**MINUTES OF SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2015 GENERAL MEETING, HOSTED BY MR ONYEKACHI ERENDU AT THEIR 9709 VINCENT AVE. NORTH , RESIDENCE IN BROOKLYN PARK, MINNESOTA 55444**

The meeting started after the President asked Chekwa to say an opening prayer by 7:32 pm. The Secretary then read the minutes of the last meeting. Ikwuagwu corrected that it was only Mrs Julieth Ariole that was introduced to the meeting. Chekwa observed that there was not a list of those that have paid for the Christmas levy. He thereafter moved to accept the minutes, and Ikwuagwu supported his motion.

**TREASURER’S REPORT: -** Our checking account has a beginning balance of $5,933.86, income from dues was $890.00, and an expense of $1,700.00 for Christmas party was made. The closing balance was $5,123.86. The golden savings account has a balance of $743.48, and the 00 share savings account has a balance of $2,614.33. Assets at a glance show a TCF business checking account balance of $5,123.86, golden savings account balance of $743.48, and 00 share savings account balance of $2,614.33. The President appealed to members to pay up their bills, especially between now and February so that we will have enough resources to accomplish our upcoming event. Martha moved to accept the report and Nduka supported her motion.

**UMUAHIA DAY FUNDRAISING UPDATE:-** Reporting about the event, the co-chair Chidi informed members that the Fundraising Committee has had their first meeting, and that assignments have been made to members, a budget generated , and visitation to organizations drawn up. She passed out information about these activities. She said that Obinnaya is in charge of publicity and that an event flier had already been circulated at the just concluded Umunne’s end-of-the-year party. She added that the assignment tasks include fundraising group, dance and songs group, food group, decorations group, video/music & slide group and program book group. She asked members to furnish the committee with at least 10 names of contacts to be sent invitations to, and to sign up to visit and invite other organizations to the event. She also said that the Northeast Neighboorhood Center in Northeast Minneapolis has been reserved, and that a date for the event has also been selected. She further said that we should start dance practices now.

The budget presented by the organizing committee requested a $2.000.00 cash advance fee. Chidi requested to open an account for the celebration. This request generated some discussions. Obinnaya suggested moving the spire project account to this event, and every member agreed since the spire account was originally established for project like this. It was also agreed to move the entire balance of $2614.00 to this account. A vote was taken on either moving the entire $2,614.00 into the new account or $2,000.00 into the account. Those in favor of moving all the money into this account were 11, and one person voted for $2,000.00.

The event co-chair – Chidi appealed to members for their cooperation in making this event successful. She added that there are deadlines that need to be met regarding invitations to other organizations. She also asked members to provide ten to twenty names that we will send invitations to, and that each member is expected to buy a one page advertisement in the program book. In conclusion, the President reiterated Chidi’s pleas, and added that it is important to follow through with the committee’s plans to make sure that this event succeeds. He added that the committee needs help from every member from now till the event is completed.

**BOAT RIDE REPORT: -** The Social Secretary indicated that the boat ride report is not yet ready, but that she will send the complete report to the Secretary for onward delivery to the members.

**UFU ELECTIONS REVISITED: -** The President revisited last November’s election. He admitted that we did not follow the directions of the constitution for that exercise, and so mistakes were made. He said that if the constitution had been followed, some officers that were reelected would not qualify for reelection. He then asked for advice on whether or not to annul the elections. Some members spoke on this issue. Nduka opined that although “mistakes” were made that we should move on. Christy interjected that it depends on the parties involved in the so called “mistakes”. Esther needed to know what the “mistakes” were. The response was that the specifications in the constitution pertaining to elections were not followed. Obinnaya explained that the constitution specifies that both the President and Treasurer can only serve on two conscengative years. He promised to make copies of the constitution and bring them to the next meeting. Ikwuagwu pointed out that we do not usually follow the constitution in running the organization, and Angelina added that it is the President’s responsibility to enforce the constitution. Onyekachi explained that there have been several cases when we have deviated from the specifications of the constitution, and that some members have not even seen or read the constitution. He added that members should review the constitution to be educated on its specifications. Uchemadu wondered if there are any legal implications on the “mistakes” made. In summary, the President admitted the mistakes and appealed for understanding, , and that we should learn from our mistakes and move forward.

**MATTERS ARISING:-** Uchemadu informed us that our website has been hacked. He said that we have been off-line for some time. He advised that we need to change the website host, and that hosting a new website will cost us $150.00 a year, or about $15.00 a month. He requested a budget of $200.00 a year for the website. A vote was taken and 12 people voted for the budget, and 1 person voted no against it. The new website will have space for images and other activities .Christy asked why both Maria and Oluchi’s names were not in the hosting list. Nduka explained that at the time that the rooster was generated, they were out of status, and that both the list and their statuses will be revisited and adjusted accordingly. It was observed that Joyce is supposed to host the February meeting, but presently, her status is questionable. Nduka suggested that the President talk to her regarding this matter. The President confirmed that he had talked to her in the past and busy schedule at work had always been an excuse. Chidi offered to talk to her about hosting in February, and her status. .She added that if Joyce is unable to host the meeting, that Martha could host it. Julieth needed to know what the constitution says about a person who does not always come to the meeting. The President responded that the constitution did not address that, but as a courtesy, that person might receive a call from him. But it should be noted that the constitution requires that every member should attend at least 3 meetings in one calendar year. Esther needed to be included in the constitution how to follow up with this provision. Christy believed that there are some “gossips” going around in the organization, but she was quickly corrected by many members that there is really no reason for gossips in this organization. Nduka added that all deliberations during meetings are accurately recorded and sent to every member. So members have the knowledge of our meeting outcomes. Obinnaya pointed out that our Christmas party was very unique. He said that our organization is so good and that we should be proud of that. A vote of thanks was extended to the Social Secretary for a well-organized party. A unanimous agreement by a voice vote to pay Ikwuagwu $51.78 for out-of-pocket expenses was made.

Uchemadu requested for the summary describing our upcoming event to be put on the webite. He also asked for a brief description of how UFU started and Christy said that she will send him that information within the week. Nduka swore in the new officers, and Obinnaya thanked the outgoing officers. The President extended a vote of thanks to the host Onyekachi. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Angelina, and Chinwendu supported the motion. Martha said the closing prayer, and the meeting ended at 10:20 pm.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

1. Iheanyi Anyaogu
2. Martha Anderson
3. Onyekachi Erendu
4. Amy Erendu
5. Uchemadu Nwaononiwu
6. Ihuoma Nwaononiwu
7. Chekwa Nwosu
8. Christy Ojika
9. Esther Nwogu
10. Chidi Omeoga
11. Nduka omeoga
12. Ikwuagwu Omeoga
13. Angelina Omeoga
14. Julieth Ikeri
15. Obinnaya Oji
16. Chinwendu Oji