



AWKA UNION USA & CANADA

LOS ANGELES CHARTER

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, March 21, 2015

1) **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 630 pm by the President. The opening prayer was said by Mrs. Nkoli Ezenwa.

2) **President's remark:** The president thanked few members who were present at the start of the meeting for their diligence and commitment to the Union and expressed concern about poor attendance to the meeting despite extra efforts made to reach members.

3) **Attendance:** Thirteen members were in attendance including, Benjamin Chinwuko, Azuka Anene, Chiagoziem Chinwuko, Emeka Ezenwa, Nkoli Ezenwa, Amuche Ibe, Kanayo Ibe, Reginald Ajakwe, Amaechi Ajakwe, Godwin Ibe, Ify Nwanko, Eunice Chine, Chuks Onuzulike; and two new members including Izuchukwu Anene and Somtochukwu Anene for a total of fifteen members. There were four excused absence including Lawrence Okoye, Pat Ndigwe, Samson Nwangwu and Herbert Udeoba.

4) **Reading of the Minutes of the previous meeting:** Minutes of the previous meeting was read and adopted after the following corrections: 1) Ify Nwankwo did not attend the meeting and could not have said the closing prayer as was recorded. The closing prayer was said by Lady Ajakwe, 2) Eunice Chine paid her \$30.00 condolence fee but not "while she was gone" as recorded. Motion for the adoption was moved and seconded by Kanayo Ibe and Amuche Ibe, respectively.

5) **Matters arising:**

A) **Convention:** The president informed the meeting that the 12th Biennial Nation Convention of the Union is proceeding as scheduled for Saturday June 27th 2015 at Best Western Capital Beltway Hotel in Maryland. He showed members the hard copy of the invitation and distributed the brochure. He asked members to pick up invitation for anyone who wants to attend from in and outside US.

The president also noted that all the chapters are required to send a group picture for the Almanac alongside their chapter presidents' pictures. These will be at no cost to the chapters. He asked for suggestion on how to go about it since deadline is April 15th, 2015. It was agreed to send our inauguration group picture. The cost of placing an advert in the brochure, according to him, was as follows: Front/back cover page - \$250 minimum and by bidding; inside \$200, while others are \$100.

Mr. Emeka Ezenwa noted that he received a call from Fred Onwumbiko regarding the proposed "National Picture Directory." According to him, the national body is planning on having pictures of all member and their families put together and argued members to submit their family pictures for that purpose. The president suggested sending a member to the convention and asked for volunteers. There was no volunteer. Emeka Ezenwa said he will go on behalf of the chapter if the chapter buys him a flight ticket. It was agreed to find out if Pat Ndigwe or Eunice Chine will be going. The chapter, however, will not send somebody at a cost.

B) **National teleconference:** The president distributed the minutes of the meeting of the National body held on January 22, 2015. He however noted that the last meeting did not hold because the President

General called off the meeting after 15 minutes because of lack of quorum, even though 30 minutes later there was enough members to form a quorum.

C) **Group insurance payout:** The issue of what percentage of the \$50,000 will be retained by the Union generated another heated debate. It was however agreed to take a decision at the next meeting. The secretary was directed to communicate members as such.

D) **Library:** Azuka Anene informed the meeting that he received a call from the chairman of the library committee, Mr. Lawrence Okoye, while he was in Nigeria asking him to find that; 1) if there is a library in Awka, 2) the location of the library and 3) the needs of the library. Mr. Anene noted that there is a big library in Awka and in a strategic location too. He went further to say that he met with the director of the library in the person of Dr. Mrs. Nkem Osuigwe who informed him that the library needs about 30 more flat screen computers (they already have 120 computers) and children's picture books. The president thanked the committee and asked members to start soliciting children's books for the library. He also donated some books.

E) **Hall Acquisition:** Mr. Emeka Ezenwa noted that he discussed with someone who will help the meeting establish credit worthiness. He stated that there are several obstacles to doing this, including the fact that the meeting does not have a monthly source of income, a prerequisite for a line of credit. He said he was supposed to meet with the individual to get the complete package but the meeting never held. The meeting considered the idea of using quarterly insurance payment to meet this prerequisite. A decision was not however reached on this.

F) **Youth Forum Committee:** There was no report from the chairman of the committee, Mr. Kanayo Ibe. The president however noted that at the conception of the idea of Youth forum, he thought the meeting had enough youths to form the forum only to realize afterwards that we only have youths from just about 3 families for now. This according to him has made it difficult for the "Forum" to kick off.

6) **New Members:** Two new members joined the meeting. They are Izuchukwu Anene and Somtochukwu Anene both sons of the publicity secretary, Mr. Azuka Anene. They are from Amikwo.

7) **Financial Report:** The financial Secretary presented a detailed financial report of the Union. It was noted that there are quite a few members who still owe 2013 annual dues in addition to other dues and levies. The meeting expressed concern about this and mandated the secretary to liaise with such members via email and update them on the financial status. The sum of \$380 was collected as follows: Annual Dues(2015) Azuka Anene-\$60, Kenneth Ezenwa \$ 60, Nkoli Eznwa \$40, Chuks Onuzulike \$60 . Group Insurance: Azuka Anene \$60 first quarter premium, Benjamin Chinwuko \$20 (last payment for first quarter) Registration: Izuchukwu Anene \$50, Somtochukwu Anene \$50

8) **General:** The president suggested organizing an event towards the end of the year to raise money for our projects.

9) **Closing:** The meeting ended at 840 pm with a motion for adjournment moved and seconded by Emeka Ezenwa and Nkoli Ezenwa respectively. Closing prayer was said by Chuks Onuzulike.