



# GHANA SCOUT ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL SCOUT COUNCIL HELD AT THE NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS CONFERENCE ROOM, ACCRA ON SATURDAY MAY 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2018

Started: 11:50 hrs

End Time: 17:52 hrs

## 1. Attendance

The total attendance was thirty-one (31) which included a member of the Africa Scout Committee - Africa

## 2. Apologies

There were no apologies

## 3. Present:

Present were:

**No Area/Name Position [District/Region]**

### NATIONAL SCOUT COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

1. Jerry Aikins

Deputy Chief Scout

### NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1. Gregory Manful
2. Louis Okyere Anopong
3. Hilary Awusie
4. Jonathan Askiah
5. Alhaji Ahmed Issaka
6. Eric Otoo
7. Abraham Nyankpen

Chief Commissioner  
Deputy Chief Commissioner  
Finance Commissioner  
Property Commissioner  
Program Commissioner  
Training Commissioner  
Executive Commissioner

### ASHANTI REGION

8. Raihana Ibrahim
9. Benjamin Alhassan Akasui
10. Agbadzi Akwasi Daniel
11. Obeng Yaw

Regional Commissioner\*  
Deputy Regional Commissioner\*  
District Commissioner  
District Commissioner\*

### BRONG AHAFO REGION

12. Zakari Abubakari
13. Shaibu Fuseini Fenteduah
14. Suglo Lambert
15. James Anta Ayoko

Deputy Regional Commissioner\*  
District Commissioner\*  
Deputy District Commissioner\*  
District Commissioner

### NORTHERN REGION

16. Mahama Braimah
17. Mohammed Bawa Ibrahim
18. Mohammed Ibn Halid
19. Fuseini Umar Farouk

Regional Commissioner\*  
District Commissioner\*  
District Commissioner  
Deputy District Commissioner\*

## **WESTERN REGION**

20. David B. K. Arthur
21. Nicholas Ying-Urah
22. Joseph Afari Arthur

Regional Commissioner\*  
District Commissioner\*  
Deputy District Commissioner\*

## **UPPER WEST REGION**

23. Issahaque Suleman
24. Al-Hassan Abubakar Zango
25. Bawa Yahaya

Regional Commissioner\*  
Deputy Regional Commissioner\*  
District Commissioner \*

## **GREATER ACCRA REGION**

26. Joseph Atiase
27. Holly Boadi
28. Godfred Delali Seane

Regional Commissioner\*  
District Commissioner\*  
District Commissioner\*

## **VOLTA REGION**

29. Cyril Adjei
30. Fredrick Agodua

District Commissioner\*  
District Commissioner\*

**NB:** All members with their respective positions marked asterisk (\*) are those who form the electoral group.

### **In Attendance**

31. Victor Atipagah

African Scout Committee

### **4. Introductory Business**

#### **a. Opening/Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by at 11:50am by the Deputy Chief Scout. All members re-affirmed the Scout Promise.

### **Attendance/Quorum check**

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Deputy Chief Scout (Chairman) welcomed all members to the meeting. Names of members present by name, position, area and region were mentioned from the Attendance Registration Sheet.

Quorum was later established with thirty-one (31) members being present

### **5. Proof of Meeting**

Members reviewed the notice sent to convene the AGM and noted that due notice had been given.

### **6. Adoption of Agenda**

The chairman stated that business would be:

1. Opening and welcome
2. Quorum check
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Previous Minutes
5. Adoption of GSA revised Constitution
6. Receive Chief Scout Commissioner's report.
7. Receive Audited Accounts for 2017



8. Receive Financial Report from Finance Commissioner
9. Approval of Budget
10. Awards
11. Adoption of Resolutions/Decisions
12. Elections:
  - Honorary Auditors
  - President and Vice President
  - Chief Scout Commissioner
  - Deputy Chief Scout Commissioner
13. Any Other Business
14. Closing

**Council concurred.**

## **7. Main Business**

### **PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The previous minutes of the 2017 AGM was read and the task assigned were called into question to see if the task were executed as agreed during the last AGM.

The task regarding the doors and windows that were falling apart at the guest house in Sakyikrom Training center was asked and the Chief Commissioner explained that the doors were also falling apart so the doors were fixed but the windows are yet to be fixed. In the absence of further discussions on the minutes, Raihana Ibrahim moved for the minutes to be adopted and was seconded by Holly Boadi.

