



# LAFABA -DFW NEWSLETTER

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## Meeting Minutes of March 12th 2005

Called to order at 2100 hours

**HOSTS:** The Tchounbia Family

**ATTENDANCE:** See Mrs. Shiri Njiki's List.

Nicoline Mbua offered a prayer.

Miranda Kwame read the last month's minutes.

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

Shiri Njiki should replace Estelle Njiki on the Njangi list. Under the uniforms, it should have read Rappa instead of Kabba and Bouba was \$30.00. July month should be added on the hosting roster.

After that correction was noted Mr. Nana Emmanuel moved with a motion to adopt the minutes and Laura Nana seconded the motion and the minutes were adopted unanimously.

### **★ President's Feedback From The Previous Month.**

The President complained that there were too few orders for the uniform. He continued that the seamstress was very disappointed that there were too few sign ups for the uniform taking into account that there was a wedding fast approaching where we were supposed to go to with our uniforms. Mr. Emmanuel Nana gave an update of the head count of those who have given their sizes as only 20. The president was doubtful that there was going to be enough time to adopt the amendments for this year. He later concurred that it was decided that a whole meeting was to be dedicated to the adoption of those amendments. After a careful review of possible approaching meeting dates and not coming up with a decisive timeline, it was again put on the back burner for a later date. The president complained of some members not participating in the meeting discussion except for a hand few. He said we only realize that some members are present when it's time for beer. That raised quite a chuckle from most members. He said he might be calling names to get everybody involved.

### **★ Project Backpack**

The president asked for suggestions regarding raising funds for the project backpack, which has a target figure of \$6000.00. Mr. Njike asked what about member's pledging? Mr. Njike explained that a pledge is a debt and if some body proposes then they should pay up. The president said we went down that lane before and some members who pledged never honored their intentions. Mr. Nana Emma asked if we were planning a picnic for fundraising purposes? He continued that last year it was contemplated but never realized. Sammy Nana proposed a fundraising party. There was also talk of creating a raffle before or during the picnic. Evelyn Motue proposed car wash. Emma Nana jokingly said the ladies would stand on the street and carry the signs while the men do the washing of cars. Mr. Fasi proposed creating formal proposals targeting corporations and the idea was controversial because last year it was practiced and without success. Mr. Njobet explained that proposal writing needed follow up with phone calls in order to make it successful. Laura proposed garage sale. So in summary, we had the followings fundraising ideas on the table for scrutiny: Garage sale, fundraising party, member's contribution, car wash and raffle ticket sale with picnic.

- Fundraising party:

The president was doubtful using the latter for fundraising considering the fiasco that we had the last time around where we only realized \$300.00 above our expenditures. Most members were of the opinion that this time might be different because of party absence around town for a while now. The president said why don't put a question mark on the party issue and follow up with it later. Mr. Noue also supported that skepticism who went on to emphasize that money needs to be raised to set up the party and then man hours to actually carry it out thus making the return on investment comparatively insignificant. Mr. Fasi insisted that fundraising party is to force people to pledge funds. Deus was charged with doing a feasibility study to determine the availability of halls and to investigate if there are any parties in town during the period that we would want to undertake our venture. . Mr. Sammy Nana had a different view on the non-viability of a party and also offered to check into that option as well.

- Members contribution or pledges

The president asked how we wanted the pledges to work, voluntary or compulsory, because we all know that we are all going to contribute. Mr. Fasi proposed that we should merge the pledges with the raffle tickets selling. He explained that each member would be given a certain number of tickets to sell, which will be tied in with how much the member will be contributing as his/her pledge. In that way if the member does not sell all the tickets then they forcibly pay the difference of the total number of tickets initially issued.

- Raffle during the picnic

Mr. Nana asked what the timeline for the picnic would be? What were we going to raffle to people, the president asked? Members threw in items to raffle, for example, Television set, pressing, iron, Nigerian movies, artwork, etc. The president finally said before the next meeting we should be able to come up with the price and items to be raffled. Njobet said his job side does not encourage solicitation of any kind. Some members said then I would buy all the tickets that are in my possession.

- Corporate proposals

Mr. Fasi insisted that corporations have funds set aside for that purpose but will only consider a non profit corporation that seriously needs the funds. The president said we had taught of using an established entity dedicated for that line of business to undertake our quest for funds but was never followed through.

