

**Zimbabwe Cultural Society of Alberta
Annual General Meeting
Stanley Milner Library
21 November 2010, 2: 30 pm**

Minutes

1. Welcome & Call to order – Chairman

Opening Prayer by B. Machona. Introduction by S. Lufiyele

2. Apologies & Correspondence

Present. Please See attached list with 36 attendee (Appendix A)

Apologies: Shadreck Majonga

3. Review and Approval of 2009 AGM minutes

- a. Minutes were read by K. Makumbe. There were two sets of minutes from the 2009 meeting, one set was written by the Secretary & the other by Vice Chairman.

***Motion:* Accept the Secretary's minutes (in accordance with the Bylaws, the secretary is charged to take minutes) with corrections as per attached 2009 minutes (Appendix A) and approved.**

Motion moved by K Makumbe, seconded by E. Mapfumo

Approved Unanimously.

4. Annual Report – Chair

The Chair presented his report to the community. He gave thanks to his team for their hard work for 2010

Chair's report was accepted without amendments.

Highlights of report

Vision- The 2010 Committees vision was to bring ZCUSA to the people, this was achieved through events this year that were family focused. Events:

Independence Day Celebrations- The event brought all factions of the community together. This event allowed for us to celebrate being Zimbabweans while sharing our heritage with the children and other attendees.

Passports – The committee invited the Zimbabwean High commission from Ottawa to come for a weekend, to help our member's process, passports and other identification material. Although it seemed very few of us needed the service at first. The process was a resounding success and many people were aided in updating their information. We have received very positive feedback from recipients of the service.

Heritage Festival – Once again Zimbabwe was well represented. The tent was well organized and there was great cooperation in the event. However the success of heritage depends on community volunteers who are dedicated and although we had very few of these, the hope is that next year more people will be involved and work together for the festival.

Soccer Tournament – The tournament was a non-fundraising event with adult male and female soccer teams and also youth soccer teams participating. In spite of the bad weather the event was a great success and brought all the families together.

Grants & Smart lining series – ZCUSA applied for a grant from the City of Edmonton. We received over \$3000 to do the Smart Living and Cultural Workshops. The music workshops starts on 27 Nov. 2010 and the smart living series will be announced shortly.

Funeral- This was an unfortunate passing of our Zimbabwean Brother Albert Vheremu. ZCUSA mobilised and communicated with the community to assist during this difficult time. The chairman was moved by the love and hard work given by the community. The funeral helped unite the community and also supported by other non-community members.

Benevolence Fund - this was an issue raised in the last AGM to help deal with funerals. After much research the committee decided to use the smart living series to invite insurance people to discuss what members should do. Insurance agents stated that the group option was not feasible at this point for a non-profit like ZCUSA

Chair emphasized that the AGM is a platform for the community to voice its concerns and help plan the vision for ZCUSA. Chair also encouraged members to ask questions to either the Chair or the committee during the course of the year, but to do so respectfully. The chair and many committee & community members had received 2 disturbing emails from MaNyoni Nyoni, and called upon the individual to stand up and the chair would answer their questions. MaNyoni was not present. The Chair assured attendees that all questions brought up would be addressed during the course of the meeting. (Full report attached please see appendix B)

Community response to chairs report

- a. Community members felt MaNyoni's email were inappropriate and should not have been sent to the whole community but should have been addressed directly to the chair. They also felt MaNyoni should have been at the AGM or stated who they really were and not hidden behind a pseudonym. Clearly Manyoni's only

interest was the finances' in ZCUSA coffers and not the general well being of the Association and attacking the chair in his personal capacity.

- b. Members also addressed the issue of reporting, according to the constitution ZCUSA Committee was only entitled to hold an AGM or hold a special meeting if a request was made in writing.
 - c. We have to think about the benevolent fund carefully as to who is entitled and it would need clear guidelines. Even in the event that a members dies most attendees felt that ZCUSA response in mobilising and communicating with the community was assistance and within the constitutional mandate. The assumption that assistance comes in the form of finances alone is misguided as ZCUSA is a non-profit with very limited sources of funding.
 - d. Committee meetings are open to all members during the course of the year. Secretary stated that if members are interested in attending these meeting to please send an email and they will be notified of meeting information.
5. Financial Report – V. Treasurer

(For Financial statements see appendix C)

Highlights of report

Books are open for all members to view at any time. Please contact the treasurer or her vice to do so.