**Moved:** Raihana Ibrahim

**Seconded:** Holly Boadi

### **a. Chief Scout Commissioner's Report**

The Chief Scout Commissioner read his report to the National Scout Council. His report captured a brief of the GSA Training center at Sakyikrom and update on the acquisition of a new land.

He also informed the house that there were series of introductory level training courses organized for newly recruited adult leaders in some regions. He said that copies of the adopted Youth program handbook will soon be ready from the printing house. He reported on the following;

- GSA conducted GSAT Assessment as part of the preparation for the final assessment in December 2018.
  - GSA Organized Assistant Leaders Training (ALT) course 2018 which has not been done in many years.
  - Scout against Malaria in selected communities in the Ashanti, Volta and Eastern regions.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Youth Forum organized by the Ghana Scout Association held at the headquarters
  - GSA participated in the 42<sup>nd</sup> World Scout Conference. This program was attended by the Deputy Chief Commissioner and a District Commissioner Timothy Asaam from the Western Region.
  - Partnership with the Netherlands Scout came to an end in December 2017.
  - Three selected youth were sponsored to participate in the International Leadership Training and West Africa Scouts Zonal Youth Forum in Lome, Togo in February, 2018.
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- Ten delegates made up of Regional Commissioners and NEC members from Ghana were also supported to participate in the West Africa Scouts Zonal Conference in Lome, Togo in February, 2018.
- Benjamin Alhassan Akasui represented the Ghana Scout Association at the Communication Forum held in Harare, Zimbabwe in March, 2018. This was through the support of the World Scout Bureau, Africa Support Centre.
- Benjamin Alhassan Akasui again represented the GSA at the African Scout Day in Zimbabwe on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018.
- Joseph Afari Arthur represented GSA at the 8<sup>th</sup> International Scout Gathering Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.
- Renovation of the guest house and bathroom at Sakyikrom were undertaken.
- The roof of the Sakyikrom has also been renovated to prevent leakages.
- The roof of the National Headquarters and the roof of the BP hall underwent renovation. Plumbing and works at the premises also took place by way of maintenance.
- The chief commissioner informed the house that GHC 41,000 out of 54,000 of the newly acquired land has been paid. He added that, the intention is to develop the new place into a Training Centre within the next few years.
- More schools with Scout groups have been added to the list of schools we already have.

A member asked whether there is any headway on the compensation from the Ghana Highway Authority's on the GSA used as part of the Kumasi-Apedwa road and whether there is any plan for it when successful. The Chief Commissioner mentioned that, the request has been sent to the Ghana Highway Authority for about a year and half but there is no headway yet and added that, when successful, the said compensation can be used to develop the land acquired at Sota Dodowa for a training centre.

In the absence of further discussion, Holly Boad moved for the report to be adopted and this was seconded by Frederick Agodua.

**Moved:** Holly Boadi

**Seconded:** Fredrick Agodua

### **Recommendations of National Youth Advisory**

Recommendations from the newly elected Youth Chairperson, Alhassan Andani was presented to the members for adoption. Below are the recommendations;

#### **1. Training**

- i. Considering the importance of the youth programme as adopted by National Scout Council, we recommend that a training course is facilitated for all trainers and leaders to easily align to the new youth programme.
- ii. Basic Training Courses and Preliminary Training Courses are regularly organized at the local level of Scouting.

#### **2. Uniform/ branding**

Looking at how presently most of our scouts appear in our Scout uniforms and insignia that are not of the GSA, and for which others dress like the military, it is important that we are educated on the right uniform as prescribed in the POR of the GSA.

#### **3. Membership Identification issues**



Due to the issue of impersonation of identity, we suggest to National Scout Council to review the membership registration and renewal issue to reintroduce the identity cards instead of membership certificates.

#### **4. Active citizenship**

- i. Considering the relevance of sustainable development goals to the development of communities and people and the need to care for the wellbeing of human kind, we recommend that each region should adopt at least one SDG of the seventeen as a focus implementation area for the year as ambassadors.
- ii. Rover crews within the regions should engage their local communities in simple and innovative community projects

#### **5. Regional Youth Forum**

Considering the importance of the Youth forum to the development of leadership of scouts, we recommend that the Youth forum concept is replicated in each region of the Ghana scout Association and linked up to the National Youth Forum.

