

Gbarnga Methodist Mission Alumni Association

General Meeting Agenda

8 PM Eastern Time - October 4, 2023

Call: 605-475-3200; Code 509561# if can't get in call 206-451-6121 then 605-475-3200; Code 509561#

- Call to Order
- Opening Prayer
- Opening Remarks
- Our Project (*Eagle's Wings Scholar Initiative*) ...**Review & Endorsement by General Body**
  - **Vision:** Develop an educational system for the Tubman-Gray School to ensure all of it's students achieve the highest academic standard in the country and that the system becomes the model for education in the Republic of Liberia.
  - **Mission:** Develop and implement the *Eagle's Wings Program*, a robust and high quality educational system in grades 1-3 as a foundation for higher grade levels.
  - **Strategy:** The *Eagle's Wings Program* will focus on curriculum development/enhancement, teacher recruitment and training, student financial assistance, essential educational tools, supplementing teacher salaries, best practice teaching strategies, and creating a safe, healthy and supportive learning environment.
  - **Core Values/Beliefs**
    - Growing college & career ready learners
    - Building a culture of ethics & integrity
    - Achieving academic excellence
    - Recruiting, training & retaining quality teachers
    - Nurturing authentic, positive relationships with and among students
    - Garnering community participation and support
    - Assuring a safe and supportive learning environment
- Eagle's Wings Project Overview
  - Funds will be transferred to the school via Western Union
  - School will issue receipts acknowledging receipt of funds
  - School will also issue receipts for everything the funds are used for, books, financial aid etc.

Details

- Total funds allocated for 2023 \$6500; and \$1000 for 2024 (second semester tuition not yet approved)

Description	Budgeted	Projected	Variance	Explanation
Grade 1 Financial Aid	1950	2235	285	17 vs 17 financial aid
Grade 1 Books (\$82.2)	2055	2055	0	25 vs 25 sets of books
Grade 2 Books (\$84)	1260	924	-336	11 vs 15 sets of books
Grade 3 Books (\$79)	1185	948	-237	12 vs 15 sets of books
Grade 12 Scholarships	500	500	0	2 vs 2 scholarships
Grade 12 Books	300	0	-300	0 vs 2 sets of books
Teacher Salary Supplement	250	250	0	1 vs 1 supplement
<b>Total</b>	<b>7500</b>	<b>6912</b>	<b>-588</b>	

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#### Financial Aid

- Financial aid will be granted to first graders
- No financial aid will be given to relatives of employees at the school
- Students will go through a screening and then an evaluation process to be selected
- \$1950 has been awarded in financial aid, targeted for 17 students under the anticipation that the school will have 8 students paying full tuition; bringing the total to 25 students in the classroom
- The school will determine how much financial aid a student will get based on information they gather on parents' ability to pay and academic achievements
- Intent is for parents to pay some of the fees in order to have a stake in their child's education. However, there may be mitigating circumstances where some students may receive 100% support based on academics and parents' financial standing.
- The school will give us names, photos, registration forms, payment receipts of all students given financial aid

#### First Grade Selection Process

##### Screening

- Limited analysis of their ability to write, spell, identify colors and other things they should have learned in

##### Assessment

- Writing and reciting capital and small letters
- Writing and saying their names
- Writing two letter words ( So, go, Lo, No, etc.)
- Writing and reciting the numbers from 1 to 100

#### Education & Research Committee Update

#### ➤ Donation Options....**Review & Endorsement by General Body**

##### Eagle's Wings Program Funding ....**Review & Endorsement by General Body**

- All dues and donations will be used to fund our *Eagle's Wings Program*. Cannot be allocated by contributor for another purpose
- Funds given to this program will be for things we deem necessary to support the education enhancement initiative.
- They include but are not limited to, financial aid for school fees and books, teacher training, student assessment, classroom material and equipment that can enhance learning. or to lesser degree projects as deemed appropriate.
- Funds given to the program will come from dues, contributions from members and non-members, fund raisers held by members of the Association, Convention fees

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**Named Financial Aid....Review & Endorsement by General Body**

