability of proper laundry facilities and the delay in washing and ironing of clothes of students which necessitated washing to be done by themselves and the ugly spectacle of clothes hanging out to dry. The Head Master agreed to look into the matter and see whether the clothes could be washed, ironed and returned to students within a week instead of 02 weeks.
- (20) There had remained in College 32 books on the College History, which had been handed over to Mr. Lakshman Jayatilaka. Already 4 books had been sold. 05 books were available at the Meeting for sale and 02 Members indicated they wish to purchase some. 26 books now remained for sale. The question of writing up the history of the last 10 years was to be looked into later.

- (21) Mr. Rizvi Jalill pointed out that employees and students were leaving the Campus from points other than the main gate. He inquired whether the Head Master could request all to use the main gate for entry and exit. The Headmaster indicated this was receiving his attention.
- (22) Mr Rizvi Jalill wished to know the position with regard to the establishment of a Police Post in close proximity to College and whether the Headmaster had given the letter to the Minister of Internal Security as required of him. The Headmaster stated that a letter on the lines of the draft made available to him had been despatched by him direct to Brig. Bandula Munasinghe. It was decided to ask Brig. Bandula Munasinghe to pursue the matter.
- (23) Mr Ruwan Munasinghe mentioned that if the Head Master registered the “Gurotalawa Sports Club” with the relevant authorities, it would be possible to arrange the release of sports equipment on a regular basis from the Provincial Council.
- (24) Mr. Lakshman Jayatilaka brought to the notice of the Ex-Co that Mr. Pilo Lakdawela had proposed that the Club House which had been neglected and generally unutilized be considered to be made available to Old Boys and their families (after some refurbishment) so that a nominal charge could be levied for its use when Old Boys come to college on OBA work or otherwise or even holiday time. . This matter was discussed and the Projects Committee was directed to make necessary investigations with regard to all unutilized and under-utilized buildings and facilities in College whilst having Mr Lakdawala’s proposal in mind and to submit a Report on this matter early, for the consideration of the Ex-Committee .The Head Master also agreed to look into this matter.
- (25) The Head Master mentioned that the Prize Giving was on July 22, 2002; that he expects all Old boys to attend; that money for several prizes were not received and College was now compelled to spend it’s finances in order to give various prizes which originally others had undertaken to pay for. A Prize List had been made available to Mr. Lakshman Jayatilaka who had undertaken to look into this matter.
- (26) Mr. Nihal Wanniarachchi brought to the notice of the Meeting that he had received a letter from Mrs. Mary Hayman wherein she had indicated that Dr. Hayman was averse to having his name used in connection with any building etc. Mr. Lakshman Jayatilaka also read out an e-mail sent by Mr. Don Gazara from U.K, wherein he had stated that he had spoken to Mrs. Hayman who had expressed the same view. Members agreed that the OBA should respect Dr. Hayman’s wishes in the matter. Mr. Duleep Kumar mentioned that

one way out would be to have an appropriate Plaque at the entrance to the building.

- (27) Several matters relating to the Hayman Museum were discussed. The question whether Mrs. Mary Hayman had sent any money towards the Museum was not clear although previous minutes said so. Members pointed out that according to information received the amount remitted was said to be Rs. 150,000/-; that the money had been utilized to buy desks and chairs; that the money had been paid into a College Bank Account; that it had been left with the Board of Governors etc. etc.etc. It may not be wise to write to Mrs. Mary Hayman and make inquiries from her which may give her cause for concern or alarm and in view of the uncertainty it was decided to consider the question whether money was received from her as being laid aside for the time being unless a member had concrete evidence on this subject to re-open same.
- (28) Mr. Bandula Wanigasekera had verified from Mr. V. Tharumaratnam whether any personal effects etc, of Dr. Hayman were available with him or elsewhere, and if so to have same brought to College for the purpose of the Hayman Museum. Mr. Tharumaratnam had said that though this was supposed to take place nothing had been sent to him. Mr. Lakshman Jayatilaka pointed out that reels of films done by Dr. Hayman and which were in good condition, together with two of his Projectors, one of which was in good condition, as well as his Typewriter were available in the College office, to form the nucleus of the Museum. Some of the films related to his World Tour, Scout Camps to Yala and Wilpattu, Ruined cities; and even Old Boys Day and Reunion from 1959 to 1962. They were valuable items and should be preserved. The Head Master said that his room would be the most appropriate place to site the Museum, and as soon he moves into the new Administration Block this Project may be implemented and until then the items would be securely kept.
- (29) Mr. Mahen Ranasinghe brought to the notice of the meeting that he had paid a sum of Rs. 15,000/- by Hatton National Bank Ltd., Kotte Cheque No. 392820 dated 15th May, 2001 towards the purchase of a matting for cricket practice and inquired whether the money had been utilized towards that purpose as it appears that a new matting had been donated by the Uva club also. The Head Master undertook to make necessary inquiries and revert.
- (30) The question of the Turf Wicket was taken up for discussion. Mr. Duleep Kumar was of the view that no useful purpose would be served in redoing the turf wicket, particularly in view of the fact that College had cricket only up to under 17, and that in that age group other Schools Teams did not play cricket on turf. Mr. Sarath Suraweera mentioned that the area of the Cricket grounds was not

conducive to play cricket in a safe environment and that the outer grounds should be properly laid out. A final decision on this matter was to be taken after further discussion with all concerned.

