

WELSH NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU ASSOCIATION, INC.

DRAFT MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SATURDAY, 30 AUGUST 2008 ~ CHICAGO, IL

1. CALL TO ORDER, CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM, OPENING PRAYER

The meeting was called to order at 09:12 and a quorum was certified. Rev. Richard Price Baskwill gave the opening prayer.

2. REVIEW OF AGENDA

The agenda was reviewed. No additions or changes were proposed. President Roy Morris introduced Dr. Stacy Evans as the new Executive Director of WNGGA, Inc.

3. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Roy Morris greeted the members attending the meeting.

4. MINUTES OF THE 2007 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

President Morris allowed a brief time for those attending to read the minutes.

Myfanwy Davies made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted, with Barbara Jones seconding. The motion passed.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer David Jones presented the Financial Report, a copy of which is on file. He verbally amended the projected attendance figures for 2008, given in the second paragraph of the first section of his report to 450. Local Venue Chair commented they might be greater than 450. With respect to the section on Endowment Funds, in answer to a question he clarified the time envisaged to repay the litigation costs.

Myfanwy Davies moved to accept the Financial Report. Dic Baskwill seconded and the motion passed.

6. AUDIT REPORT

Treasurer David Jones presented a verbal Audit Report, confirming that Dianne McCarty and Kathy Morris had reviewed and certified the Association's accounts for the fiscal year ending 30 June 2008.

Hywel Davies moved to accept the Audit Report. Ada Mae Lewis seconded and the motion passed.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 Nominating Committee & Election of New Trustees

Chair, Rev. Richard Price Baskwill presented an oral report. He lamented the vacancies (5 for US East, 6 for US West and 4 for Canada) and the fact that the committee had nominees only for US West.

US West

The Committee presented 4 names as nominees: Judith Brougham, Kansas City, Martha Davies, Lincoln NE, Judith Evans Warner, MN and Mona Everett, Madison WI. He noted that Mona is technically US East but would be considered to have a Midwestern orientation.

NOTE: A proposed change from the Constitution Committee was agreed later - see paragraph 7.2 below, whereby Mona Everett is considered a Trustee for US West.

Janet Figini, Portland OR was proposed from the floor and agreed to be nominated. Myfanwy Bajaj, Toronto ON declined to be nominated from the floor.

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Nominations were closed.

Myfanwy Davies moved to accept the Nominating Committee Report. Alan Upshall seconded and the motion passed.

7.2 Constitution Committee

Chair, Rev. Richard Price Baskwill presented the report, copy of which is on file.

He then made a motion to propose the revised Article 6 (e), as included in the report. Myfanwy Davies seconded.

Comments and questions from the floor followed, culminating in a

Motion from Ian Morris, seconded by Tom White, suggesting the following amendment, noted in bold below:

IF THERE HAS BEEN A VACANCY OR VACANCIES ON THE BOARD FROM ANY OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE YEARS, A MEMBER OR MEMBERS MAY BE ELECTED FROM ANY OTHER REGION, TO FILL THE VACANCY OR VACANCIES FOR A THREE YEAR TERM.

The motion carried.

Chair, Rev. Richard Price Baskwill moved to propose the revised Article 13 (b).

After comments from the floor

Myfanwy Davies made a motion to reject the proposed change, offering a suggested amendment to the text to read: "Thirty members of the Association shall constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting". Sue Stealey seconded and the motion passed.

Chair, Rev. Richard Price Baskwill then moved to accept the amended Article 13 (b). Joan Owen Mandry seconded and the motion passed.

8. INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS REPORT

John Ellis spoke to his report, a copy of which is on file. He stressed particularly the points included in Section 5.0, Other Items - a review of his 5 year tenure and the changes carried out by the Board of Trustees to mount the Festival. Dr. Ellis confirmed there would be a gradual transition of office operations from Karen Ellis to Dr. Stacy Evans over a five month period up to January 2009.

9. GREETINGS FROM EX OFFICIO GROUPS

9.1 Bryan Jones, Cymru A'r Byd greeted the meeting. He noted the reinstatement in 2007 of the welcome ceremony for overseas visitors at the National Eisteddfod and his willingness to accept members' dues payments during his visit to USA.

