

**MINUTES OF THE MID-YEAR GENERAL MEETING HELD ON**  
**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2006**  
**At the SLCFA Premises - 2913 – 66 ST. Edmonton, AB**

**1.0 Call to Order:**

The President, Suresh Fernando, called the meeting to order at 2:18 p.m. with 30 Members in attendance.

**2.0 Approval of the Agenda:**

The following changes to the Agenda were suggested:

- \* Insert Treasurer's Report as – 5.0
- \* Change New Business to 6.0
- \* 6.1 to be Changes to Policies & Procedures Manual
- 6.2 to be Changes to Existing By-Laws
- 6.3 Resolutions
- \* 7.0 Any Other Business
- 7.1 First Friday Gatherings (additional item)
- 7.2 Parking
- 7.3 Bereavement Fund Donation
- 8.0 Adjournment

The house agreed to the motion to accept the amended agenda, proposed by Chris Senaratne and seconded by Sunil Ranasinghe.

**3.0 Approval of Minutes of the 2006 Annual General Meeting:**

Ramona brought up a 7.0 of the Auditor's Report that had not mentioned that "the receipts were written not issued" but only stated "The Treasurer who then had no choice but to issue receipts only to those whose contributions were received by him" After a lengthy discussion the wording "Treasurer who then had no choice" was deleted and was amended to read: "The Treasurer who then recorded and issued receipts to only those whose contributions were received by him". The amendment was approved by the house, proposed by Gothami Wickramasekara and seconded by Mano Senaratne.

**4.0 Business Arising Out of the Minutes:**

- 4.1 Item 7-last paragraph - will be discussed under 7.3 of the Agenda.
- 4.2 A one minute silence was observed by the house for members who were deceased recently, as suggested to the Chair by Anil Fernando.

**5.0 Treasurer's Report:**

- 5.1 Membership Subscriptions- Shows \$50.00 under Mano Senaratne- the breakdown is Mano had sent one cheque including, Janek and Nadeema. Even though some members suggested that receipts should be issued against each name, Gothami said that the previous year she only issued the receipt to the name on the cheque. Savithri suggested that the Treasurer could list the paid up member names. It was agreed that the list should separate, Life, Complimentary, Couple and Family.
- 5.2 Bereavement Fund should be :\$2087.26 not \$2027.26(add monies received after)
- 5.3 Sunil questioned the Event deposit shown under Revenue. This is money received from the AGLC which is first deposited and then disbursed.
- 5.4 Chris wanted to know how the Building Operation was at \$5257. This amount included the Condo Fee of \$2700.00 already paid out, plus internet/Telephone. A complete breakdown to be prepared for the AGM.

- 5.5 Mano brought up a suggestion due to record revenues from the Heritage Festival, a special appreciation dinner be organized for all those who volunteered at the Heritage Festival. The house was in favour of treating those who volunteered at the Heritage with a meal; however Ramona cautioned that the General Fund should not be depleted too much, but spend fairly.

**6.0 New Business:**

6.1 Changes to Policies and Procedures:

Section 1 - was approved as circulated except take out the words in parenthesis “(AGM, MGM)”

6.2 Changes to Existing By-Laws –

Section 2.5.2. Much discussion ensued on this subject. Some wanted a ceiling on complimentary membership; some found that after the year ended, complimentary members did not become paid up members. Some in the house suggested that this category be abolished.

One member stated that the purpose of the complimentary membership is to make the Association available to someone who wants to be part of it. It is an opportunity to enhance the vision of the Association, get some people interested and lessen the burden on the existing members. From the revenue generating point of it, March 31 should remain the deadline for paying dues.

Some suggestions were to give people a chance as an Association, treat them well, so they will be enticed to join, with some wanting to send By-Laws and Policies and Procedures with Membership form.

The final consensus was and on a motion brought by Mano Senaratne, seconded by Chris Sellathamby, it was approved that the “Complimentary Membership be given until the end of the Calendar Year i.e. March 31” and the form to be amended to incorporate the specified categories as specified with the By-Laws

6.3 Resolutions – Guidelines for Donations to Charity

- 6.3.1 After much discussion, the house unanimously approved the motion by Savithri, seconded by Gothami that this donation of \$50.00 to a Charity of Choice in the event of death of a family member(s) be abolished.

Albert to send an email to all the members

6.3.2 Contribution to the Bereavement Aid Scheme

Mano proposed that the fund be collected before hand, and anyone who does not contribute will not be entitled to the monetary benefit of the scheme in the event of death. Fund will be replenished after each death. For new members who join the membership application form to have a column requesting if they would accept, simple ‘yes’ or ‘no’ contributing to this scheme. The members will be expected to contribute \$25 per “Family” membership (couple, single parent, Family) and \$15.00 per “Single” membership (individual, student, and senior). Savithri brought forward a motion to accept and the motion was seconded by Anil.

By a show of hands the house voted: 18 in favour, 4 against and 4 abstained  
Resolution carried

- 6.3.3. Abolition of Building Management Committee and Appointment of a Caretaker to oversee and carry out the established guidelines for building management and usage has become necessary due to lack of volunteers to perform required tasks. There were many pros and cons to the discussion, with one member suggesting

and some agreeing that for purpose of continuity and with many Sri Lankans arriving in Edmonton, we may double our membership the idea had merit. We could verify from the AGLC if this position could be paid for the Casino Funds. We have sufficient funds to do this. It was also obvious that members did not feel that they had sufficient time to volunteer for the many tasks required and most of the time it was the few who always seem to be taking care of every detail. However, it was also emphasized that the appointment of a paid caretaker would not remove the responsibilities of the EXCO but will enhance the work that is expected. We need to look to the future and be realistic. If we are to continue serving the members and the community we could use the help. Since there were insufficient members to vote on this, the item was to be tabled at the AGM.

## **7. Any Other Business:**

### **7.1 First Friday Gatherings:**

Mano felt that this informal event should be revived and be ongoing. A volunteer was needed to be in charge of organizing this event.

The President said that due to his job commitments he could not always be here to open the doors. The same was true of the Treasurer. The Vice President lived on the North side. Chris said if he was in town it would not be a problem, but he could not guarantee that either. This matter had no constructive conclusion.

### **7.2 Parking:**

One of the psychiatrists had mentioned to Mano that there was a no parking sign on our windows, and could they not use it since the building is not in use during weekdays. Mano felt that by doing this we were alienating people and also as per condo by-laws there should be a proper sign

Dilu said the only reason the sign was up because during the cooking days for the Heritage she had to carry a lot of stuff from the parking lot as the door closest to the building was not available. This caused a lot of inconvenience. The property management company was of the opinion that there is no such thing as anyone being able to park where they wish. However, proper signs will be made up.

### **8.0 Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 pm.

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Celia Daniel  
Secretary/SLCFA

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Suresh Fernando  
President/SLCFA