

**CPHSAA-USA
2019 CONVENTION MEETING MINUTES
NEW BRIGHTON, MINNESOTA**

August 10, 2019

Opening

The meeting was called to order by the president, Dr. A. Senyon Tatus. The meeting opened with a prayer by Ms. Pody Williams, Chaplain of the Association. The Chaplain prayed for the success of the convention, members and their families, and all who were absent. She called on God's blessing for the Association and prayed that our discussions be fruitful and rewarding. The President welcomed the members to the 20th Annual Convention and thanked them for coming to the beautiful City of New Brighton in the great State of Minnesota. The President expressed his gratitude for those who made the trip and asked God to bless those who were unable to come due to prior engagements or circumstances beyond their control. He extended his sincere thanks and appreciation to the entire membership of Cape Palmas High School Alumni Association-USA for giving him the opportunity to serve as President of the Convention CPHS-AA USA.

Agenda

The President presented the agenda to the members and asked for review, comments, and approval. The agenda was approved as follow:

1. Opening Session & Welcome
2. 2018 Convention Minutes
3. Outreach Committee Report
4. Fundraising Committee Report
5. Social & Planning Committee Report
6. Financial Secretary's Report
7. Treasurer's Report
7. President's Report
8. Adoption of 2019/2020 Projects
9. Elections
 1. Board of Directors

2. Parliamentary
10. New Business
11. 2020 Convention Venue Announcement
12. Closing Prayer & Adjournment

Participants:

There were 16 members who participated during the 20th Annual Convention. They include the following:

1. Dr. A. Senyon Tatus
2. Ms. Barbara Freeman
3. Mr. Homa Allison
4. Dr. T. Edwin Freeman
5. Dr. Blidi Stemn
6. Ms. Pody Williams
7. Father Wilson
8. Ms. J.E Bright
9. Ms. Bunchi Bright
10. Ms. Getrude Freeman
11. Ms. Sarai Scott Savage
12. Budude Zawu-Roberts
13. Mr. A. Cooper
14. Ms. Claudette
15. Ms. Radia Scott
16. Ms. Pody Williams

Minutes

Due to the absence of the General Secretary, Mrs. Millie Brooks-Peters, the minutes of the previous Convention was unavailable, and therefore, not read.

Special Message

A special message was delivered to the Convention participants by Dr. T. Edwin Freeman. Dr. Freeman who served as the Association past Junior President expressed his gratitude to the Convention Planning Committee for a splendid job in planning, coordinating, and implementing the 19th Annual Convention of CPHSAA-USA.

Treasurer's Report

Due to the absence of the Treasurer, Ms. Jannie E. Bright, the Treasurer's Annual Report was not available to the Convention Participants. Therefore, it was not read.

Financial Secretary's Report

Due to the absence of the Financial Secretary, Dr. Bliidi Stemn, the Financial Secretary's Annual Report was not available to the Convention Participants. Therefore, it was not read.

President's Report

The President, Mr. Henry Muhlenburg was absent but called on Saturday morning to inform the Chairman of the CPC that he was unable to travel due to weather conditions at the airport. He, however, submitted his report via email to the Chairman of the CPC. The report was read by Dr. T. Edwin Freeman. In the report, the President presented a list of items needed at CPHS. The list was prepared by the current principal of CPHS. The President's report was discussed, adopted and formed part of our archives.

Adoption of Projects

There were no projects earmarked for adoption. Participants unanimously agreed that the next elected officers should draw up projects and activities for the next two years of their administration.

Elections of New Officers

Elections of new officers for CPHSAA-USA for 2019/2020 Administrative Year were conducted by Dr. T. Edwin Freeman in the absence of Mr. Abrom Pascal Cooper, who was appointed by

the outgoing President Mr. Henry Muhlenburg. Mr. Cooper was unable to travel because of circumstances beyond his control. The elections were conducted free and fair based on Roberts' Rules of Order.

Participants at the Convention elected new officers. Those elected were:

Dr. A. Senyon Tatus	President
Ms. Barbara Freeman	Vice President
Mr. Homa Allison	General Secretary
Ms. Janie E. Bright	Treasurer (absentee ballot)
Mrs. Anna C. Barlee	Financial Secretary
Ms. Pode Williams	Chaplain

New Business

Participants discussed the installation of the new officers. It was reported by Dr. Tatus that Dr. Gerald E. Thomas was invited to serve as the Installation Officer and will provide the Key Note Address. Dr. Thomas is the CEO of Thomas & Associates Services, LLC.

No other new business was discussed by the participants.

Next Venue for the 20th Annual Convention – Convention 2019

Although absent at the 2018 Convention, Mrs. Millie Brooks-Peters called to inform participants that she is volunteering to host the next convention in Brandon, Mississippi. Participants unanimously agreed that the next convention would be held in the beautiful city of Brandon, Mississippi. The newly elected President, Dr. A. Senyon Tatus asked participants to please join him in congratulating Mrs. Brooks-Peters for her willingness to host Convention 2019. It was noted that the date and time of Convention 2019 will be announced later by the next appointed Convention Planning Committee.

Closing Prayer & Adjournment

The Business Session of Convention 2018 was adjourned at 4:00 P.M. following a closing prayer by the newly elected Chaplain of CPHSAA-USA, Ms. Pode Williams.

Attached, please find the entire report of Convention 2018 for your review and reference.

Thank You.

Respectfully Submitted,

Homa Allison
General Secretary-Elect
CPHSAA-USA, Inc.

CPHSAA-USA
2018 CONVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT
MADISON, WISCONSIN

August 28, 2018

Greetings

On behalf of the Convention Planning Committee, I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to the former President, Mr. Henry Muhlenburg and the entire membership of Cape Palmas High School Alumni Association-USA for giving us the opportunity to serve you. We are grateful.