#### **6. Conflict Resolution**

Noting that conflicts are part of every organization, the forum recommends that the PORs in Ghana Scout Association are used to help prevent and resolve issues of conflicts.

#### **7. Jamborees**

Realizing the importance of camps for the members of the GSA and the fact that we need to get to know each other we recommend that an annual National Scout Jamboree is instituted in order to promote scouting spirit and character development for all.

He stated that, with the above recommendations they hope that a good working relationship will be created between the National Executive Committee and the Youth Advisory Committee. They also hope that the NEC gives them the necessary support and advice to be able to achieve these goals.

The recommendations were discussed and Council agreed to allocate a budget of GHC 3000.00 to the Youth Committee to run their affairs. This was to be included in the Budget presented by the Finance Commissioner. The Deputy Chief Scout on his part, urged them to work harder to ensure they achieve the set objectives. The persons below moved and seconded for the recommendations to be adopted.

**Moved:** Mahama Braimah

**Seconded:** Ahmed Issaka

#### **b. Presentation of Audited Accounts for 2017 & Receiving of Financial Report from Finance Commissioner**

The audited accounts was read by a representative from Morrison and Associates. The DCS noted that, the grouping of certain transactions on page 19 of the Financial Report of the Audited Accounts was not clear and suggested that such transactions in the audited accounts be broken down in a manner that can be well understood by all. The Finance Commissioner took note of it and offered explanation to that effect. Presenting Financial

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report, the Finance Commissioner informed the house that the Baden Powell Centenary Hall generated an amount of GHC 87,000.00 and GHC 17,000.00 was spent on maintenance on our properties. A member advised that the money spent on maintenance was on the lower side and that more funds can be spent on maintaining the properties especially the BP hall which generates so much income to the Association. The advice was well taken. The following persons moved and seconded for the adoption of the 2017 audited accounts and Financial Report.

**Moved:** Cyril Adjei Sena

**Seconded:** Frederick Agodua

### **c. Approval of Budget**

The Finance Commissioner presented the GSA budget for 2018/2019 to the Council. The DCS suggested to the Finance Commissioner that, the budget should have been structured in months and mentioned that subsequent ones can be made in that format. Members discussed the need to do an upward adjustment of the office staff as indicated in the budget and it was agreed to.

Since the expected income from membership registration in the budget was meagre, members discussed the need for the regions to encourage their members to pay their annual registration to enable the Association realize a decent income from that area.

The Finance Commissioner proposed to the Council to increase the NEC sitting allowance be increased from GHC 40 to GHC 60 and also members who partake in programs. After discussions, it was agreed that the allowance of the NEC be increased to GHC 50 which is 25% incremeant. It was also agreed that transportation for Council meetings be adjusted to meet government approved rates for transportation. These changes were to be included in the budget and sent to Council members.

The persons below moved and seconded for the 2018/2019 budget to be adopted subject to the changes mentioned.

**Moved:**

Cyril Adjei Sena

**Seconded:**

Ahmed Issaka

### **d. Adoption of GSA revised Constitution**

The changes made in the revised constitution was spelled out by Mr. Louis Okyere Anopong and Mr. Ahmed Issaka. They explained a few changes added such as the Association getting a board that can help streamline the operations of other leadership structures of the Association in between Council meetings Associations as well as ensuring decentralization. The Deputy Chief Scout and Chief Commissioner took turns to explain some of the new changes the revised constitution brings and its positive effects of the Association if well embraced by all. The resolution below was passed to adopt the revised constitution of GSA.

The National Scout Council in accordance with Article 23 of the existing constitution resolves:

1. That the existing constitution of GSA be repealed.
  2. That the revised constitution which was attached to the notice of the NSC meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> May 2018,
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3. That the revised constitution which has been approved by the Constitution Committee of the World Scout Committee with recommendations and comments in future consideration in future revisions.
4. That the revised constitution in the form approved by the Constitution Committee of the World Scout Committee be and is hereby adopted as the constitution of the GSA in substitution for and to the exclusion of the existing constitution of GSA
5. That the revised constitution is to form attached hereto and initialed by the Deputy Chief Scout and Chief Scout Commissioner be hereby adopted as the constitution of the GSA in accordance with the provision set out in the articles of GSA.
6. That the new constitution shall come into effect ninety (90) days after the meeting.

