



KDDAUK General Monthly Meeting on 25th July 2020.

KDDAUK Monthly General Meeting

Prayer was performed by Mrs. Mabel Sesay. There was no Muslim prayer.

There was an introduction of all the members in attendance and the following were present at the meeting:

1. Sahr Queegbana Kamanda
2. Aiah B. Tondoneh
3. Elizabeth N. Tondoneh
4. Mabel Sesay
5. Theresa Willems
6. Aminata Jerry-Brown
7. Opas Tamba Jimmy Key
8. Dennis Turner
9. Siah Jaward
10. Sahr Stephen Kabba
11. Mark Suku-Tamba
12. Mariama Mafinda
13. Aiah Sodengbe
14. Kai Ngegba
15. Finda Ngegba

Minutes of the last meeting was read by secretary, Mr. Sahr Queegbana Kamanda. There were no comments, and the minutes was adopted as property of the KDDAUK.

There chairman's remarks started with thanking all the members that were able to present at the meeting and asked whether there was any good news in the community. Mabel Sodengbe introduced herself and stated that she was happy to attend her first KDDAUK meeting, and she was welcomed by all in attendance.

The chairman informed the members that we had some of our sisters who were seriously sick in the persons of Yei James, Edith Sebba and Mrs. Deen-Will and Pastor Sia Johnny. He said that we all try to join the welfare team to contact and support them.

The chairman further mentioned that since his election in 2016, one his aims was to bridge the gap within the Kono community and the diaspora and our people in Kono by communication we have all tried to create a way of communicating by the Microsoft Teams application and the application is free for the next twelve months. Mr. Opas Jimmy Kay made a great effort by making a yearly contribution but after further investigation, there was added cost involved which we realized that it will be too much. As a result, a decision was made to instead use a free video conferencing application by

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Microsoft as already stated above. The video conferencing method has its own advantage, and with time decide how our meetings will be held considering the covid-19 pandemic situation. Also, in our last meeting, it was decided that KDDAUK does not make any contribution to the covid-19 appeal in Kono District because there were multitudes of organizations involved in programs dedicated to the covid-19 campaign and addition to the government of Sierra Leone programs.

The chairman also informed members that in one of our last meetings in which the members were informed that there was a constant blackout in Koidu City. The trustees and the general membership agreed that a written letter be sent to the relevant authorities and register our concern about these constant blackouts in the city. Another concern raised was about the artificial mountain created in Saquee Town, in Tankoro Chiefdom, that has changed the demography and façade of the whole area. He said there was no decision on the concern and said we should think about it.

The chairman also mentioned the approach of October, and admonished any member interested in the running of KDDAUK as a trustee should ensure that their interest is submitted to the secretary. He reiterated that we need to come up with a plan to conduct the election if the covid-19 pandemic continues as it is at present moment.

Regarding the letter to be dispatched to the authorities concerning the irregular electricity supply and constant blackouts in Koidu City, the secretary was asked to read the draft of the letter. After the reading, members were asked to make their observations. Mrs. Siah Jaward said that the letter was self-explanatory, and all the salient points have been made.

Mr. Dennis Turner wondered how we will get through to the relevant authorities. The chairman said that the letter will be taken to the Sierra Leone High Commission at Eagle Street and rest distributed through KDDASL in Kono to the authorities there and some posted the addressees in the country.

Mr. Opas Jimmy Kay said the letter was in place and as the main Kono organization, it is the right thing to do, which is to advocate on behalf of our people in Kono.

The chairman asked that if there was no other contribution, should we send the letter to the concerned addressees? It was unanimously agreed that the letter be sent to those concerned.

The chairman already touched on the next item on the agenda which bordered on the Microsoft Teams video conferencing Application and the secretary just dwelled on the improvement of the application for the use of the organization.

Mrs. Aminata Jerry-Brown mentioned that since most of the people who are using the application are not present, she asked the chairman to explain again at the next general meeting that we will continue to use the application.

Mr. Opas Jimmy Kay suggested regarding the election in October that if the chairman resigns in October, he said that according to his understanding of the constitution, a caretaker or an interim committee has to be formed to oversee the organization until the election is conducted.

The chairman said that the constitution clearly states that the entire trustees must step down after the two-yearly term and new team of trustees elected and to abide by the constitution.