On May 17, 2018, the Convention Planning Committee (CPC) was appointed to plan, organize and implement Convention 2018 in Madison, Wisconsin from August 17 – 19, 2018.

Members appointed to serve on the CPC were;

Dr. A. Senyon Tatus	Chair
Dr. Blidi Stemn	Co-Chair
Dr. T. Edwin Freeman	Member
Mrs. Susan Collins	Secretary
Mrs Anna C. Barlee	Member
Ms. Barbara Freeman	Member

The CPC selected the Theme “Together, We Rise” as the focus point for the Convention.

Convention 2018

In order to host a successful convention, after many years of inactivity, the CPC had many brainstorming sessions and proffered periodic updates to the general body during the Association’s bi-week teleconference. The CPC requested and received \$1,000.00 to finance the Convention. A budget was submitted to and approved by the general body. With participation

low due to the short notice to plan, organize and implement Convention 2018, in addition to circumstances beyond some members' control to participate, the CPC considered Convention 2018 a great success.

Convention 2018 was held outdoors under a tent in a secured fenced compound. The CPC printed t-shirts and a banner for the Convention. A red carpet was also purchased. Participants took pictures on the red carpet, Hollywood style. Both the banner and red carpet are now the properties of the Association and will be stored by the president of CPHSAA-USA.

For the very first time, a silent auction was held at CPHSAA-USA Convention. Thanks to our generous donors, who went all out to present the best gifts to make Convention 2018 a success. Special thanks to Dr. Stemn, Dr. Freeman, Ms. Barbara Freeman, and Dr. Tatus for their donations. The silent auction generated a total of \$385.00. The CPC of 2018 recommends that silent auction becomes a regular function at CPHSAA-USA future Conventions.

The former President, Mr. Henry Muhlenburg, called on Saturday morning to inform the Chairman of the CPC that he was unable to travel due to weather conditions. He, however, submitted his report via email to the CPC. The report was read by Dr. T. Edwin Freeman. In the report, Mr. Muhlenburg presented a list of items needed at CPHS. The list was prepared by the current principal of CPHS. Mr. Muhlenburg's report was discussed and adopted. No other official reports were presented.

Participants

I am pleased to report that all members of the CPC, except Dr. Stemn, were present at Convention 2018. Dr. Stemn, during the planning process, advised the Committee that he would be unable to attend due to prior engagement.

Also, attending the convention in addition to members of the CPC were Mr. Homa Allison, Ms. Pode Williams, Dr. Gerald & Mrs. Thomas (Key Note Speaker and his wife), Mrs. Kristel Tatus, and Thomas Kumeh Tatus (photographer). Special thanks to Mrs. Emily Slobert for preparing the Goat Pepper Soup and her support to Convention 2018. The soup sale generated the amount of \$40.00.

Election of Officers

The elections were conducted by Dr. T. Edwin Freeman in the absence of Mr. Abrom Pascal Cooper, who was unable to travel because of circumstances beyond his control. The elections were conducted free and fair based on Roberts' Rules of Order.

Participants at the Convention elected new officers. Those elected are listed below:

Dr. A. Senyon Tatus	President
Ms. Barbara Freeman	Vice President
Mr. Homa Allison	General Secretary
Ms. Janie E. Bright	Treasurer
Mrs. Anna C. Barlee	Financial Secretary
Ms. Pode Williams	Chaplain

Installation of CPHSAA-USA New Officers

Dr. Gerald E. Thomas served as the Installation Officer and proffered the Key Note Address. Dr. Thomas admonished the new officers to think deep in their hearts to seek the well-being of the Association and the people it represents. He expressed his envy of the Association for “hanging together and giving honor to our tradition”. Dr. Thomas further advised the Association to “continue to travel the extra mile in pursuit of your mission”. Dr. Thomas thanked the CPC for extending an invitation to him and his wife to be a part of such an important occasion.

The Budget

The CPC received \$1,000.00 for the Convention 2018 program. After the program expenditure, Convention 2018 realized a net income of \$225.00, despite to low participation of the membership.

Below is the breakdown.

INCOME

Registration	\$800.00	
Silent Auction	\$385.00	
Soup Sale	\$40.00	
Total Income		\$1,225.00

Expenditure

Food & Silverwares	\$400.00	
Drinks	\$125.00	
Printing T-Shirts	\$318.00	
Banner	\$91.97	
Red Carpet	\$ 25.00	
Miscellaneous	\$40.03	
Total expenditure		\$1000.00

Net Income	\$225.00
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Pledges for Convention 2018 are still pouring in. As of today, \$500.00 has been pledged. We are hoping that more members will consider meeting their financial obligations to the Association.

Convention 2019

The next convention is scheduled to be held in Brandon, Mississippi. Our host is Mrs. Millie Brooks-Peters. Please join me in congratulating Mrs. Brooks-Peters for her willingness to host Convention 2019. The date and time will be announced later by the next appointed Convention Planning Committee.

Thank You

Once again, on behalf of the Convention Planning Committee, I sincerely thank the outgoing President, Mr. Henry Muhlenburg, members of his staff, and the entire CPHSAA-USA for giving us the opportunity to serve the Association.

Special thanks to Mrs. Kristel Tatus for opening up her home to host Convention 2018. It is a joy to have her on my side and a backbone for my endeavors. Thanks to Thomas Kumeh Tatus for his services as the unofficial photographer of CPHSAA-USA 2018 Convention.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted:

A. Senyon Tatus

**Chairman, Convention Planning Committee
CPHSAA-USA**