The National Executive Committee was tasked to take the necessary steps to ensure the structures as indicated in the revised constitution are in place before the ninety (90) days to ensure a smooth implementation.

The persons below moved and seconded for the revised constitution of GSA to be adopted.

**Moved:** Raihana Ibrahim

**Seconded:** Braimah Mahama

#### **e. Awards**

The woodbadge participants who successfully completed the course were presented with their certificates of participation. There were 40 participants and 23 that had completed were presented with their certificates of participation. In addition, the first five to have completed their woodbadge assignments were presented with a woodbadge scarf and two beads by the Chief Commissioner.

#### **f. Elections**

Chairman for the Electoral Committee, Suleman Issahaque presented the report of the committee to the National Scout Council. He said that there were four members who submitted their nominations to contest for the position of Chief Scout Commissioner and Deputy Chief Scout Commissioner. They were Louis Anopong Okyere and Braimah Mahama for the position of Chief Scout commissioner and David Bright Arthur and Hilary Yaw Awusie for the position of Deputy Chief Scout Commissioner. Braimah Mahama and David Bright Arthur them didn't meet the criteria agreed upon during the SGM so they were not legible to compete. There was a petition from Braimah Mahama after being informed of his inability to meet the proof of membership for the past three consecutive years and submission of appraisals for the past three consecutive years but he didn't have evidence to support his claims when he was given the chance to meet with the committee again. Same petition was from David Bright Arthur who was contesting for the position of Deputy Chief Scout Commissioner but was not able to substantiate his claims with evidence.

In view of this, the Electoral Committee approved Louis Anopong Okyere to contest for the position of Chief Scout Commissioner and Hilary Yaw Awusie to contest for the position of Deputy Chief Scout Commissioner. The Electoral Committee congratulated those who were approved to contest as candidates and also thanked those who could not make it but used legitimate and peaceful means of addressing the issues.

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The chairman of the Committee, Suleman Issahaque did the quorum check for the 19-member electoral group for the commencement of the elections. The electoral group comprised of three members each from the Regional Scout Councils present.

A representative of the Electoral Commission of Ghana who is the presiding officer of the Commission in the Klottey Korley constituency in the Greater Accra region of Ghana, took over from that point and mentioned that, per the Rules of Procedures of GSA, ballots will have to be cast on the approved candidates by the Electoral group on a “Yes” or “No” basis since there were two candidates to vote for and one for each position. She took the electoral group through the voting procedures after which elections took place. The presiding officer counted the votes in the presence of the National Scout Council after the voting and declared the winners as follows; Louis Anopong Okyere and Hilary Yaw Awusie were elected as the Chief Commissioner and Deputy Chief Commissioner respectively. Details of the results are below;

**Name:** Louis Okyere Anopong

**Name:** Hilary Yaw Awusie

**Position (Vied):** Chief Scout Commissioner

**Position (Vied):** Deputy Chief Scout Commissioner

**Voting Status:** Yes No Rejected vote

**Yes No Rejected Votes**

**Voting Results:** 11 9 0

11 8 1

**h. Swearing-In-Chief and Deputy Chief Commissioner Elect**

The Deputy Chief Scout presented warrants to the Chief Commissioner elect and Deputy Chief Commissioner elect. The Chief Commissioner elect and the Deputy Chief Commissioner gave a brief speech to council and promise to work harder.

The Out-going Chief Commissioner thanked the members for their overwhelming support and also the efforts every member which ensured a successful AGM.

With no further business at hand, the meeting was moved to close at 17:52 hrs by;

**Joseph Atiase** and Seconded by **Shaibu Fuseini Fenteduah.**

**TASK ASSIGNED:**

1. The Finance Commissioner to revise and make the necessary corrections on the Budget and submit it to the council.
2. National Executive Committee to take the necessary steps to ensure the structures as indicated the revised constitution are in place within the next ninety (90) days following the AGM date.

**Recorded by;**

**NEC Approval;**

**National Council Chairman;**

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**Abraham Nyankpen**

**Gregory Manful**

**Jerry Aikins**

**Executive Commissioner**

**Chief Commissioner**

**Deputy Chief Scout**

