

ALGERIAN-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER WASHINGTON
P.O. Box 65063, Washington DC 20035-5063

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Members
April 20th, 2003

The following are the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Members (Meeting) which took place on Sunday, April 20th, 2003, at the BCC center in Bethesda, Maryland. Between those present (15) and those represented by proxy (2), the required quorum of 10% was met. In accordance with Article IV.9, the President of the Board of Directors (BOD), Mr. Naim Bentahar, chaired the meeting.

1. Approval of the Proposed Agenda.

The Meeting unanimously approved the agenda with 2 additional "Other" items :

- a. Review and Setting of the Membership Fees
- b. Discuss the ways and means of reviving the Association.

2. Approval of the November 2001- January 2003 BOD's Annual Report

After a brief introduction, the Chairman requested the Vice President, Mr. Abdel-Illah Stambouli, and the Treasurer, Mr. Yassine Belkhodja, to give an overview of the 2001-2003 social, cultural, and financial activities of the Association. The Meeting's main comments dealt with the following:

- a. The Meeting noted a Misc. item in the 2002 Statement of Revenues and Expenses with an amount of \$2,052.33. As explained in the Annual Report, the amount represents a check issues in July 2001 by the previous BOD in payment for an expense during the Algerian-American Convention. The check was later presented for payment in April 2002 during the current BOD's term.
- b. The Minutes of the 2000-2001 Annual Meeting of Members which took place in October 2001 should have been distributed as part of the Annual Report.
- c. The Annual Report of the 2000-2001 Annual Meeting of Members was not prepared and distributed to the membership as stipulated in the By Laws.
- d. The Meeting unanimously voted to transfer the remaining balance of \$180 from the Flood Victims Fund to AAAGW account and to permanently close the Flood Victims Account.
- e. The Inventory List of AAAGW assets should be expanded to include more details such as Cost, Date Purchased, Full Description, etc...
- f. Finally, it was decided that the BOD should always consider charging non-members for all AAAGW events as to recoup the cost of AAAGW activities and to clearly distinguish between members and non-members when pricing events.

The Meeting unanimously approved the Nov 2001-Jan 2003 BOD Annual Report, including the financial statements, with a special motion of thanks to be conferred upon the current BOD.

3. **Discharge of the Board of Directors**

Given the current situation of the Association and the severe lack of candidates for the BOD positions, the Meeting requested from the BOD to remain as officers of the Association until September 2003. At that time, a new special General Assembly of the members will be called to organize a new election and discharge the current BOD. The members present at the Annual Meeting proposed to take an active role in finding and proposing new candidates.

4. **Election of New Board of Directors for 2003**

As explained above, the election of the new BOD was postponed due to a lack of candidates. New elections will be organized in September 2003.

5. **Other Issues**

The following 2 items were discussed:

- a. **Membership Fees:** After a lengthy and passionate debate, the Meeting voted to raise the membership fees for all categories by \$5 starting 2004. Therefore, the new membership fees starting 2004 will be as follows:
 - i. Family: \$45
 - ii. Individual: \$30
 - iii. Student: \$20
- b. **Ways and means of reviving the Association**

The Meeting inquired about the health of the Association and discussed several issues on how to revive the Association and make it more appealing to new members.