

# Bali Nyonga Cultural Association (BNCA) Washington DC Metro

### Meeting minutes January 25, 2023

# BNCA Meeting minutes for Jan. 25, 2023

#### Agenda President Eric Sikod Welcome, Prayers. Refreshment, presentation of guest/welcome/ Reading of previous session minutes/follow-up QA/adoption of minutes. Vice President Emmanuel Kungaba **New Business** Financial updates, Hosting List, website project updates. Secretary Linda Foseh General Matters Arising and Deliberations. Cultural Corner and Adjournment Vice Secretary Hosted By Ba Nketi (Vincent Gwanyama) and Mamon Joan at their residence at Treasurer Stella Mbotiji Upper Malboro. **Opening prayer** was given by Na Hannah Kehbila where she pleaded with the Financial Secretary Lord to enable deliberations to be transparent and to grace the occasion with Stella Fonjoe success. She also called on the Lord to bless the food provided by the host and to lead members safely back to their homes after the occasion. Vice Financial Secretary Ni Eric Sikod, the outgoing president welcomed all present and began with the agenda of the day; which consisted of the general activity of the assocaition with highlights being the installation of the newly elected executives. He reminded **Publicity Secretary** members of their pending financial contributions and request members pay in their Bridget Kaspa levy to the financial secretary. He welcomed Two new members, Ni Celestine Chip Whip Bangu and Mamoun Ernestine who had met the prerequisite of membership. He Dickson Gwanyama further requested the social committee for their report on the end of year party. Ma Nicoline, the social committee chair, gave a report of the end of year party and Culture how money was spent. Based on the report a total of \$213.00 was left over from Sama Foseh the budget. The financial secretary appreciated the social committee and suggested that in the Social Secretary future and for proper accountability, it would be better for any form of support Nicoline Nyonkaah (money) to be sent directly to the treasurer. Ma Serah Dohvoma requested why the social committee didn't spend all the budgeted funds for the party. Ma Nicoline explained that she received late support from some members that's why money is coming back to the house. Ma Sera suggested it will be good for end of year party discussions to begin early in the year to avoid last minute rush as it was the case with the 2022 end of year party. The general assembly applauded the social committee under the leadership of Ma Nicoline for a job well done. Matters arising:

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Ni Alfred Sibedwo expressed his frustration in the house and said, he invited the group for his birthday and saw a timid responds from members and request why?.

Visitors of the host and other meeting members were introduced to the general assembly.

Ni Fonjoe welcoming the guest explained the activity of the group. He requests the guest to multiply their visits and to join the group if they feel comfortable with what they see.

# Honoring Ma Nagwa for exemplary work done.

Ma Nagwa Fonjoe, the financial secretary was honored with an award for transparency in handling the house finances. MA Sarah presided over the award slot and the award was handed to the beneficiary by Ni Eric, the outgoing president.

Ma Nagwa Fonjoe on her part thanked the house for trusting her. She added that it's not been an easy job. Suggestions were made for other persons be trained as treasurer as a contingency method of safeguarding continuity.

### Farewell speech of the outgoing president

The outgoing president thanked the house for trusting him with the role of president for more than 4 years. He reiterated that this was partly possible with help from some notable members like Ni Emma Tete and others... who had been quite instrumental during his reign and thank them for supporting him and his team. He however said he was open to helping the new executives for a better advancement of BNCA.

### Installation of the new Executive. By the Election Committee

The new president Ba Emmanuel Kungaba Gwanvala and his vice Ma Stella Mbotiji took the oath of office and were installed by the Election committee ii the presence of the entire general assembly and Takums of Bonibo, Ndah Danga Ndah ghat. Ndah Ntuyen and the rest of the other Bali Nyonga elites and friends who came for the occasion.

The New president Ba Emmanuel Kungaba thanked the general assembly for the confidence placed in him and the vice as they pledged to uphold the values of the group.

He introduced their cabinet members to the General assembly and the public for validation.

The cabinet made of:

- Ba Emmanuel kungaba Gwanvala as President
- Ma Stella Mbotiji as Vice President
- Ma Stella Nagwa Fonjoe as financial secretary
- Ma Vera Fufong as assistant financial secretary

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- Ma Serah Dohvoma asTreasure
- Ma Victorine Doh as Social Secretary
- Ma Nicoline Nyonkaah as Social Secretary
- Ma Bridget Kaspa as pub secretary
- Ba Sama Foseh as cultural committee chair
- Ni Dickson Gwanyama as Whip
- Ni Lawrence Musa as Whip

The outgoing president expressed concern on member of the new cabinet with grounds that this member wasn't in good standing. (The concern still had unpaid dues).

The election committee requested the concerned member to honor any dues before the next meeting or face rejection from handling the position assigned. The installation of the new government of BNCA continued with Cultural display where traditional rights were handed to the incoming president of BNCA to continue the leadership of the group. The evening ended with feasting.

#### Prepare by: Linda Foseh

Minutes adopted by:

- Charles Tamon Member Second by: Florence Musa Member

Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023