

55 PLUS GOAN ASSOCIATION – WEST GTA INC.
ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING
Wednesday, April 5, 2017
Cawthra Seniors' Centre, Mississauga, ON

The meeting was called to order by the Vice-President, Norman da Costa at 6:30 p.m. There were eighty-two (82) members in attendance.

Opening Prayer

Norman said the opening prayer. (Our President, Osbert Remedios was ill and could not attend the meeting).

Acceptance of the 2016 AGM Minutes

Members were asked if the minutes of the AGM held on March 31, 2016 could be accepted. Since there were no objections, the motion was proposed by Juliet Rebello, seconded by Rudy Fernandes and carried by the General Body.

Matters Arising

- The question about the **Liability Insurance** that was raised by Roland Francis at the previous AGM had not been acted on. It was agreed that it should be brought forward as an agenda item for the next AGM.
- A suggestion that the 55 PGA should set aside some money to **archive all the material** that was being stored at various locations into one location has not been acted on.
- Al Mathias asked for an update for his suggestion to amortize the **depreciation of the two laptops** over two years. The Treasurer, Aggie D'Mello will follow up and report on the action that has been taken.
- It was agreed that the creation and management of a **Reserve Fund** would be onerous and would first need to be approved by the General Body. John D'Souza cautioned that we need to pay attention to the requirements of ONCA before starting to deplete the surplus funds.
- Several options for reducing the surplus funds and/or providing better value-for-money were presented at the meeting. The suggestions included:
 - reducing the membership fees (or having no fees);
 - a proposal that ticket prices for events be lowered;
 - getting bigger and better halls for our events;
 - bringing in outside entertainment;
 - organizing day-time events so that more people could attend;
 - focusing more on the interests of our older members.

President's Report for 2016

Norman read Osbert's report to the members. Al Mathias thanked the committee for a job well done.

Treasurer's Report for 2016

Alcino Rodrigues said that the report was good. He suggested that the report for next year should also include a budget proposal. Alcino proposed the motion to adopt the report. It was seconded by Neville Arnold and carried by the General Body.

Any Other Business

- Juliet Rebello made a presentation to the General Body about the origins of the Goan Cultural Group (GCG) and its member relationship with the 55 PGA. She spoke about a Townhall Meeting on March 5, 2017 that was co-sponsored by the 55 PGA and the GCG and the need for future cooperation. A Convention was planned for 2018.
- Norman reminded those that have signed up for the trip to the Agawa Canyon to send in the deposit, and to note the dates of the other planned events for this year.
- Norman also made a request for the members to consider serving on the Executive Committee for the next term 2018/2019.

Other

Since there was no other business to discuss, Norman adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Alban Mascarenhas proposed the motion and Al Mathias seconded it.

Leslie de Souza
General Secretary
55 PGA – West GTA Inc.