

**ALGERIAN-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER WASHINGTON
(AAAGW)**

**MINUTES OF JOINT MEETING OF MEMBERS (GENERAL ASSEMBLY)
AND DIRECTORS**

Date: February 26, 2006

Time: 10:30 AM

Location: The B-CC Center, Bethesda, Maryland

Board Directors: Abdelrahmi Bessaha, President
Kader Brahimi, Treasurer
Dalila Bessaha, Director
Ismail Farid, Director
Meriem Hamlil, Director

The quorum of the members (at least 10% of the total number of members and at least 50% of the Board Directors) was established. Twelve people total were present and two proxies were submitted. The meeting started at 10:30 AM and ended at 12:30 PM. Mr. Bessaha chaired the meeting, and Mrs. Bessaha took the minutes. Ms. Bouadis, the secretary, was not present at the meeting.

AGENDA

- Adoption of the Proposed Agenda
- Recognition of Volunteers
- Membership
- Review of Annual Report
- Partial Renewal of the Board of Directors
- Other Issues

1. Adoption of the Proposed Agenda

The agenda was approved.

2. Recognition of Volunteers

Couscous Café Restaurant received an award from the Association. It was proposed that two more awards (to Dahmane Benarbane and Boualem Hammouda) be granted for their

support to AAAGW. The proposition unanimously adopted. The Board also thanked Nacer Megherbi for his excellent volunteering work on the website and his constant availability to help the community. The Board indicated that there are several other members who could be eligible to the award in the future for their excellent contribution and dedication.

3. Membership

A debate was engaged on membership. By end –December 2005, membership reached 85 (a normal average for Association). During the first 2 months of 2006, there are 45 members, as annual renewal usually spans the months of January through March. Membership has traditionally been the most challenging issue and there is a need for an active campaign to boost it. After much debate, the General Assembly decided to keep membership at its current rate of \$40.00 per family, \$25.00 for individuals and \$15 for students. The proposition passed with 8 votes in favor, 2 against, and 2 abstentions.

4. Review of Annual Report

The Annual Report was unanimously approved.

5. Partial Renewal of the Board of Directors

The BOD and the President thanked the previous Board members who had served on the Board for their time and for advancing the cause of the Association. These individuals were: Nabila Belhadj, Amina Bouadis, Nadira Boumechal and Reda Rayasse.

There was a call for new candidates. Youcef Aissi, Lotfi Belblidia and Nabila Zerrarka volunteered to serve on the Board. They were all elected unanimously to serve for a two-year terms.

New Board members and officers were elected to the Board for 2006/2007 as follows:

Mr. Lotfi Belblidia was elected as Treasurer for 2006/07

Mr. Youcef Aissi was elected as Board Director for 2006/07

Ms. Nabila Zerrarka was elected as Board Director for 2006/07

The new Board for 2006 is as follows:

Abdelrahmi Bessaha, President

Kader Brahimi, Vice-President

Lotfi Belblidia, Treasurer

Meriem Hamlil, Secretary

Youcef Aissi, Board Director

Dalila Bessaha, Board Director

Ismail Farid, Board Director

Nabila Zerrarka, Board Director

6. Other Issues

The attendees suggested the following:

- Creation of a manual and/or information page for new comers on AAAGW website
- Newsletter to try to revive for publication for at least an issue once a year maybe 2. Articles should come primarily from community.
- Discussion on coming events: investment seminar, fundraiser, business owners' workshop.

These items will be discussed at future Board meetings.

The General Assembly meeting was adjourned at 12: 30 PM.