- Car Wash

Most members agreed with the president to take out this option.

- Garage Sales

The president started by saying that it was a good idea and had a few supporters. Mr. Njobet interjected that those sales usually result very meager sums in the range of less than \$200.00, which makes them non-lucrative with respect to time spent.

- Problems with addresses

The president passed around cards for members to write their new addresses and phone numbers and the names of their children as well.

- The president complained that the meeting does not actually celebrate according to the order of the day. We don't that we do not have traditional music regarding specific events that we hold. He asked for suggestions from members. Mr. Njobet asked if music from the Bamoun region was acceptable considering that Noun division is not part of the Bamileke region. In actually, there wasn't a consensus on the music from noun. Mr. Fasi suggested that we make video of any ceremony that we have and hand the tape to the family. Maureen said

members should come up with songs and proposed that meetings should be short in those cases to create time for any kind of singing.

- Uniforms

Florence asked when members were supposed to wear their uniforms at the wedding? Annie responded that she would prefer the uniforms at the reception that is after the church proceedings. President asked the Leshey's if they needed any help with wedding. Annie said they would really need help with transportation of food to the reception venue.

- Meeting Hosting

Names were reassigned and readjusted as shown on the hosting roster. Mrs. Foma suggested that those who have not been assigned a hosting month should organize the Christmas party for the group. A vote was tabled to determine if the hosting should continue as it is now, that is all members hosting within the same year or that the hosting should cross over to the next year. The one-year hosting calendar was maintained by 22 votes, 4 members voted for 4 members to host each year and the rest of the members to take care of the Christmas party. There were 2 votes for those who wanted the hosting calendar to cross over to the next year.

- Introduction

Geraldine Nkwain visiting from Louisville, Kentucky introduced herself. Doris Mancho, one of our members now living in New York City introduced herself. Chapda Wanda from Arlington introduced herself as well.

- Announcement

The president announced that Florence's Grandmother died back home. A moment of silence was honored. Florence gave a day of bereavement as the following Saturday after the meeting. Paddy Ngamalue thanked everybody for the support they gave him and his family during the recent difficult times that he and his family experienced on the passing of his father. Maureen reminded all the women of their responsibility at the next meeting, which happens to be another birth visitation.

- Insurance

Deus pleaded again with members that they should honor the 3-month ahead insurance payment plan to prevent any lapses or insufficient funds deduction from his account. Also he requested that any member declining from the insurance should make his/her request formal and in writing, which means you cannot just stop making payments to decline from the insurance.

- Order Of The Day

Mr. Tchounbia gave a short speech of thanks to all members for the honor they were giving to their baby. The president presented the baby's gift and welcomed him as our new member.

## ★ FINANCIALS

Richard Nana collected the trouble bank, Njangi funds, savings and registration fees.

Meeting adjourned at 2255.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emmanuel Njobet.

## ❖ HOSTING LIST FOR 2005

<b>Months</b>	<b>Hosts</b>
January	Emmanuel and Shiri Njiki.
February	Emmanuel and Laura Nana, Celestin and Murielle Wandji.
March	Mr. Ruben Tchounbia and Family
April	Sammy Nana
May	Emmanuel and Pamela Njikam
June	Lawrence and Roseline Simo and Alain Pokam
July	Honore, Miranda, Odilia Swiri
August	Quine Sowunmi
September	Françoise Fomunung and Fred may be
October	Emmanuel and Maggie Njobet, Eric Noue, Olive Njobet
November	Mr. and Mrs. Foma, Maureen and Paddy Ngamalue
December	Christmas Party, Location Unknown.

The followings members have not been assigned a hosting month as of yet:

Richard Nana, Emilia Nkwanwo, Mr. and Mrs. Takussi, Evelyn Motue, Nicoline Mbua, Fred Wambo, Gaston Moualeu, Deus Nanko, Annie, Emmanuel Fasi, Jean-Louis Tante and Eugenie Moualeu.

## ❖ Njangi List for 2005

Fred	February
Emelia Nkwanwo	March
Emelia Nkwanwo	April
Shiri Njike	May
Francoise Fomunung	June
Emmanuel Njike	July
Estelle Takussi	August
Emmanuel Njobet	September
Emelia Nkwanwo	October
Evelyn Motue	November