

Minutes of Meeting Held on November 17, 2007

Location: At the residence of Wan Hwa president Stan Liou preceded by a delicious American dinner buffet prepared by LuLu Liou.

Attendees:

Stan Liou, Lulu Liou, James Huang, Henry Lim, Cynthia Lim, David Wong, Thomas Young, Joseph Lye, Lit Taik Tan, Cho Kok Liang, Clarence Chan, Peter Young, Nora Kay, Ken Kay, Jean Chow, Joe Chow, Diana Tseng, Charlie Tseng, and Sidonie Tain.

1. Joe Chow has resigned from his position as secretary due to personal reasons. He has served in this position for 11 months and prior to that he had supported Jean Chow in her role as treasurer. Stan commended Joe for being resourceful, detail-minded and creative. Everyone applauded Joe for his outstanding contribution. Nora Kay accepted the job with promises of the helping hands from others. Clarence Chan also gave up his treasurer position. He was commended for his devotion and accuracy in handling the Wan Hua financial account. Lulu, with full endorsement from board members, is our new treasurer. Clarence transferred the funds to Lulu at conclusion of the meeting.
2. Stan thanked Lit Taik for his praises and appreciation for him and the association, which he mentioned in his email addressed to Ken Wong. Stan expressed that this positive input has recharged his energy to serve our association. Lit Taik joked that even though they are not in the executive committee, they are paying close attention.
3. According to our bylaws, the president is allowed to make financial decision that does not exceed \$200. Stan was asking for authorization from the board for renewal of the Web services that hosts WanHua.org Web pages, which costs \$214 for three years or \$95.00 annually. Joe suggested going for the better deal; a three-year service contract and the board agreed.
4. Stan wanted to know whether it is appropriate occasionally to go above ten percent of authorized amount. Li Taik suggested that the president be empowered to make financial decision at his discretion when timely action is important and if the board does not agree with the amount, the president can make up the differential from his own funds. That comment amused the attendees.
5. At the last meeting, Henry suggested registering with the City of Millbrae or San Mateo County so as we can open an own account. In order to do so, banks requires the Association to obtain an IRS Non-Profit Determination Letter or Federal Certification of Non-Profit Status. At this point in time it's not feasible to register as a non-profit organization due to cumbersome rules and an annual \$800 registration fee. Stan mentioned that a couple of associations were able to register for an annual fee of \$15 to \$20 and he would follow up on that.
6. The subject about spending of the fund was brought up by Stan. According to by-laws, any expenditure has to be approved by board members. Since not all members are present at each meeting, do we need absentee votes for approval?

7. Henry suggested that to expedite the process, only votes from members present at meeting are tallied. Stan reminded everyone that there are 13 board members and that some resides in Taiwan and getting a vote that requires attendance at meetings is problematic. Dr. Kyaw Win suggested that a two-thirds or simple majority vote by meeting attendees be required for issues involving money. For minor issues, a simple majority will be adequate. Diana pointed out that will create more complication and leaves the question of which issue is major or minor. Stan said that the association funds are not excessive at this point. Finally, everyone agreed that any issue regardless of importance would be decided by majority vote from the board members present at the meeting. Lit Taik pointed out that if it is a tie, the president could cast the tiebreaker. The reason we do not want to count absentee votes is that we want to encourage people to attend meetings.

8. We want a representative for our association in each city or country outside the Bay Area. Henry mentioned that he tried to ask a few people to do so. Most folks do not want the responsibility. We hope we can gradually get more people involved. He also suggested that to be a representative he or she must provide some services for the association such as recruiting new Wan Hua alumni members. James Huang suggested that it is important to appoint representatives and that he or she should not be a board director. For example, Steven Kong and Ken Yap are honorary directors due to their significant donation and Felix Chin is an honorary president for his previous service.

9. Chinese New Year celebration – it's tentatively set for either March or April 2008. We will try to avoid dates that conflict with other organizations, e.g. Hua Zhong will hold theirs in May 2008; Nam Zhong will have their 16th anniversary in lieu of New Year celebration and Hakka Association will hold a picnic.

10. Stan will reserve a date at the same restaurant as last year if authorized by the Board. Clarence suggested a Saturday for the event so as more people can attend. The restaurant is very popular and the price has increased. Also there is a buffet option, which costs less. The association can subsidize for the tradition dinner with ticket sales. Need to reserve early in order to get a Saturday.

11. Stan has modified our association by-laws and election rules to suit our needs over time and will pass them out soon for review soon.

12. Stan brought up the subject about the association getting involved with other local associations and their activities. While Wan Hua Alumni Association is a non-political entity and was created solely to bring together Wan Hua alumni, other associations do have political overtones. The question was raised whether the Association should invite representatives of other associations to our function and we attend theirs.

A vote was taken and the results follow:

Yes: 15, No: 1, Neutral: 1

The resolution passed. It was agreed to refrain from requesting a speech from their representatives and if they do ask, to request them to refrain from politics.

13. Stan mentioned that he did a lot of homework and computer work prior to every meeting. He said he was passionate about the association and he thought everyone is too. He encouraged everyone to speak his or her mind and he values every suggestion. Stan brought up the subject of frequency of meetings. He proposed quarterly meetings – every three months with an option to call a meeting when urgent issues require one.

14. To close out the meeting Stan went around and asked everyone if he or she had anything else to say. Dr. Kyaw Win said he would like more people to attend meetings to which Clarence Chan reminded everyone that Wan Hua was a relatively small school and that since Stan and Lulu were doing an excellent job for the association he suggested that Stan should be made ‘president-for-life.’ To which Stan replied saying that he wished to give everyone a chance to serve.

15. The next meeting is tentatively set for Saturday, February 23, 2008 at 11:30 AM at Stan & Lulu’s residence.