

Algerian American Association of Greater Washington

P.O. Box 75910, Washington DC 20013 – information@aaagw.org

Date: 02/05/2023 Time: 7:00 – 8:00PM

Location:

Zoom Meeting

DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE: Nargess Lakyal Ayyat: President, Nacera Tahi: Treasurer, Nabila Zerarka : Secretary (missed the last part of the meeting due to connection issues), Anya Tahi: Director Paula Derradji: Director, Elias Brahimi: Director.

Observing member:

Baya—a member of the association, who is interested in joining the board, was introduced by the president at the beginning as an observer.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Djamal Derradji: Vice President (excused)

AGENDA:

1. Approve last meeting's minutes.
2. Updates of inventory, boxes and storage issues.
3. Updates on banking and financial matters, plus discuss the returns of the past event received from Larbi.
4. Discuss writing a check for \$1200.00 to Jamila.
5. Discuss how to expedite membership enrolments and other ways to raise money for the association.
6. Discuss purchasing a zoom account / yearly plan.
7. Discuss the Women's Day event and approve a tentative budget for it:
 - a. The event will be a celebration for women with several activities. The theme should be (JAMILA BOUHIREDA LIES IN THE U.S.) and we should focus on "Algerian American Women and how to maximize their superpowers", through education, empowerment and culture.
 - b. To avoid all predictable and unpredictable incidents and apply lessons learned from past events, we will need to be organized, discuss the activities more, select the activities and tasks for each member.
 - c. Place will remain TBD. Date tentatively March 11 or 12. Depending on room availability. We will discuss details during the meeting.
 - d. Approve the budget (tentatively).
8. Other business

MINUTES

1-Approve last meeting's minutes.

2-Updates of inventory, boxes and storage issues: Nargess picked up the boxes from Larbi's house. They are stored in Nemo's house who will do an inventory. Nabila did the inventory of the AAAGW property in the light of what has been used during the event, and the new purchases. The link to the Google document was shared with the board members.

3-The president, Nacera Tahi, and former treasurer Yacine Belkhouja met in the Bank on 2/1/2023 to officially have Nacera Tahi as the new treasurer as voted during the previous meeting.

4-The board confirmed the vote done on WhatsApp to write a check for \$1200.00 to Djamila as a fair compensation to the material used to make the couscous and her labor. Nacera, the new treasurer, will be writing the check once she gets the invoice from Djamila.

5-The board discussed the need for buying a zoom account subscription for \$148 to hold the virtual meetings. Previous free meetings were interrupted because the free version gives only 40 minutes.

6-Discussed raising the membership and membership renewal. The board discussed strategies to increase the membership such as using the association events, and doing monthly renewal reminders. Nesma points to the need for reorganizing the list of members to create a category just for those who need their membership to be renewed to help track the renewals. She will be seeking her sister-in-law's help with an app for this purpose. Anya offered to help in organizing the list for now using google doc.

Nargess will be sending monthly gentle reminders to community members to remind them to renew their membership and to keep supporting the association. Agreed to share membership excel sheet and split the task among all members to check monthly whose membership is about to expire. Give the names to Nargess who will send emails to members.

7-Discuss Women's Day celebration event. The president suggested a theme

a-Board members agreed on a tentative date of March 11 or 12 depending on place availability and prices. Based on this and other technical issues happened during the meeting,

The final budget amount was not agreed upon. TBD during the week, via group chat. If necessary, an interim meeting will be called.

b-Nacera will visit the center in Potomac to get us more info on date and policies.

c-Nesma will try to go to Clara Barton center to get us more info as well.

d-Nargess will wait for the info on the Hotel Room, availability, cleaning and money raising.

e-Board members discussed and agreed on potential program activities to include.

f-Theme of the event (each member will think and suggest a theme title, then we will vote)

Events should focus on: Empowerment, education, and culture.

g-Nacera, paula & Nargess suggested bringing speakers from different paths and professions (Algerian Americans, Americans and non- Algerian).The goal is to educate, share resources and send a message of inspiration and empowerment. Names of suggested speakers.....

h-Anya will make personalized cupcakes for women's day and decorate them to fit the theme color of the event.

i-Nacera will reach out to the lady to make Baklava for the event at a symbolic price for the work only, meanwhile Nacera is contributing to purchase all ingredients.

j-Paula and Nesma will team up to have a booth to share knowledge and prevention resources and tips on pediatrics with young moms and moms with babies.

k-Nesma will create personalized decoration napkins and more for the event(pink/ purple or rose gold is the color of the vent).

l-Nargess and Anya will team up to organize a fashion show contest. Nargess will send an email soliciting volunteers contestants (10 young girls between 16 – 24). And 4 judges (2 men and 2 women). 3 top winners will get small gifts. All other participants will get small gifts as well for their efforts. We want to encourage everyone. In case this doesn't work the way planned, plan B is a group fashion walk from different parts of Algeria. Nargess will also ask if participants have outfits or should we provide outfits.

m-Nargess suggested raising money through a pre-sale and event sale of Algerian dates. Members have agreed to invest a total of \$175 - \$200 to purchase dates and profit will go to AAAGW. Board members will take back their money after the sale. Nabila wasn't able to join this conversation. If she agrees to join the board on this initiative , board members will need to put \$150.00 instead.

n-A sponsor reached out to bake Crepes with Nutella Strawberries during the event and Crepes sales will go to AAAGW. Nargess will supply Strawberries and sponsors will provide everything else.

o-Nargess ordered decorations for the event for the amount of about \$ 100.00 from Algeria and Jamal will bring them back with him.

P-DJ Johara will be entertaining the music part of the event.

q-Nargess will reach out to the business council to seek support for the association and potential sponsor of the event from the council and or its partners.

r-Nargess will ask if the Hotel room has a projector and large screen and mics available.

After covering most of the meeting agenda items, except for voting on the event budget, the meeting was concluded at 9:15. No specific date was chosen for the next meeting. It will be called upon to discuss the progress of preps, and it will be announced via group chat.

Next official meeting is set for 3/05/2023