- Individuals may want to target funds for specific purposes, financial aid for an individual student, a specific project, or the *Eagle's Wings Program*
- They may want to name it in their honor or in the memory of a loved one – either is OK
- When targeted for a student the following shall apply
  - They will provide the criteria for the scholarship
  - The school will ID candidates, the sponsor will select from the pool
  - Photos, Registration, school fee receipts and report cards will be provided by the school
- When targeted for a project receipts and photos will be provided
- When targeted for the Eagle's Wings program it will go into the general pool to be used as we deem necessary

**Levels of giving – Review & Endorsement by General Body**

Levels of Giving	Amount (\$)	Name on Website	Vote & Hold Office	Name In Convention Program	Reserved Seating With Guest	Photo In Convention Program	See 1949 Talon Eagle Club Below
Friend	<120	X					
Eagle	120	X	X				
Bronze Eagle	150	X	X	X			
Silver Eagle	200	X	X	X	X		
Golden Eagle	250	X	X	X	X	X	
1949 Talon Eagle Club	500	X	X	X	X	X	X

1949 Talon Eagle Club	Amount (\$)	Name on Website	Vote & Hold Office	Name In Convention Program	Reserved Seating With Guest	Photo In Convention Program	
Bronze Talon	500	X	X	X	X	X	Souvenir
Silver Talon	1000	X	X	X	X	X	+1 Free Dinner
Golden Talon	2000	X	X	X	X	X	2 Free Dinners

➤ **Membership Drive**

- Why is registering on the Website important?
  - We can push information to you as opposed you going to WhatsApp or Messenger and missing it if you miss a few days. Drive use of website for information.
  - Makes us feel that you are more interested/engaged
  - Give us data to use on estimates for budgets, attendance etc.
- The Vision Statement, Project Overview and Donation Options, PayPal Link and Wire transfer are completed

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- Registration Drive Options (**General Body - Be ready with additional suggestions**)
  - Make it a prerequisite to adding name to WhatsApp or Messenger
  - Call us and ask to register you
  - Ask them to put their information on WhatsApp or Messenger and we will register them
  - Set a Goal
  - Ask people to call those in their circles
  - Put an Ad Hoc Team together
  - Note: WhatsApp has 82 names in group, Messenger over 200 names in group
  - Registration on Website Goal; Min xxx, target xxx, Max xxx+
  - Set Registration drive timeline and strategy (**General Body - lets discuss how to make this happen**)
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
  - Payment Incentive
    - Pace Setting - Officers set the pace by donating at **Bronze-Eagle level of \$150** by years end.
    - Encourage members to start donating routinely and not wait until the convention
    - Let's set a Goal. Xxx by yyy

➤ Fund Raising Options (**General Body discuss which options to focus and any new ideas**)

Tier I

- Queen or Class Contest at Reunion
- Honoring Family or Faculty Staff by Family (Plaque/Brick – Wall or Walk of Honor); \$XXX
- Naming a Classroom or Building by Family (One time or annual?)
  - Classroom \$xxxx
  - Building \$xxxx
- Convention Souvenir Program Ads (Business, Memory, Full Page, ½ Page, ¼ page)
- Dinner Tickets
- Silent Auction
- Raffles

Tier II

- Small Group Fund Raisers – Can be by state, cities, friend groups.
- Belk Department Store methodology – Belk lets you sell tickets for \$5 and keep the proceeds. Buyers get 25% off purchase for tickets
- Social Committee to have big event well before convention

Tier III

- Solicit funds from other giving entities, foundations, churches, etc. in the form of grants, proposals, etc.

➤ Reunion Planning

- Dates – August 16-18, 2023, Columbia Md; Kaylor Hall
- Meet & Greet Committee
- General Meeting Committee

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- Program & Entertainment Planning Committee
  - Plan and print the program, tickets etc.
  - Coordinate queen contest, raffles etc.
  - Solicit Ads for the program
  - Select and manage souvenirs
  - Arrange entertainment and speakers
- Dinner Committee
- Church on Sunday
- Farewell Luncheon Committee
  
- Social Media Sites
  - Purpose of site, what to post, what to avoid posting
  
- Assisting Members
  - Section 2.10: It shall seek to promote cordial relations between members of the The Gbarnga Methodist Mission Alumni Association in the Americas through programs and other social and recreational activities. *It shall also come to the aid of downtrodden members of the Association, most especially providing charitable aid to active and due paying downtrodden member(s) when within its capacity to do so.*
  
- Financial Report
  
- New Business
  
- Benediction
  
- Adjourn