- (31) Mr. Lakshman Jayatilaka brought to the notice of the members that Mr. M.B. Ratnayake (Asst. Secretary) had indicated that he found it difficult to attend meetings of the Ex-Co in Colombo, particularly due to the fact that his Chairman visited Kandy every week end and summoned Conferences, and hence he had expressed his desire to resign as soon as a replacement was available. His resignation was accepted.
- (32) On the proposal of Mr. Rizvi Jalill seconded by Mr. Sujeewa Godage, Mr. Suresh Thiagarajah who was present at the meeting by invitation was appointed as Assistant Secretary in terms of Rule 8 (2).
- (33) Mr. Mahen Ranasinghe was appointed as a Member of the Executive Committee, under rule 8 (1) (C) in view of the fact that Mr. Anilal Algama had declined to accept office. Mr. Mahen Ranasinghe's name was proposed by Mr. Nihal Wanniarachchi, and seconded by Mr. Gamini Fernando.
- (34) Several letters of appreciation and commendation as regards the Newsletter etc, which were received from Mr. Christo Gonawala, Mr. Kumar Munaweerahetty and Mr. Cecil Habaragoda were noted. There had been many telephone calls also in the same rein.
- (35) On the proposal of Mr. Duleep Kumar seconded by Mr. Rizvi Jalill, Mr. Nihal Wanniarachchi was appointed as Representative of this Association on the Executive Committee of the S. Thomas College Mt. Lavinia - OBA in terms of Rule 13 (d) of the said STC Mt. Lavinia - OBA.
- (36) On the proposal of Mr. Nihal Wanniarachchi seconded by Mr. Rizvi Jalill, Mr. Bandula Wanigasekera was appointed as Representative of this Association for General meetings of the Membership of the S. Thomas College Mt. Lavinia - OBA in terms of Rule 13 (c) of the said STC Mt. Lavinia OBA.
- (37) The Hony. Secretary was directed to communicate the above appointments to the Secretary of the STC Mt. Lavinia OBA.
- (38) Mr. Rizvi Jalill inquired from the Head Master as to how many computers were available for the use of students and whether there was a Master to teach IT. The Head Master informed that only 2 computers were available and that although a specific Master was not available another person from the Office was carrying on the

work and a master was superfluous as the required number of computers was not available at this stage.

- (39) Several members pointed out that none of the members of the staff had joined the OBA and that this was a disadvantage to the College and its students. Mr. Lakshman Jayatilake mentioned that he had made some effort in this direction, but without any success. He undertook to renew his efforts.
- (40) The quality of food and other facilities provided by College to the students was discussed in relation to the boarding fees charged. Mr Nihal Wanniarachchi undertook to speak to Mr Chandrasekera, the Headmaster – St. Thomas Collegiate School, Bandarawela and obtain some information so that a comparative study could be done.
- (41) It was reported that Members of this Association participated in the Thomian Walk organized in Colombo last year on the understanding that a certain percentage of the collection was to be given to this Association or to College. It was pointed out that no money had been received on this score as yet. Mr Nihal Wanniarachchi stated he was a Member of the STC Mt. Lavinia Parent/Teacher Association and it would be possible for him to obtain this information. He undertook to do so and inform on the next date.
- (42) Mr Lakshman Jayatilaka mentioned that he knew Father Mervyn Fernando of the “Subhodi Movement” personally. The OBA had previously been keen to have Fr Mervyn arrange some activities at Gurutalawa. Fr Mervyn had now expressed his interest in arranging a suitable course at Gurutalawa provided the school authorities were also equally keen. The Headmaster had expressed his interest and had welcomed the initiative. Fr Mervyn would therefore visit Gurutalawa in due course. He was due to leave for USA in Mid-July and Mr Lakshman Jayatilaka would arrange a Meeting between Fr Marvyn and the Headmaster in Colombo on the Headmaster’s next visit to Colombo.
- (43) As regards the School Fence, Mr Lakshman Jayatilaka mentioned that a Surveyor had been spoken to as recommended by Mr Shantha Dimbulana, an Old Boy and a Senior Legal Practitioner in Badulla. The Surveyor had mentioned a tentative fee but desired to see copies of the Plan. The Headmaster was to locate the Plans so that photocopies could be made available to the Surveyor in order to obtain a firm quotation of fees for services to be rendered.
- (44) Mr Rizvi Jalill inquired from the Headmaster the position as regards the Telephone System and extensions. It transpired that

some of the required information had been given by the office that morning and the balance information was awaited to place the order for wiring with Mr Kamal Kodituwakku.

- (45) Before concluding the meeting the President welcomed Mr. K. Bandusena, Mr. Mahen Ranasinghe and Mr. Suresh Thiagarajah to the Executive Committee.

There being no other business, the Meeting terminated.

Confirmed as correct.

Chairman