



## **Bali Nyonga Cultural Association (BNCA) Washington DC Metro**

### **Meeting minutes for June 24, 2023**

- Prayer was given by Mamun Vivian Nwana
- We had two guests in the house, Mr. Paddy Nji Ba Tahkums friend from Bamenda and Ni Derick Ntungwen from OKC a guest brought in by Ba Doh Ndeomon.
- After the guest's introduction, Ba Emmanuel Fuchiya welcomed the guest on behalf of the group and briefly explained how BNCA functions. He invited them to visit the group whenever they were around.

### **Reading of the minutes for April 29, 2023, meeting.**

- Minutes of the last meeting was read by Ma Stella Mbotiji; Ba Doh Ndeomon adopted the minutes.

### **Discussions:**

#### **Inactive members outreach**

- Ba Emmanuel Fuchiya, chair of the inactive member outreach committee presented a detailed report of their approach to each member and decision reached after each consultation, copy of the report is attached to this minute.
- The discussion continued with a reminder that committee's report will serve as a springboard in making informed decision on each consulted member.

### **July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 celebration.**

- The president presented proposals reached at by the DC Metro Area Tahkums organizing the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event with financial suggestions from the planning committee. The suggestions included the budget for the event, and how much each Ndahkum should contribute. BNCA was to contribute eight hundred \$800.00 for the event.  
The president opened the floor for discussion. Members expressed their views on the budget and on the fact that the organizing committee should avoid soliciting donations from individuals of our community but urged that various Ndahkums should foot whatever budget is agreed collectively. The reason for this suggestion was to avoid creating a special class of people in our community.  
Members requested an explanation on criteria used to determine BNCA levy \$800.00. The president explained that it was mostly due to the inflation and our community growth.



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- Ni Gaius challenged our yearly participation in this event and indicated that the bylaws do not obligate our participation. He suggested it would cost much hosting two events yearly (4<sup>th</sup> of July and Labor Day events) yearly. As we complained that helping members in times of need is not enough. The president explained that taking part in 4<sup>th</sup> of July was necessary as it expresses our gratitude for the peace and harmony, we enjoy from our host country.

The president also clarified that 4<sup>th</sup> of July is a social event as any other social event undertaken by the group.

- Members also commented that planning for the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebrations should start early enough to avoid last minute rush as seems to be the case.

The house finally agreed and authorized the disbursement of \$800.00(eight hundred dollars) for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event.

#### **Finance**

- The president reminded members to honor their financial commitments so the house could meet its objectives.

#### **Website Discussion**

- BNCA website was discussed, and members were requested to forward all pictures and information to Ma Bri and Ba Titanwa before the last our next session in July 2023.
- The president indicated that this will be the last call on this matter.

#### **Matters Arising**

- Ba Emmanuel Fuchiya conveyed the gratitude of his family to the house for taking an active part during the occasion of late Ba Gweh's funeral. He also emphasis the importance of a group like BNCA during occasions of these nature.
- Ma Stella Mbotiji (Nah VP) also expressed appreciation to the group for taking part in celebration of their sons 10-year birthday.
- Ma Vivian presented her other half to the house Mr. Emmanuel Etei. She apologized for not doing so earlier because he was still at work.
- Ba president expressed sincere gratitude of the group for the warm reception and invited Mr. Etei to join the group.

The meeting ended with feasting.