

**COMMONWEALTH ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS
ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Including ELEVENTH ELECTIONS**

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2008

Umana Yana

Georgetown, Guyana

11:00 A.M.

Present:

Members

Martin Segger, Canada, Acting President
Michael Gondwe, Council Member, Malawi
Richard Benjamin, England
Tamika Boatswain, Guyana
Hazel Brookes, St. Kitts and Nevis
Catherine Cole, Canada
Luvuyo Dondolo, South Africa
Mark Graham, Canada
Michael Jessamy, Grenada
Lloyd Kandasammy, Guyana
Mohamed Khan, Guyana
Christine Ngereza, Tanzania
Freda Nkirote, Kenya
Terry Nyambe, Zambia
Gerard Pereira, Guyana
Krishnanandan Raghunandan, Guyana
Lucina Shayo, Tanzania
Yakhub Tiamiyu, Nigeria
Barbara Winters, Canada

Also present:

Elfrieda Bissember, Guyana
Marco Olcha, Cuba
Nirvana Persaud, Guyana

Regrets:

Lois Irvine, Canada

Reporter	Agenda Items	Action
	1. Call to Order, Regrets 1.1 Martin Segger called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. 1.2 Regrets: Secretary-General Lois Irvine sent her regrets that she cannot attend this meeting. In the absence of the Secretary General, the minutes were recorded by Barbara Winters, CAM Co-ordinator for the Guyana meeting.	
	2. Adoption of the agenda. A motion to adopt the agenda was moved, seconded and carried.	
Martin Segger	3. Remembrance for Past Members 3.1 Martin Segger invited a minute of silence in memory of Duncan Cameron of Canada, a past president of CAM, and Emmanuel N. Arinze of Nigeria, immediate past president of CAM. 3.2 Martin Segger announced that the Executive Board of CAM has elected Lois Irvine to the Cowrie Circle, the Commonwealth Association of Museums?	
Martin Segger	3. Remembrance for Past Members 3.1 Martin Segger invited a minute of silence in memory of Duncan Cameron of	<i>Karen Ward 9/4/08</i>

<p>Martin Segger</p>	<p>4. President's Report: Martin Segger read from the report to the Commonwealth Foundation on the activities of CAM over the past five years. Plans continue to redesign the Distance Learning program to bring it up to date with current museum practices. The session on the CAM course held here at the Guyana conference was fruitful and allowed for members who have taken the course and others who are interested in it to comment on its current content and to propose updates and new processes for delivery.</p> <p>The Guyana conference was declared a great success. In all sessions delegates enthusiastically shared and discussed projects undertaken by their institutions to help build respect and understanding among diverse cultural and ethnic communities. The conference allowed delegates to discuss at length the economic and infrastructure problems faced by heritage institutions in developing countries. Attention was directed to the role of museums in post-colonial societies, and a consensus emerged that the traditional definition of museums is no longer adequate to describe the diversity of work that museums do in their communities, as discussed at this conference: raising awareness of health issues such as malaria and HIV/AIDS; supporting the role and rights of women in society; building bridges between ethnic groups through recording and sharing intangible heritage, education programming, and the encouragement of broad community participation; addressing contemporary issues of global concern such as biodiversity and global warming. Delegates agreed that CAM should participate with ICOM in the redefinition of museums, and embedded that goal as a resolution in the Georgetown Declaration.</p> <p>No location has been established for the next general assembly, which will be held in three years time.</p>	
<p>Martin Segger</p>	<p>5. Approval of Minutes The minutes of the annual general meeting held at the residence of Lois Irvine in De Winton, Alberta, Canada on June 25, 2007, were circulated and reviewed. A motion by Martin Segger to approve the minutes was seconded and carried.</p> <p>6. Business Arising from the Minutes None.</p> <p>7. Financial Report and Approval of the Audited Statements of June 30, 2007 Martin Segger read details from the audited report prepared by D.S. Rutherford Professional Corporation. A motion by Martin Segger, seconded by Richard Benjamin, to adopt the Financial Report was carried.</p> <p>8. Appointment of Auditors A motion by Martin Segger, seconded by Luvuyo Dondolo, to approve the recommendation by Lois Irvine to reappoint the auditor, D.S. Rutherford Professional Corporation, was carried.</p> <p>9. Extraordinary Business A motion by Martin Segger, seconded by Yakhub Tiamiyu, to move the official head office of CAM from the Incorporating Lawyer to the legal land address of Secretary General Lois Irvine was carried. The head office</p>	<p>Reappointment of the auditor, Mr. Don Rutherford</p> <p>Move the official head office of CAM is now c/o</p>
<p>Martin</p>	<p>5. Approval of Minutes The minutes of the annual general meeting held at the residence of Lois</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Karen Ward</i> 9/4/08</p>

