



Kono District Development Association
Mouth Piece of the Kono People in the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland
Email: kddanewsletter@hotmail.com Website: www.kdda.co.uk
Dated 21st December 2011

MINUTES OF KDDA GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2011.

VENUE: Actra Tenant Hall, 375 Old Kent Road, London SE1 5JQ

AGENDA

1. Prayers
2. Introductions by members
3. Chairman's welcome address by Dr. Kai Ngegba
4. KDDA Annual Dance on 7th January 2012 by the Social Secretary Mr. Aiah Bondowa Tondoneh
5. Trip to Koidu Government Hospital by the Financial Secretary Mrs. Patricia Bondu Saffa
6. A.O. B

IN ATTENDANCE: Aiah Yornie Sodengbe, Kai Kpakima, Aiah B.Tondoneh, Sia Komba, S.Y.O.Lebbie, Pst Juliet Samura, Elizabeth Tondoneh, Christiana Sodengbe, Rosaline Tondoneh, Sahr Patrick Abu, Komba Tondoneh, S.S.Kabba, Annie Kabba, Mariama Mafinda, Septimus Lebbie, Rosaline Kanu, Mrs Finda Ngegba, Tamba Gborie, Sia Gborie, Rev. Amara, S.C.Kamanda, Maiba F.Kamanda, Haja Gbondo, Marka Gbondo, Emmanuel Nyaka, Sahr O.Fasuluku, Dian Fasuluku, Njama Fasuluku, Sukuwa Fasuluku, Mrs Patricia B.Saffa, Samuel Torto and Dr.Kai Ngegba.

The meeting started with prayers by Mrs. Rosaline Kanu at 18:25 hours. This was followed by introductions by each member at the meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME ADDRESS

The chairman Dr. Kai Ngegba welcomed members to the first post election General Meeting as the elected Chairman and thanked them for electing him to the office. The Chairman also reminded members of the pending court hearing scheduled for 24th January 2012. This relates to the counter claim to the conduct of our KDDA elections by Mr. Tamba Opel Sam Sumana at the Lambeth County Court. He stated that the association has now got a solicitor and needs funds to pursue the case. He spoke about the invitation from the Yengema Descendants Association (YENDA) to their fund raising dance. This occasion was well attended by KDDA members and most executive members graced the occasion. The Chairman also spoke about Pastor Juliet Samura's book launching ceremony. He was not happy with the turnout of members at the ceremony. He urged members to support each other and show pride in the achievement of our sisters and brothers. He informed members that the medical equipments bought by the association have been delivered to Koidu Government Hospital by our Financial Secretary Mrs. Patricia Bondu Saffa. Members were also informed that Rev. Sylvester Amara has offered his hall in East Finchley at a minimal cost to host future meetings.

On future activities, the Chairman informed members that it was time to give God the glory for activities undertaken, and that a thanksgiving service is overdue. He announced the date for the KDDA annual Dance as 7th January 2012. On our constitutional issues, he told members that a review committee has been selected by the executive but awaiting the approval by the membership. In

conclusion, he urged members to be committed to development in Kono District. In his words “Nobody else will do it if we fail to do so.” At this point, the Secretary General Mr. Aiah Yornie Sodengbe thanked the Chairman for his address. He then asked the audience whether to deliberate on issues raised in his address. Chief Saa Y. O. Lebbie suggested those issues be discussed under item six on the agenda (A.O.B). This was agreed by members.

KDDA ANNUAL DANCE ON 7TH JANUARY 2011.

The Social Secretary Mr. Aiah Bondowa Tondoneh confirmed the date for the Dance as 7th January 2012. The River of Light Church Hall selected as possible venue but with some stringent conditions. The association must provide four security guards, an additional cost of one hundred pounds for using photographers and that the Dance should not exceed the capacity of five hundred people. He informed members that five hundred pounds has been paid towards the total cost of two thousand and eight hundred pounds for hiring the hall. Tickets to be priced as follows; Children (5 to 16 years) ten pounds, Adults twenty pounds, Patron thirty pounds single, Chief Patron one hundred pounds per couple or single, and Grand Chief Patron four hundred pounds. Mr. Komba Tondoneh suggested that the ticket cost for Grand Chief Patron was pricey and that it would be reasonable to reduce it. Members then agreed that the ticket cost for Grand Chief Patron be set at three hundred pounds. Mr. Sahr Patrick Abu stated he does not support the idea of paying for the hall considering the high cost and conditions attached. Rev. Sylvester Amara informed the Social Secretary that his hall was available at a cheaper cost. Chief Saa Y.O.Lebbie urged members to support the executive and his comment was buttressed by Mr. Sahr Kabba who advised that the association should now put much emphasis on publicity. It was agreed that the Social Secretary should set up and coordinate the required committees for the dance.

