

S. THOMAS' COLLEGE GURUTALAWA OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 5 OF 2007/2008 (293rd)
OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Date : July 12, 2007 at 6.30 pm
Place : 155/35, Dolalanda Gardens, Thalawathugoda

Present	: Mr Mahen Ranasinghe	(MR)	Senior Vice President
	Mr. Kuru Uthumpala	(KU)	Vice President
	Mr. S. Rajmohan	(RM)	Vice President
	Mr. Shervon Fernando	(SF)	Hony. Secretary
	Mr. Nihal Wanniarachchi	(NW)	Hony. Asst Treasurer
	Mr. A C M Rashid	((AR)	
	Mr. G S S Perera	(SP)	
	Mr. P. Dayabaran	(PD)	
	Mr. Wansapriya Gunaseela	(WG)	

Excuses

Mr. Chandana De Silva
Mr. Buddhika Kurukularatne
Mr. Ranjit Lowe
Mr. Athula Kumaranayake
Mr. Anil Wickremeratne
Mr. Panini Edirisinhe
Mr. Suresh Kumar
Mr. Kenneth Gurusinghe
Mr. S. Kaviharana
Mr. Hermon Fernando
Lt. Col Hareen Walgama
Mr. K. Kumaravel
Mr. Pubudu Gunasekera

1. Call Meeting to Order

The Senior Vice President Mr. Mahen Ranasinghe chaired and called the Meeting to order.

2. Notice of Meeting

Notice convening the Meeting had been distributed and taken as read.

3. Messages of Excuse

As given above

4. Obituaries

There were no obituaries recorded since the last meeting.

5. Correspondence

A letter from the Welimada Rotary Club, requesting for the donation of computers etc. had been sent to Mr. Ed Rowlands. Mr. Ed Rowlands had written advising that there would be 160 Nos. of computers, an increase of nearly 100 from the initial amount, scout uniforms and an additional item of 2 Nos. dental chairs.

6. Headmaster's Report

There was no Headmaster's report. Mr. Mahen Ranasinghe advised that from the information received the student numbers were gradually increasing. However some parents had contacted him to advise that they wish to take the children away, after they witnessed a serious fight between the Year 11 and Year 10 students, on the day of the PTA Meeting, before the mid term holidays.

Mr. Jacques had contacted him requesting for some urgently needed sports equipment and several Old Boys had offered to help. It had been subsequently found that over Rs.40,000 had been spent on the Secretary's quarters for refurbishing with new tiles etc. and the Administration Officer (AO) had moved in. Such an unimportant expenditure and giving the quarters to the AO could not be justified for the following reasons.

- a. There were more urgent needs such as, refurbishing and provision of additional toilets, repairing of roofs of classrooms, provision of tables and chairs etc. (Many parents were threatening to take the children away for the lack of these facilities)
- b. The AO was already occupying two good quarters, converted by the OBA in 2004 and he was a junior officer, with one year service and did not deserve the second best and the newest quarters at College. Furthermore there were enough allegations against him and accepted negligence in many areas, for which an enquiry was pending.
- c. There were many other senior members of staff with over 25 years service living in quarters with very much worse conditions, where the plastering and the ceilings of toilets were falling apart and they deserved to get this quarters. These members with wives and children had always been painting the quarters at their own cost in the past and had tolerated the bad conditions, whereas the AO, with only the wife and with one year service, living in decent quarters had taken the best quarters available, after spending funds, much needed for other areas. The Old Boys who offered to help with the purchasing of sports equipment had withdrawn the offer, for this reason.

7. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

The Minutes of Meeting No. 4 of 2007/2008, held on May 12, 2007, was accepted as a true record, proposed by Mr. Nihal Wanniarachchi and seconded by Mr. Kuru Utumpala.

8. Matters Arising

- a. Mr. Mahen Ranasinghe advised that regarding the computers expected from Australia, it was the intention to donate 50% to College and some to schools around the College and the balance as decided by the Welimada Rotary Club. Arrangements were in hand to obtain necessary documents for duty free clearance, from the Social services Dept. with the help of Mr. Nanda Matthew, The Governor of Uva Province.

9. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Mahen Ranasinghe advised that there was still a problem with the Standard Chartered Bank, regarding the change of signatories and they were being very difficult.

As resolved by the Ex-Co, the Time Deposit of Rs. 436,526.00, at Standard Chartered Bank and the Fixed Deposits of Rs.418,335.00 and Rs. 275,000.00 at National savings Bank had been cashed and new Fixed deposits opened as follows:

- a. Rs. 275,000.00 at National Savings Bank at 15% interest on 3 month automatic renewal basis.
- b. Rs. 424,609.50 and 250,000.00 at Hatton National Bank at 15.25% interest on automatic monthly renewal basis.

10. Master Plan

The Master Plan had been submitted to the Board of Governors and the Headmaster and Mr. Jacques Huyghebaert on May 19, 2007. At the Task Force Meeting held on May 21, 2007, His Worship The Bishop had requested the Headmaster and Mr. Huyghebaert to study it and make the comments/recommendations. Response was still awaited.

11. Reports from Sub Committees

Farm Development

Dependent on the proposals of the Master Plan being accepted, by the Board.

Membership and Directory

Mr. Nihal Wanniarachchi advised that the Membership Directory was almost complete and would be finalized shortly for completion for sale at the Fellowship Dinner, on August 18, 2007. It was agreed that all advertisements to be included in the Directory should be given to Mr. Shervon Fernando by July 30, 2007. Even

though the original intention was to have College photographs on the inner and outer covers it was agreed that the inner of front and back covers would be given for advertisements, as there was a demand. The inner back cover was given for Rs.10,000.00.

Fellowship Dinner

Mr. Rajmohan explained the arrangements made so far for the dinner. Mr. Nihal Wanniarachchi had negotiated the cost of the dinner to be Rs. 1530.00 with a discount of 10%, corkage and chair covers free.

The following agreements were reached.

- The dinner ticket price to be Rs.2,200.00
- Entrance ticket draw to be held
- Separate raffle to be drawn
- Headmasters of all S. Thomas' Colleges, Mr Hyghebaert and spouses to be invited

Mr. Kuru Utumpala proposed that a budget for the event should be prepared.

Family Outing

It was decided that the family outing should be at the end of October, taking into account the 'O' Level Examinations in December. The exact date to be decided later.

Finance & Constitution

No further action.

Newsletter and Advertising

The second Newsletter would be sent after receiving comments/approval or otherwise for the Master Plan.

Turf wicket

No further action

Land Surveying & Improvements to Buildings at College

Dependent on the proposals of the Master Plan being accepted by the Board

12. Membership

List of new Members were not available and any new enrolments would be included at the next Meeting.

13. Any Other Business

None

14. Next Meeting

The Meeting adjourned at 8.30 pm. Next Meeting on August 9, 2007

Confirmed as correct.

Chairman.