M. Segger	<p>13. CAM Update on all other Activities and Questions</p> <p>3.1 The CAM distance education program was discussed yesterday at a special meeting of the CAM members. The first step in redesigning the program will be to develop a business plan. It is estimated that it will cost \$60,000 – 70,000 to produce a new course.</p> <p>3.2 CAM website. The backlog of unpublished CAM conference papers will be published on the CAM website. A discussion forum will be built into the website and the site will be continuously updated with news items and resources for members.</p> <p>3.3 The Commonwealth Foundation requires detailed reporting of CAM activities. The report to the Foundation of this conference will include successful outcomes such as: a) the proposal by delegates from Malawi and Zambia to have Cuban taxidermist Marco Antonio Olcha, who attended the CAM conference while working for the National Museum of Guyana, visit museums in their country to conduct taxidermy training programs; b) the publication of all the conference presentations on the CAM website; and c) the CAM Georgetown Declaration for future action written and adopted by the delegates at the conclusion of the conference.</p>	<p>Move forward with course development.</p> <p>Publish papers and set up discussion forum.</p> <p>Report outcomes to Foundation</p>
Terry Nyambe Catherine Cole	<p>14. Other Business</p> <p>4.1 Yakhub Tiamiyu brought CAM memberships for fifty-one new and renewing members from Nigeria. It was suggested that because of the large membership in Nigeria and in other countries, CAM could recognize local chapters that could function independently. Local chapters could circulate publications and hold local and national meetings to increase networking and exchange of information about their activities.</p> <p>4.2 Michael Gondwe suggested that to encourage membership CAM should have a clear, three-year plan of activities and should regularly inform members of these activities and additional developments that arise.</p> <p>4.3 In reaction to the lack of information regarding the nomination process for council members, it was suggested that CAM members should be better informed about the structure, constitution and activities of the organization.</p> <p>4.4 Members discussed making a statement regarding the private Guyanese Heritage Museum that was visited during a conference excursion. It was agreed that the significant collection of Guyanese artifacts and the extensive knowledge of the owner of the museum should be documented to ensure their preservation as patrimony of the country. A motion by Martin Segger, seconded by Hazel Brookes, was approved to send a letter of thanks to the owner of the museum, in which he will be encouraged to document his collection with the assistance of the museum community in Guyana and the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture.</p> <p>4.5 Members agreed that before delegates to the convention depart, they should forge alliances with others attending the conference to sustain the achievements made and actions proposed during the presentations and discussions. E.g., Yakhub Tiamiyu and Terry Nyambe will look into having Cuban taxidermist Marco Olcha travel to Nigeria and Zambia to train taxidermists, a specialty lacking but much needed in those countries.</p> <p>4.6 Terry Nyambe congratulated Martin Segger and the newly elected council members</p> <p>4.7 Catherine Cole proposed a motion of thanks to Tamika Boatswain and her staff, to all those who hosted us during the conference and on the excursions to heritage sites, and to Martin Segger, Barbara Winters and Lois Irvine. The motion was carried. Martin Segger will send letters of thanks to the Guyanese hosts.</p>	<p>Items for Board consideration:</p> <p>Inform Board and Members</p> <p>Publish plan on website with regular update</p> <p>Send letter</p> <p>Prepare letter with assistance of African colleagues</p>

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	<p>14. Adjournment</p> <p>A motion by Yakhub Tiamiyu, seconded by Lucina Shayo, to adjourn the meeting was carried.</p>	

Minutes recorded by Barbara Winters, CAM Co-ordinator for the Guyana Meeting.

President

Secretary General