



# Lafaba -Dfw Newsletter

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## Meeting Minutes of July 10<sup>th</sup> 2004 Meeting called to order at 2105 hours

**HOSTS:** Emmanuel Njiki and Family

**ATTENDANCE:** Maureen Ngamalue, Patrick Ngamalue, Florence Tcheck, Emmanuel Njiki, Deus Nanko, Mr. Talla-Takusi, Mrs. Estelle Talla-Takusi, Clede Nkwain, Emmanuel T. Nana, Laura S. Nana, Gaston Moualeu, Mr. and Mrs. Eric Noue, Odilia Swiri, Quine N. Sowunmi, Fred Wambo, Mr & Mrs. Kwame, Roseline Simo, Emmanuel Njikam, Pamela Njikam, Evelyn Motue, Richard Nana, Martin Tatstikou, Cynthia Ngonga, Fidelis Simo, Margaret and Emmanuel Njobet and Noline Mbua.

**EXCUSED ABSENCE:** Celestin Wandji, Blaise Yakam, Sandrine Yakam, Francis Kamgang, Valentin Miafo, Blanche Miafo, Mr. Benedict Foma, Emilia Nkwanwo, Vincent Tchouaffe, Flore Nkouamen, Mrs. Elizabeth Foma, Lawrence Simo, Ernest Simo, Henry Simo, Marilyn Simo and Ruben Tchounbia.

**ABSENT:** Gerald Wambo, Aline Sadate, and Hermann Dondjio.

Quine Sowunmi offered a prayer. Emmanuel Nana led the meeting with a song

### **Corrections To Last Month's Minutes.**

It was noted that Celestin Macfongim was no longer a member, since he had not paid his dues, thus should not have been on the hosting roster. Valentin **Niafo** should have read Valentin **Miafo**. After these corrections were made Quine moved with a motion to adopt the minutes and Shiri Njiki seconded the motion.

### **★ President's Feedback Comments.**

The President made the announcement that he had an updated list of members and distributed a few copies to members who needed them.

### **★ Group Insurance**

The president alleged that some members were not paying their insurance dues. Deus also informed that group that there were three new members added to the insurance roster. The president stressed that members should pay their insurance dues or be cut off from the insurance completely. Nevertheless, any dues that are owed to the group must still have to be paid. The president said he does not think that we have a group insurance. Laura Nana defended the president's concept. Nana Emmanuel also complained that Muforsi Dennis might not have given the group all the detailed information needed by the group to make an informed decision from the onset. Emmanuel Njobet explained that it still qualifies as a group insurance even though we pay through our group on an individual basis. He explained that same strategy applies to most companies. When you work somewhere and have insurance, your company collects from your paycheck and then pays the insurance company monthly. Mr LeShey also explained that he did not think the insurance was a group insurance because the group needs to send an update of membership to the insurance company. Mr Njobet said we could do that if we had to. Mr. Nana Emmanuel asked for an amendment to the bylaws that would clarify membership and insurance responsibilities. Mr. Noue also reaffirmed that an amendment to the bylaws is needed. Mr. Talla-Takussi

advised that the insurance issue should have been discussed through our insurance representatives instead taking time at the meeting for that discussion. The president apologized that, in reality, the insurance issue should have been discussed with the insurance committee.

★ **Picnic**

Mr. Njiki said the date for the picnic was not decided upon. Mr. Nana Emmanuel proposed that the Labor Day weekend seemed appropriate. The location of the picnic was still not decided upon and seemed to be the sticking point. Some members proposed various cities parks but no decision was reached. Mr. Moualeu who was charged with securing a location was not available for comment of his findings. Mr. Noue proposed to inquire getting a park in Irving. The president also asked how the picnic would be sponsored? This discussion would again be tabled at the next meeting.

★ **Other Matters**

The President gave a check of \$500.00 (\$250.00 from our account following our bylaws and \$250.00 contributed by other members) dollars to the Houston Family in relation to the death of Victor Ngassa. The president also read a message from the Houston President, which thanked the Lafaba-Dallas group for our help in their time of need. He continued that the Lafaba-Houston group acknowledged that representatives would pay a visit to Dallas at our next meeting day in August 2004. The President also narrated their trip to New York to visit with Doris Mancho. The trip to New York represented Doris' birth visitation right as a member of the Lafaba Dallas group in abstention. After the ceremony in New York, Doris sent the Lafaba-DFW group a thank you letter, which the President read to the group. Deus Nanko presented a proposed amendment to the bylaws, which would create a new kind of membership called the student membership or discounted membership. The membership would be available to any student of Bamileke origin and also to Bamileke's with certain financial difficulties. His proposition would require the new member to pay \$10.00 for registration, \$11.00 for insurance and \$10.00/month for trouble bank fee. The new membership would not be required to pay birth and death dues. The proposition was welcomed by most members and would be looked into at the amendment period, which is usually in January of the year. Maureen Ngamalue complained of the dues for cooking being too high. She suggested \$10.00 for the cooking fee and that the same fee would apply to men who are charged with supplying drinks. Quine suggested that the group is growing and that the uniform should be changed. Emmanuel Nana suggested that we take our time and request our uniform from Cameroon. The uniform issue would be discussed at the next meeting. Mrs. Talla-Takussi proposed an amendment to the bylaws for the next year. She proposed that the bylaws should be amended to reflect the statement that if no uniform is worn at a bereavement or birth visitation, a fine should be levied against the member concerned.

★ **Cameroon project**

Fred gave a rundown of the pledges to the Cameroon project. The President encouraged members to respect their pledges because time is running out for the Cameroon project. He reiterated that we only have one more meeting before the trip to Cameroon. He also encouraged members for the pen drive to come to the next meeting ready with all their supplies.

★ **Elections**

The President announced that elections will be due in October and campaign should begin in August 2004.

★ **Hosting**

Due to scheduling clashes and some member's inability to be in town in December 2004, the group would be without a host for December but Mr. LeShey accepted to host in December.

★ **Announcements**

Camsa graduation party is scheduled for July 24<sup>th</sup> 2004 at the Gannis hall.

Cynthia Ngonga should be commended for making the effort to attend the meeting; even though, she is now leaving in Houston.

**★ Introductions**

Estelle Takussi introduced her father from Cameroon.

Emmanuel Njiki introduced Mrs. Ndang and Ephraim.

**★ Hosting List For 2004**

<b>Months</b>		<b>Hosts</b>
January 2004	Done	Emilia Nkwanwo, Sammy Nana and The Njobet Family
February 2004	Done	Ruben Tchounbia
March 2004	Done	Francoise Fomunong, Florence Tcheck and Jude Simo
April 2004	Done	Odilia Swiri and The Njikam Family
May 2004	Done	Celestin Wandji, Aline Sadate and The Yakam Family
June 2004	Done	Vincent Tchouaffe, Macfongim, Gaston Moualeu and The Kwame Family
July 2004	Done	Emmanuel Njiki and Family
August 2004		Quine, Clede, Fred and Francis Kamgang
September 2004		Deus, The Takusi Family and The Ngamalue Family
October 2004		Ernest, Henry and The Lawrence Simo Family
November 2004		Evelyn, Eric and The Foma Family
December 2004		Felix LeShey and The Miafo Family.

Minor adjustments may still be made as time goes by during the year in order to give everybody a chance to host.

**★ FINANCIALS**

The president distributed a spreadsheet to each member. These spreadsheets contained an up to date activity regarding each member's financial obligation.

Honore Kwame collected the Njangi funds and Richard Nana collected the trouble bank and other dues. Meeting adjourned at 2315 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emmanuel Njobet.