TRIP TO KOIDU GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL

The Financial Secretary Mrs. Patricia Bondu Saffa informed members that the medical supplies purchased by the association were delivered in a special ceremony at the Koidu Government Hospital in Kono District, Sierra Leone. The cost of shipment of all the items to Sierra Leone was personally funded by the Financial Secretary and the association is grateful for her assistance. The DVD display of the presentation ceremony at the hospital was shown in the meeting.

A.O.B

The Chairman Dr. Kai Ngegba reminded members of the need to make contributions towards the legal cost of the case at Lambeth County Court. This is the continuation of the KDDA injunction case against Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana. The Defendant is now the claimant in the counter claim against the legitimacy of the KDDA elections conducted on the 10th September 2011, after our Chairman indicated to the court on 12th September 2011 not to pursue his claim. This matter has been adjourned to 24th January 2012 at 10:30 AM before District Judge Stone. The Secretary General Mr. Aiah Yornie Sodengbe informed members that the executive was proposing fifty pounds per member as contribution to the legal cost. At this point, Mr. Sahr Fasuluku told the audience that the firm representing KDDA are doing their best to reduce cost. Mr. Septimus Lebbie enquired why the payment but concluded that he would pay whatever is decided by the house. He told members he would not witness the conclusion of the meeting due to other commitments. Before he left, he suggested that two hours should be enough for the duration of each KDDA General Meeting. He stressed punctuality at meetings. This was supported by the audience. In addition to Mr. Lebbie’s comment, Mr. Aiah B.Tondoneh suggested there should now be time slot allocation for each topic for discussion. Chief S.Y.O.Lebbie was not convinced that these procedures suggested would ever be effective at our meetings. In response, the Secretary General stated that there would be a review of proceedings at our General Meetings and all suggestions are well noted. Rev. Sylvester Amara, Mr. Sahr S. Kabba, and Mr. Samuel Torto all suggested that Mr. Tamba D. Sam Sumana be contacted regarding their legal contributions already made to the Kono Community organisation. Chief Saa Y.O.Lebbie urged members to consider the case seriously as the prestige of all KDDA members is being challenged by one man. He further proposed a motion that every employed member must contribute a minimum of fifty pounds to the legal fund. This was seconded by Mr. Tamba Gborie. In the absence of any other counter motion, **it was agreed by the membership**

that the fifty pounds voluntary contribution must be paid by 2nd January 2012 via the KDDA Barclays account (Account number 30723150 and Sort Code 204981).

The Secretary General Mr. Aiah Yornie Sodengbe announced the names of members of the constitutional review committee as proposed by the KDDA executive. The committee has been named in honour of one of our founding members, the late Honourable Aiah Sonsiama Fasuluku. He was commonly called the Black King. He died while doing what he does best, serving Kono District as a Member of Parliament. May his soul rest in perfect peace. Members of the Aiah Sonsiama Fasuluku Constitutional Review Committee as approved by the membership are as follows;

1. Mr. Sahr Otto Fasuluku as Chairman
2. Chief Saa Yanfanneh Oma Lebbie
3. Rev. Sylvester Amara
4. Mrs. Agnes Kumba Macauley
5. Mr. Mohamed Sourbah
6. Mr. Tamba Baa Theophilus Gborie
7. Mr. Steven Gbekie

Pastor Juliet Samura briefed members about her recently launched books and members were urged to support her by buying the books. Some books were purchased at the meeting.

The Vice Chairwoman then told the audience that the KDDA women's wing issue would be discussed at the next General Meeting.

There were thirty two members in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 2110 hours.

Thanks for your attention.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Aiah Yornie Sodengbe
Secretary General
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United Kingdom and Northern Ireland
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