

MINUTES OF THE AAAGW EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
November 13^h, 2022

Location: Tyson Corner Galleria
2001 International Dr, McLean, VA 22102

DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE: Djamel Derradji (Vice President, interim chair), Abdelrani Bessaha (Treasurer), Larbi Lezzam (Director at large) and Anya Tahi (Director at Large).

DIRECTORS ABSENT (excused): Nargess Lakehal-Ayat (President), Nabila Zerarka (Secretary), Nessma Benfares (Director at Large) and Elias Brahimi (Director at Large).

OUTGOING BOARD: Djamel Benelmouffok (former President)

AGENDA:

1. Transition
2. Tentative Work Program for 2023
3. Miscellaneous: E mail from embassy and next steps; College Admission Coaching; and Suggestions Boxes and Donations at events.

The meeting was opened at 10:30 am

Item 1: The transition:

In view of the absence of interested parties from the outgoing and incoming Boards, decision was made to pursue the transition through imminent bilateral or trilateral meetings and arrangements next week (Monday 14-Friday 18 November 2022) to complete the transition. In this context,

Treasury: the transition will be organized one day during the week of Monday 14-Friday 18 to allow Nargess, Yacine and A. Bessaha to meet at the Cabin John branch (Bethesda) of Bank of America. We have the minutes of the November 5th, 2022 annual meetings of members that will serve as the legal basis for the transfer of responsibilities.

Keys of the mail box. One key to Nargess and one key to the Treasurer.

AAAGW E mail accounts: Nargess to work with Djamel Benelmouffok.

Facebook Account: Anya and Mhel will need to set up a meeting.

Membership data and access to GoDaddy account: Djamel, Yacine, Nessma and Nargess will have to meet to arrange for the transfer of responsibilities.

Transfer of patrimony:

- Djamel transferred a wooden box to the Treasurer (as donation box) and some banner and flags to Larbi.
- All other remaining boxes will be transferred this week and stored at Nabila house who volunteered to that effect.
- The executive Board meeting urges all members to speed up the transition and complete it the week from Monday November 14 to Friday November 18.

Item 2. Tentative Work Program for 2023

To give a head start on the most critical tool of the new Board and in preparation for the first Board meeting on December 4 Anya Tahi, Djamel Derradji, Larbi Lezzam and Abdelrani Bessaha worked on a preliminary broad work program that includes for the time being:

- 1- March 8 Event: Women's Day
- 2- Ramadhan Sahra
- 3- Aid El Fitr Event
- 4- Aid El Adha Event
- 5- July 4/5 Event
- 6- November 1 Event
- 7- Annual Hafla
- 8- Youth Event (to be chaired by Anya)

Next steps:

1. Designate project managers
2. Adopt a tentative budget for each event
3. Adopt the full program of events
4. Publish it on the website and Facebook and bring it to the attention of the community
5. Rent ahead of time the rooms

For the Annual Hafla, the outgoing Board President recommends to contact Djamel Lahlou, a compatriot based in Canada and who himself is a promoter of Algerian cultural events. This way we can work with him and discuss the hiring of an artist who will visit Canada and Washington. The purpose of this partnership is to share the cost of the hiring and also ensure the performer is legally ready to travel to US.

The number of Djamel Lahlou is 1 514 993 0023

Item 3. Miscellaneous

1. Response to the embassy e mail:

- a. The Board will send a response to the embassy consular section (the e mail sender).
- b. The preliminary broad lines of the e-mail will be as follows:

Dear Mr. Chaibout

Thank you very much for your e-mail dated November 11, 2022. The new Board is delighted to take over the helm of the association and continue to offer a vital forum for the community's social and cultural flourishing.

In that context, the new Board is preparing the work program for 2023 and is looking forward to meet with His Excellency the Ambassador and his staff to establish contact and discuss subjects of common interest.

Highest regards.

Please send me comments on this draft.

Minor suggested changes below:

Dear Mr. Chaibout

Thank you very much for your congratulatory e-mail dated November 11, 2022. The new AAAGW Board is delighted to take over the helm of the association and eager to continue offering a vital forum for the community's social, educational, and cultural flourishing.

In that context, the new Board is working on the 2023 program and is looking forward to meeting with His Excellency the Ambassador and his staff to establish contact and discuss subjects of common interest.

Highest Regards.

- c. The meeting should be attended by no more than 2 Board members (the President and the Treasurer).
 - d. Talking points will have to be agreed upon by the Board ahead of the meeting.
 - e. Before that meeting, the Board will contact the community members and inform them of this upcoming meeting and ask them to forward us any concern and issue they may have in dealing with the embassy on consular issues.
 - f. Likewise, the community will be informed of the outcome of the meeting.
- 2. College admission coaching.** This is a very positive experience conducted by the previous Board in an effort to support our community's young graduates by guiding them through the cumbersome process of applying to US, Canadian and European colleges. We will contact the John Hopkins professor (we need to ask the name of this professor to Djamel) who helped in the past as well as Mrs. Bessaha who also has decades of experience in this field.
- 3. Suggestion box at events:**

At each event, the Board will place a suggestion box as well as a donation box. This will be another part of the Board efforts to maintain effort with the community and seek their support.

Abdelrahmi Bessaha