Grants & events – we applied for a number of grants from the city these were for Independence, soccer Tournament and the smart living Series. Many of the events were fundraising efforts for ZCUSA, and events such as the soccer tournament and heritage which were not fundraisers however did produce some profit. This profit was helped by

the volunteer contributions in the form of time, funds, gas, transport etc. All grant money has to be used for the intended project and cannot be used for other endeavours which were not stated on the application.

Surplus – the surplus of the associatioion for 2010 is \$5000, however despite what the financial statements says much of the money is already assigned to specific programs.

Assets- ZCUSA was able to purchase utensils, bbq stand and other items need by the community and association to host events. These utensils can be rented to community members for a nominal fee this is for wear and tear.

Outstanding loan – There is a balance of \$500 plus bank charges that has not been paid back. This loan was given over a year ago to a community member, however all their payments by cheque were not honoured.

6. Heritage Committee Report – Heritage chair

Although Heritage was a success. The chair wanted to Emphasize that heritage is an event that is fast approaching and needs much planning and commitment plus volunteers. Chair encouraged incoming committee to start putting next year's heritage committee together and get working on heritage stuff.

7. Administrative Challenges

- a. **Subscriptions** – Last year we decided that to encourage community members to be more involved subscriptions would be suspended. Attendees felt it was time to reintroduce an annual subscription to help with administration & cash flow of the association. Attendees felt subscriptions were in the constitution and that should be followed. They also asked to have clear guidelines and incentive that members who pay the subscription would receive. Members will receive immediate

benefits such as free upcoming programs however the committee would come up with a membership fee and incentives for being a member. A deadline for membership subscriptions will be determined by incoming committee.

Motion: Changes to the constitution as per appendix D including reintroduce annual subscriptions for all members to the amount of \$25 per person (18 years and over).

Moved by C. Mukusha seconded by J. Moyo .

Approved

Membership fee was set at \$25 per person and should be paid by end of April 2011.

- b. **Website** – The committee is working on a website.
- c. **Storage space** – not addressed due to time constraint.
- d. **Hosho & dance instructors** – We need a hosho and dance instructors this is a paid position anyone willing please contact the secretary.

Motion; Minimum age of membership to join the association be moved from 16 years of age to 18 years of age (Appendix D)

Moved by T. Chitsunge seconded by B. Machona

Motion: Be it moved that committee term be extended from 12 months to 24 months unless there is a vote of no confidence by the members of ZCUSA.

Moved by W. Rukunda. Seconded by E. Mapfumo

Approved unanimously.

8. Guest Presentations –

This was the first of presentations for the smart living series. We had someone from Sun life Insurance talk about what products they have available. The insurance consultant reiterated that ZCUSA is in no position to start a group benevolent fund as it is not a business but a non-profit organization. The option is for members to seek life insurance as an individual or join other group insurances.

9. Election of 2011 Committee

Election chair was D. Gumbo. Vote counts by C. Mukusha.

The chair felt that although the committee has only one term this was an inadequate time to do all that was needed or get working as a committee. An amendment was suggested to extend the terms to two years starting in 2011 (this change is reflected in Appendix D)

2011 Committee Vacancies

Chairperson	Munya Madzinga	Committee Member	Justine
Vice Chairperson	Tendai Chitsunge	Committee Member	Winnie Rukunda
Treasurer	David Toggah	Committee Member	
Vice Treasurer	Marisa Ziyapapa	Committee Member	
Secretary	Sharon Wadi		
Public Relations Officer	Mandla Ngwenya		
Committee Member	Adiona Dhilwayo		
Committee Member	Albertina Jazi		
Committee Member	Celia Chifungo		
Committee Member	Gerladine Chakanya		
Committee Member	Knox Makumbe		
Committee Member	Graham Nkala		
Committee Member	Maina Toggah		

10. Date of handover meeting – secretary will send out a date and venue for this meeting.

11. Any Other Business – Outgoing chairperson gave his thanks again meeting adjourned by incoming Chairperson

12. Meeting ended at 4: 45pm

Appendix A: List of Attendees

C. Bukutu	I. Tshuma
E. Mapfumo	T. Chitsunge
S. Lufiyele	M. Ziyapapa
F. Majonga	K. Makumbe
N. Mkwanzazi	A. Jazi
E. Mafuta	G. Nkala
B. Machona	L. Marimo
C. Chinoda	J. Moyo
S. Ncube	C. Mukusha
W. Dube	F. Ramjee
J. Moyo	E. Munyoro
P. Madera	E. Munyoro
C. Chifungo	T. Tarwireyi
R. Tumbare	N. Tarwireyi
G. Chakanya	S. Wadi
B. Chakanya	A. Dhliwayo
A. Ngwenya	D. Toggah
S. Madzinga	M. Toggah