9.2 No one from the National Welsh-American Foundation was present.

9.3 Janet Williams greeted the meeting on behalf of The Women's Welsh Clubs of America and the Welsh Home.

10. CREDENTIALS REPORT

It was confirmed that 4 Annual and 52 Life members and 14 representing Organisational Life Members were present.

11. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

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12. NEW BUSINESS

Tom White made a motion to re-open Nominations. Charlotte Henderson seconded and the motion passed.

Don Briggs moved and Sue Stealey seconded that Don Hughes, FL be nominated to fill a vacancy for US East.

Dr. Ellis Jones moved and Myfanwy Davies seconded that Trudy Howells, FL be nominated to fill a vacancy for US East.

Both agreed to stand and were accepted as Trustees.

NOTE After the meeting it was confirmed that Trudy was ineligible for re-election in 2008 as her previous term on the Board had ended less than a year ago. The Nominating Committee suggested that she serve as a volunteer until she could be considered again in 2009.

13. RECOGNITION OF RETIRING TRUSTEES

Roy Morris thanked all the Trustees for their service to the WNGGA. He presented Certificates of Appreciation to Rev. Robert Hughes, Vice President 2006 – 2008, to Trustees Joan Owen Mandry and Keith Davies Jones and to Dr. John Ellis, outgoing Executive Director.

Rev. Hughes presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Roy Morris for his service as President.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

14.1 It was confirmed that the 2009 North American Festival of Wales would be held in Pittsburgh, PA, with Ian Morris as chair the Venue Committee and Barbara Barnes acting as liaison from the St. David's Society of Pittsburgh.

14.2 Roy Morris announced that the 2010 North American Festival of Wales would be held in Portland OR.

15. CLOSING PRAYER, ADJOURNMENT

Rev. Robert Hughes gave a closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 AM.

Respectfully submitted

Jenny Hubbard Young
Secretary

**WELSH NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU ASSOCIATION
TREASURER'S REPORT
ANNUAL MEETING, OAKBROOK, IL - AUGUST 30, 2008**

Washington, DC National Festival of Wales, September 2007

The total revenue from the Washington, DC Festival was \$125,080., an increase of about \$8,000. over the Cincinnati Festival in 2006. Expenses were \$77,283., thus leaving a net income of \$47,797., more than \$6,000. more than was derived from the previous year's Festival. If Cincinnati was, according to John Ellis, the most successful Gymanfa "on record", then Washington set a new record. There were 559 paid guests and another 32 complimentary ones, for a total of 591. There were 466 in attendance in Cincinnati, about the same number as in Orlando the year before that.

It appears that we will have about 400 signed up for the Chicago Festival.

Association Income and Expenses

Additional income to the Association is derived from memberships, donations and publication sales throughout the year. Additional income is about \$10,000. per year. Expenses are the costs of operations of headquarters in Hartland, Michigan and publication expenses, such as the printing and mailing of Hwyl, and the Festival brochure. Expenses ran at a monthly average for the year of \$3,659., somewhat less than the \$4,000. per month they have over the past several years. Thus, with the funds derived from the Washington, DC Festival and the other income we were somewhat ahead of a breakeven point in terms of income and expenses for the year.

Scholarships

Due to the limited funding available, scholarships have been put on hold for the time being. Persons interested in any scholarship have been referred to the Women's Welsh Clubs and the National Welsh American Foundation.

Endowment Funds

At the end of the last fiscal year, on June 30, 2007, there was a balance of \$61,683. in the four Smith-Barney (now owned by Citibank) accounts comprising the Endowment Fund. Earnings, or dividends, on those accounts paid out monthly for the fiscal year, July 1, 2007 thru June 30, 2008, were a total of \$3,865. These earnings on the Endowment Fund are being used to pay back the funds borrowed from the restricted account funds for litigation costs. A total of \$15,000. was borrowed, and with dividends of about \$3,000. per year being paid back, it will take less than five years to do so. This past fiscal year the monthly dividend checks from Smith Barney were deposited in the restricted funds account.

