

Algerian-American Association of Greater Washington

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MINUTES OF the AAAGW ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

January 16th, 2022

Location:

Zoom Meeting

DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE: President: Nargess Lakehal Ayat Vice President: Jamal Derradji Secretary: Nabila Zerarka Director: Elias Brahimi Director: Larbi Lezzam Director: Nesma Mati Director: Anya Tahi Director Director Nacera Tahi

After ensuring the quorum was met, the president opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Agenda: the president had shared this agenda before the meeting began via email for members to be prepared for discussion

1. Discuss AAAGW Board meetings ground rules, attendance, responsibilities, and communication channels.
2. Approve minutes of the previous two meetings (12/08/2023).
3. Yennayer2023 Event preparation updates: Each member will update the team (up to 5 minutes) without interruption about the progress of the preparation of the event on their end.
4. Re-visit the activities doc for the day of the event
5. Re-visit the tasks document on the day of the event.
6. Finalize the program. (Hard copy for the tables- e-copy for emails).
7. Discuss going to the bank on Friday with Larbi & Yassine.
8. Membership and outreach campaign.
9. Should we hire someone to clean up for us? (\$100)? (maybe)
10. Any other matter.

MINUTES

Item # 1: Discuss AAAGW Board meetings ground rules, attendance, responsibilities, and communication channels.

The president suggested some ground rules in light of the late lengthy communication on WhatsApp. She stated that it is the responsibility of the absent member to catch up on what was missed during the meetings, and it is necessary to inform the board about the absence.

As far as communication channels, the board decided and voted, that unless there is an emergency that should be taken care of on a bilateral basis, there is no need for lengthy WhatsApp communication.

From this point on, the board decided to hold short WhatsApp communications between 5 and 9 pm the latest.

Approved last meeting's minutes.

Item #2. Last meeting's minutes were approved by all board members

Item #3- The president prompted the board to give updates on the individual tasks by taking turns for 5 mn

Narges: Sent the email invitation to the embassy. She took note of 3 families renewing their membership.

Her task is to work with Nacera on the decoration of the tables. They bought table clothes and other items for decoration. It is their personal contribution(financially) to the event.

The president is also working on preparing flyer with the program soft copy and hard copy to put on the dining tables.

She also stated that she will be taking care of the printouts for the silent auction that she will be taking care of along with Paula (Jamel's spouse).

Larbi: reminded everyone that the access to the room is 5:45. He will be buying the drinks, and bringing extensions for lighting. He will be getting the drinks (water and soda) and the ice.

Nabila updates on the food(couscous). The food has to be in the center at 7:30 to be served at 8 the latest. The event attendees have to be informed that the food will be

served at 8 to allow the other part of the events to take place in a timely manner. The cake be provided by Dahman. The poster board on Yannayer and Amazigh people history will be brought to the venue and displayed. Nabila specified that she talked to the preparing person Lilicia to add the Algeria and American flags, give herself credit for preparing the boards by putting her name and citing her sources. Nabila will be monitoring kids activity conducted by the volunteer. Raffle will take place, and for that the guests will be handed raffle tickets at the door. Nabila prepared a chart with 10 words in amazigh(words from different regions). The president suggested to do a trivia. She will also help with serving the food.

Jamel : In preparation for the event Jamel purchased the supplies for food , isles for paintings as a contribution to the event from his own pocket that is in addition to the paintings and the other items he brought from Algeria. He didn't find the appropriate guest book, so he purchased a suggestion box in lieu of the book. The board voted to authorize this purchase and to keep the wooden box just for donations.

Nesma describes what she will be preparing for the event. Tomina preeparation 100 parts, des sachets de bonbon.

Nabila suggested to the board, and to her that instead of using the nuts and candy in bags, she should use them in conducting drez tradition(putting the youngest child in a big pan and pouring the candy and nuts on him/her, and the kids get the candy from it. She helps the kids grab candy if they didn't reach. The material is to cover no more than 30 kids. The timing of this activity is to be held after dinner not to spoil dinner for the little ones.

Nema will collaborate with Nabila on the kids' raffle.

Nacera in coordination with Narges is decorating the room with tablecloths and candles. She is financially covering for decoration items such as table clothes, candles, and balloons. . She was also asked to go around and check on the tables and guests during the event.

Elias The Tic Toc video is finished. He explained that he encountered technical difficulties to publish it. He said it will be done in the next hours to publish it. During the event, he will be helping around with setting up. He is scheduled to work, so he will ask for early dismissal. He said that he will be taking a lot of content footage during the event. He was reminded that he will collaborate with Anya on the presentation on the history and culture behind Yannayer. The president had created a youth group for this purpose.

Anya: she created the event flyer and posted it on the AAAGW facebook page, and Instagram. She is working on the presentation content, and she will be helping with set up, decoration, and taking picture during the event.

Board members raised the concern about taking pictures of event attendees and their privacy. The president said that the guests will be given heads up on the picture taking and videotaping to make a decision on whether they allow pictures and video.

Item # 8: membership and outreach campaign. Adding the new families membership to the list was discussed (communication between Larbi, Nargess, and Nesma regarding these new members their names, and the date of renewal of membership)

Item # 7 Discussed going to the bank on coming Friday 20th Larbi, Nargess, and meeting Yacine Belkhoudha former treasurer.

Authorized to answer a reporter's request for an interview. Answer the questions the association feels comfortable answering.

Item # 9: Discussion of the suggestion of paying someone to clean up. The board decided that there will be no need for that since the center provides this service, and guests usually help

Item #10: The president shared with the board the request from an Algerian reporter to get pictures or video of the event and get answers to a list of questions she had sent. She said that she will take answers to any questions the board will decide to take. The board decided to select and answer only the non-compromising questions

Item #5: the president opened the event task document and went around to record the different tasks the board members will take on for the event.

Item #4: The president stated that she will be sharing the activity, and program of the event with the board members once she is done.

The Agenda of the day was done, so the meeting ended at 8:50

Agreed to meet a formal monthly meeting on February 5th 2023