

**55 PLUS GOAN ASSOCIATION – WEST GTA INC.
MINUTES FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING
held on Thursday, April 18, 2024
Lucy Turnbull Room, Mississauga Seniors' Centre,
1389 Cawthra Road South, Mississauga, ON**

The meeting was called to order by the General Secretary, Leslie de Souza, at 6:10 p.m. There were thirty-eight (38) members in attendance.

1. Opening Prayer

Belinda dos Remedios said the opening prayer. We observed a minute of silence to remember our deceased members.

2. President's Welcome

Alcino Rodrigues (President) welcomed the attendees. He introduced the members of the 2023 Executive Committee and the Auditors. He thanked those present for attending the AGM and informed them that the current committee has come to the end of its tenure.

3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the AGM held on April 20, 2023

Members were asked if the minutes of the AGM held on April 20, 2023 could be confirmed. Since there were no objections, Al Mathias proposed acceptance of the minutes. It was seconded by Osbert Remedios and carried by the General Body.

4. Matters Arising Therefrom

There were none.

5. Comments on any matters sent in writing to the General Secretary prior to April 15, 2024

There were none.

6. To adopt Audited Financial Statements for 2023

Lydia Nazareth proposed the motion to adopt the 2023 audited financial statements. It was seconded by Norman da Costa and carried by the General Body. Lydia praised Aggie D'Mello (Treasurer) for his good work in preparing the financials.

7. To adopt the Budget for 2024

Rudi Rodrigues asked about the \$210 budgeted for Computer and Webhosting for 2024. Romeo D'Souza (Communications Director) said that it is an on-going cost each year to pay for web hosting, virus protection and the 55PGA domain name. Norman da Costa noted that the amount spent on committee meetings for 2023 had increased from what was spent in 2022. Lydia Nazareth asked why there was no budget for committee meetings in 2024. Alcino Rodrigues explained that 90% of the meeting expenses are event related and include the cost for Liability insurance. They are therefore included in the reporting for each event. Lydia said that the expenses should have been included in the

2024 budget. Aggie D’Mello explained that if an amount was allocated for committee meetings, it would increase the Expenses and decrease the Surplus before Events on the Profit and Loss statement. The bottom line would not change.

Lydia asked why the cost of insurance was so much lower than what was paid in 2022. Alcino reminded her that at the previous AGM, the General Body had agreed to remove the Directors’ Liability insurance for 2023, hence the lower payment. For 2024 we have obtained a new policy with a new carrier that will include General Liability and Directors’ Liability insurance. The premium will be about half of what we paid in 2022.

Sylvia Chakravarty proposed acceptance of the budget. It was seconded by Connie D’Souza and carried by the General Body.

8. Proposal to increase the Membership Fee

At the last AGM, it was agreed that the membership fee would be \$15 for 2024 and will be increased to \$20 for 2025. Al Mathias moved that we increase the fee to \$20 for 2025. There was a show of hands and the majority of the General Body (29 people) voted in favor of the increase. The motion was adopted.

9. Proposal to De-commission the Blog Site

Romeo D’Souza said that the Blog Site was created in 2011 and it served us well until the 55PGA website was created in 2016. It has not been used since 2016 and Romeo was seeking approval to de-commission it. There is no cost associated with keeping the Blog Site.

Norman Da Costa asked why we would decommission the Blog Site it since most of the club history is stored there. Romeo said that all the information on the Blog Site would be transferred to the 55PGA.com website and that he would make sure that nothing was lost. The motion was approved by Norman and seconded by Lydia Nazareth provided that all the information on the Blog Site would be saved.

10. Election of a New Executive for 2024 and 2025

Since the term of the current committee has come to an end, Alcino Rodrigues invited members of the General Body to form a new committee to take over for 2024 and 2025. Lydia Nazareth nominated Romeo dos Remedios for President but he declined because his life style and present commitments would not allow him sufficient time to assume the responsibility. However, he would be willing to help the committee. Likewise, Norman Da Costa nominated Jean Bayley, Osbert Remedios nominated David Nazareth and Fabian Correia nominated Leslie de Souza for President but all three declined for the same reason. Since there was no incoming new committee, the current committee has to carry on for now.

11. Election of Auditors for 2024 and 2025

Lydia Nazareth asked why we were electing auditors for 2024 and 2025. Alcino Rodrigues explained that the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA) requires that we should always have auditors in place regardless of whether or not a new Executive Committee is elected. Osbert Remedios proposed that the current auditors should stay on. The motion was seconded by Christine Rodrigues and carried by the General Body.

12. Election of a Committee to review the Constitution to incorporate ONCA and City of Mississauga Requirements

Alcino Rodrigues asked for volunteers to form a committee to incorporate the requirements of ONCA and the City of Mississauga into the Constitution. Al Mathias has already done a lot of work on this and he will pass the information on to the committee. Lydia Nazareth nominated Norman Da Costa and David Nazareth to lead the project. Alcino told Norman and David that they could invite anyone they wanted to join them. Aggie D’Mello proposed that it would be good to have Romeo D’Souza on the team since he is familiar with ONCA. Lydia said that Norman and David should create a team on their own. The team should not include anyone on the Executive Committee. Norman asked Rudi Rodrigues to work with them and he accepted. Aggie informed them that they may need legal advice at some point. Lydia asked if we had any members who are lawyers who could be involved. The goal is to complete the work by the end of the fiscal year.

13. Any Other Business

Al Mathias praised the Executive Committee for their excellent work and the General Body applauded the committee members.

Some of the attendees suggested that events should be held on the weekends during the day to make it easier for people to attend. Sylvia Chakravarty and Lydia Nazareth suggested that we should have the AGM on a weekend afternoon early in the year so that more people could participate.

Alcino Rodrigues said that we could send a survey to the members to see what they would like us to do. Osbert Remedios proposed that Rudi Rodrigues should design the survey and Lydia Nazareth seconded the proposal. Rudi accepted. Questions and comments received from members will be forwarded to him.

Brenda Anthony said that we should be careful when giving baked goods as raffle prizes at the Christmas Dance in case they contained nuts.

Since there was no other business to discuss, Lydia Nazareth proposed that the meeting should be adjourned at 7:15 p.m. The proposal was seconded by Jean Bayley.

Minutes prepared by:
Leslie de Souza
General Secretary
55 Plus Goan Association – West GTA Inc.