Due to the overall decline in the stock market, the value of the accounts as of July 1, 2008, was \$58,493.

Restricted Funds

The money market account maintained as Restricted Funds had \$21,618. on deposit as of the end of June 2007. As of July 1, 2008, as a result of the deposits of the Smith Barney dividends the funds totaled \$25,498. The David Morris Prize is drawn from these funds. There are two more prizes - of \$3,500. each - to be paid at this Festival and next year before the funds are exhausted.

August 25, 2008

David E. Jones
Washington, DC

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE REPORT: CHICAGO, 2008

The committee wishes to propose the two following Constitutional changes to the membership at the Annual Meeting:

ARTICLE 6 ELECTION AND ELIGIBILITY OF TRUSTEES

- e) Six trustees shall be residents of the Western United States west of the Mississippi river. Nine trustees shall be residents of the Eastern United States east of the Mississippi river. Five trustees shall be residents of Canada. IF THERE HAS BEEN A VACANCY OR VACANCIES ON THE BOARD FROM ANY OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE YEARS, MEMBERS MAY BE ELECTED FROM ANY OTHER REGION TO FILL THE BOARD. THE ASSOCIATION SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO CONTINUING TO RECRUIT MEMBERS FOR THE BOARD FROM ANY AREA THAT IS UNDERREPRESENTED. ONE RESIDENT OF WALES MAY ALSO BE ELECTED A TRUSTEE.

ARTICLE 13 MEETINGS AND VENUE

- b) The Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held on the same weekend and at the same place as the Annual Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, normally on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. Any change must be approved by the Board and communicated to the members at least 30 days in advance. [Forty members of the Association shall constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting.] THE QUORUM AT THE ANNUAL MEETING SHALL CONSIST OF THOSE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION PRESENT AT THE MEETING.

MEMORANDUM

TO: WNGGA Board of Trustees
 FROM: John S. Ellis
 RE: International Headquarters Report
 DATE: August 28, 2008

1.0 WNGGA MEMBERSHIP STATUS

As of June 31, 2008 the number of memberships in the WNGGA were as follows:

Type of Membership	As of 6/31/07	As of 6/31/08
Individual Life	2286	2262
Individual Annual	352	244
Total of Memberships	2638	2506
Organization Life	103	103

The figures for 2008 do not include those life members whose mail has been returned to International Headquarters for the past two years. Any memberships that have not been renewed since 2005 are also not included in the figures.

Attachment No. 1 shows the distribution of membership according to country and province/state.

2.0 PUBLICATIONS SALES/INVENTORY

Description	Sales between 7/1/07 and 6/31/08	Inventory as of 8/31/07
Reformatted Hymnals (regular)	509	1609
Enlarged Reformatted Hymnals	179	209
Folk Song Books	163	877
Phonetic Books	98	188
'02 Harrisburg CD	14	42
NAFOW Cookbooks	0	139
WNGGA History	0	6

3.0 OTHER PUBLICATIONS

3.1 HWYL. Hwyl was mailed January 29, 2008 at a cost of \$2,141.66 for printing and postage.

3.3 Chicago Registration Packets. Registration materials for the 2008 North American Festival of Wales in Chicago, IL were printed and mailed on April 15th at a cost of \$6,237.01.

5.0 OTHER ITEMS

As this is my last report as Executive Director, I thought it would be appropriate to briefly review the last 5 years. When I took up the post in 2003, the WNGGA was in the midst of a major transformation. The new concept of the "North American Festival of Wales" had been ably demonstrated and employed by the Richmond festival, but the board needed to establish how the festival was to be organized and implemented on an annual and sustainable basis in future. This was complicated by decreasing attendance figures and the fact that fewer and fewer local organizations were expressing the interest or had the capability to organize the festival. Consequently, the WNGGA Board of Trustees took on direct responsibility for the NAFOW, involving a fundamental transition of the board into a working body directly charged with organizing and implementing the NAFOW on an annual basis. Over the last five years, this task has become easier and less labor intensive with the reorganization of the board and its work, the establishment of templates for festival planning and the development of specific expertise among individual trustees. The establishment of "festival volunteers" (volunteers who are appointed by the president to serve on festival committees but who are not members of the board of trustees) helped provide much needed human resources and expertise to the board in the festival's organization and implementation. We have also explored new ways of involving and cooperating with local Welsh organizations, establishing successful collaborative relationships with local festival hosts in Washington DC and now here in Chicago.