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Before moving on to the next item, Mr. Opas Jimmy Kay did respond to the chairman's clarification on the point that all trustees must all resign before the election and the point he made about the chairman's resignation before the election and being part of the interim committee tasked with the responsibility of oversight was right according to charity committee rules and the part of the constitution which stated that all the trustees should resign, was wrong and should be reviewed and corrected.

The secretary called attention to the next item which was to discuss the setting up of the members of the electoral committee and the chairman asked if there were any suggestions.

Mrs. Elizabeth Tondoneh reminded all that in the last meeting, it suggested that the secretary contact a group of people who were given task of selecting the members of the electoral commission. She said the secretary should contact them again to make the selection. The suggested that the members of the electoral commission be appointed at the meeting now if possible.

Mabel Sodengbe offered to be a member of the electoral commission or any other committee. Mrs. Aminata Jerry-Brown suggested that all those appointed or selected as members must be people we know and relate to the organization.

The chairman asked whether to appointment or select members of the electoral commission now or August. It was agreed that the appointment or selection be done in August.

Mrs. Siah appealed to the members that are appointed or selected must be members that we know and in good standing. This idea was supported by Mr. Dennis Turner, who attested that there was a visitor that was selected at the last the last election, who was not even qualified to be a member of the commission.

Dr. Kai Ngegba suggested that the appointed members of the constitutional review committee have not made any effort to join the review committee, as a result, there has not been much work done on the review of the constitution. He asked that if there were any volunteers available by the tenth of August to help review the constitution. Mrs. Tondoneh raised the point that the constitution could have been reviewed months ago. She said, reviewing, amending, and adopting the constitution a monthly or two will be seen by others as manipulating the constitution to influence the election. Mr. Opas Jimmy Kay said if the constitution can be amended before the election will be good because we agreed to review and amend the constitution before the election. The chairman asked for volunteers for the review.

Mr. Dennis Turner brought to the notice of the members that the time frame available for the review, discussing the amended constitution at the general meeting and adopting the constitution in time for the election. He said the time for the current executive is almost running out and for someone aspiring to become the chairman of the organization to be part of the review committee is unacceptable.

The chairman offered to join Dr. Ngegba on the review team but would prefer doing it on the Microsoft Teams video conferencing application.

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Mr. Mark Suku-Tamba supported the idea of an interim/caretaking executive for oversight of the KDDAUK. Dr. Kai Ngegba remained positive that by October, the covid-19 would have improved and there will not be any reason to prevent us from congregating and voting at the election.

Mrs. Tondoneh thanked all the members that pay by direct debit and admonished the ones that have not paid their dues to please make the effort to set up their direct debit payments which easier, stress-free and peace of mind to vote at the upcoming election in October.

Mr. Aiah Sodengbe was concerned about not receiving any communication from the KDDAUK Secretariat and he was wondering why. The secretary apologized and said the system setup was the culprit and promised to rectify the communication problem.

Mr. Dennis Turner suggested that the registration of the membership should be a one-off for every member to the KDDAUK charity. He said that goes also for the monthly contribution. He said if a member pays for fifteen months and in good standing, that member should not be under any duress for payment. He also suggested that the work of the secretary should be supported with a laptop to separate the secretarial duties from other personal duties.

The third point was the 10 percent to the project team for any project write up from the organization if funds are raised from outside.

The chairman responded that £10 monthly payment had been discussed and he made clear that it is one of the main sources of income for the organization and the monthly is a must for all registered members. The chairman said they payment showed belonging to the organization.

Regarding the ten percent payment incentive to the project team, the secretary supported the payment to the project team if any project write-up generates any substantial funds for the organization.

Mr. Opas Jimmy Kay and Mrs. Aminata Jerry-Brown supported the motion to pay the ten percent and most of the members supported the ten percent payment motion.

The action points

1. The appointment of the members of the electoral committee.
2. Amendment of the constitution for use in the election.
3. Ten Percent re-enumeration for any project write-up as agreed by the members.
4. Dispatching the letter of concern for irregular electricity supply in Koidu City.

Mr. Aiah Sodengbe mentioned that removing the contributions made towards the Gbense market toilet project and deposited in any personal account of Mr. Aiah Tondoneh will be wrong considering accountability reasons. The money in the KDDAUK account belongs to the Diaspora Kono Conference.

From the discussions, it was clear that there were a series of problems within the diaspora Kono Conference which has put a dark cloud over the organization.

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Dennis Turner moved that the meeting end seconded by Jimmy Kay and the prayer was conducted by Mariama Mafinda.

Sahr Queegbana Kamanda

Secretary KDDAUK.



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