While the organizational aspects of the NAFOW have greatly stabilized, attendance and revenue continues to fluctuate. Attendance and revenue for the last several festivals is as follows:

2004 Buffalo: 702 registrants total / \$41,000 revenue (approximate after expenses)
2005 Orlando: 450 registrants total / \$10,500 revenue (approximate after expenses)
2006 Cincinnati: 477 paid registrants (554 total) / \$41,308 revenue (after expenses)
2007 Washington DC: 559 paid registrants (591 total) / \$47,797 revenue (after expenses)
2008 Chicago: 400 to 450 paid registrants (projected)/ TBD

We should be cautious in seeking an explanation for the variations in attendance as it is undoubtedly the product of several independent factors that fluctuate from year to year. Future program and revenue planning, however, should be done with this fluctuation and a base attendance of 400 to 600 in mind. Despite these fluctuations, we have been able to demonstrate that a festival can be culturally and financially successful with smaller attendances. It is important to note that the most financially successful festival on record occurred last year in Washington DC with an attendance of approximately 550 paid registrants. Much of our success depends not only on limiting our expenditure but on the successful negotiation of hotel contracts with terms and concessions favorable to the organization.

Karen and I would like to thank the WNGGA and all of the officers, trustees, volunteers, entertainers and speakers with whom we have worked over the last five years and to express our hopes in the continued development and success of the WNGGA and the North American Festival of Wales in the years to come.

UNITED STATES			
State	Annual Membership	Life Membership	Total
Alabama	1	1	2
Alaska	0	1	1
Arizona	2	33	35
Arkansas	1	3	4
California	9	121	130
Colorado	4	26	30
Connecticut	1	16	17
Delaware	1	13	14
Florida	26	89	115
Georgia	3	25	28
Hawaii	0	4	4
Idaho	0	5	5
Illinois	18	66	84
Indiana	1	25	26
Iowa	1	23	24
Kansas	0	28	28
Kentucky	1	9	10
Louisiana	0	8	8
Maine	1	7	8
Maryland	8	62	70
Massachusetts	2	34	36
Michigan	10	48	58
Minnesota	4	142	146
Mississippi	0	3	3
Missouri	4	22	26
Montana	0	4	4
Nebraska	0	24	24
Nevada	0	3	3
New Hampshire	0	8	8
New Mexico	0	5	5
New Jersey	12	40	52
New York	20	146	166
North Carolina	4	16	20
North Dakota	0	2	2
Ohio	22	339	361
Oklahoma	0	7	7
Oregon	0	29	29
Pennsylvania	24	373	397
Rhode Island	2	2	4
South Carolina	4	6	10
South Dakota	0	10	10
Tennessee	6	18	24
Texas	1	32	33
Utah	0	5	5
Vermont	1	13	14
Virginia	16	42	58
Washington	5	50	55
Washington D.C.	3	9	12
West Virginia	3	25	28
Wisconsin	8	115	123
Wyoming	0	0	0
TOTALS	229	2137	2366

CANADA			
Province	Annual Membership	Life Membership	TOTAL
British Columbia	1	19	20
Alberta	0	6	6
Saskatchewan	0	0	0
Manitoba	0	4	4
Ontario	11	68	79
Quebec	0	7	7
New Brunswick	0	0	0
Nova Scotia	0	1	1
P.E.I.	0	0	0
TOTALS	12	105	117
OTHER COUNTRIES			
Country	Annual Membership	Life Membership	TOTAL
Wales	3	15	18
New Zealand	0	1	1
Japan	0	1	1
England	0	3	3
TOTALS	3	20	23
US	229	2137	2366
Canada	12	105	117
Other Countries	3	20	23
	244	2262	2506
		Total Members	2506