

The National Caribbean Monument Charity (TNCCMC)

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held via ZOOM

Saturday 7th November 2020

The Annual General Meeting commenced at 13:30

The meeting was initially chaired by Donald Campbell, Chair of TNCCMC Board of Directors.

Of the 70 members of the charity, 34 members (48.50%) were present at the AGM, rendering the meeting quorate. *The charity's Memorandum & Articles of Association (Clause 16) requires a minimum of 10% of the total membership to be present for the meeting to be quorate.*

Attendees:

Josh Johnson, Naomi Hobbs, Bevil Williams, Derrick Atkinson, Ingrid Roberts-Davis, Barbara Campbell, Donald Campbell, Shirley Jarrett, Gregory Griffith, Shiv Chand, Beverly Lindsey, Theresa Kilbride, Gareth Williams, Jenny Turner, Edna Harris, Jatinder Ghataora, Milton Marsh, Dennis Anderson, Frank Gentles, Maurice Bartosch, Ramon Burrell, Natalecia Ford-Stewart, Eleanor Smith, Devon McKenzie, Anthony Young, Val Wright, Kenneth, Evadnie Harris, Albert Jarrett, Martin Levermore, Renick Thompson, Ahmoy Atkinson, Anita Williams, Collin Orr.

Apologies (12 in total)

Joan Hunter, Eddie Phillips, Victor Shaw, Lyn Anderson, Shirley Anderson, Falcon Anderson, Noel Anderson, Ian McIntosh, Samantha Patterson, Michelle Stanley, Ian May, Aron Orr.

AGENDA

1. Chair Opening Remarks - Donald Campbell

The Chairman reported on the activities of TNCCMC since the last AGM, which was held on 26 January 2019. He presented on the many achievements, presentations, fundraising, the monument update, and his personal reflections. The Chair thanked the funders, Trustees of the Board, and the members of the TNCCMC for their continued efforts. The Chair also encouraged the members to embrace the opportunities presented by the work of TNCCMC as this was their opportunity to get involved with shaping their own future.

The Chair informed the AGM of division and increasing conflict among the Board of Trustees of TNCCMC, when a member of the board - Pauline Milnes (supported by two others, Deborah Nicholls and Winston White made onerous accusations against the Chair and proceeded to hold a disciplinary hearing, at which the Chair was

not in attendance and at which it was decided to terminate his membership and his removal as a director and Chair of the charity. Action was also taken to appoint another Chair (Winston White). Furthermore, they maliciously made their unfounded accusations public via emails, phone calls, messaging, and wrote to members, patrons, supporters and funders of TNCMC, the Charity Commission, Companies House, the charity's bank and the media, amongst others. Their actions have been personally damaging to the Chair and his family and risked bringing the charity into disrepute. They took upon themselves to remove the Chair from registration at the Charity Commission and blocked him from the charity's bank.

Some members of the charity wrote to the board, expressing their disgust at the way in which the Chair had been treated by them. Members also expressed concerns with the public way very sensitive material was distributed by the disgruntled trustees and the threats their actions posed to the future health of the charity. However, the trustees dismissed the concerns of the members and wrote to them accusing them of bullying.

The Chair explained to members that he had no option but to seek professional legal advice. The matter was investigated by lawyers and in their report, they concluded that:

“Mr Campbell’s removal as a director and a member of the Charity did not follow the correct procedures adopted by the Charity in its Articles and he is still a director and a member of the Charity.”

And as such, Donald Campbell remain Chair of TNCMC. The lawyers’ findings and conclusions were sent to all the trustees by email and by recorded delivery post on 13 October 2020, giving the 3 trustees 14 days to respond (documents from the Chair’s lawyers were made available at the AGM). At the time of the AGM 7 November 2020. 19 days from the date of the report to trustees there was no response to the lawyers from the 3 trustees.

A number of members became so concerned about the state of the charity’s board that they felt the only option left to protect the charity was a formal vote of No Confidence in the entire board, to call for their resignations and to elect a new board at the AGM. The new board would then properly manage the affairs of the charity. One member formally notified the chair of the motion of No Confidence, supported by other members. The chair notified all trustees of the motion and the motion was included in the AGM agenda for voting.

Trustees were required to tender their individual resignations prior to the AGM. Only Donald Campbell tendered his resignation.

2 Chairman Report – (Attached)

Chair resigned – members moved that Josh Johnson chair the AGM until the appointment of a new Chair.

3 Treasurer Report – None available as the Treasurer failed to attend the AGM. The Treasurer gave no apology for non-attendance

4 Approval of Motion of No Confidence in the Board of Trustees

Mr Dennis Anderson (Member) wrote as follows:

“As a members of The National Caribbean Monument (the Charity) I respectfully submit this letter as an official motion of vote of no confidence in the board of the Charity, being Mr Donald Roy Campbell, Ms Pauline Milnes, Ms Deborah Nicholls and Mr Winston White (each of them a Board Member).

I have had growing concerns about the Charity and its continuance whilst the Board continues to be engaged in a dispute. It is with regret that I present this motion to you, but it is in the best interests of the Charity that its needs are prioritised over the individual Board Members. If new leadership is required to bring about this change, then I am in favour of giving that vote to the membership

On receipt of this motion, I would be grateful if you all resign from office as soon as it becomes clear that the membership supports this motion.

And invite the membership of the Charity to consider who they wish to be appointed as the directors of the Charity going forward at the upcoming AGM”

Motion – It is therefore proposed that the board in its entirety, voluntarily resign or is removed if they fail to offer their individual resignation by the time this motion is presented at the AGM and that a new board of directors/trustees be voted in by the membership. That members who wish to be considered, make themselves known prior to or at the AGM and state their intentions and qualifications for consideration. Once the new board is voted in, members should nominate and vote on who should be Chair.

Donald Campbell offered his resignation as director/trustee and Chair of TNCCMC. The other directors/trustees, namely, Pauline Milnes, Deborah Nicholls and Winston White did not tender their resignations or attend the AGM or provide any apology for their non-attendance at the AGM. Therefore, these three members disqualified themselves and was duly removed as directors/trustee of TNCCMC, as a result. Mr Donald Campbell put himself forward for consideration to become a director/trustee for the new board. No other previous board director/trustee put themselves forward for consideration for membership of the new board of directors/trustees.

The following members put themselves forward to be considered for board membership:

1. **Derrick Atkinson** – (Master mariner by profession – **Merchant Navy (retired)** – member of the Honourable Society of Master Mariners and freeman of the City of London)

2. **Naomi Hobbs** - (Barrister of nearly 30 years – currently at no. 8 Chambers Birmingham. Head of the Family Team, specialising in family law). Military service in the **Army (retired)** - Women's Royal Army Core – served in Cyprus, Germany, and the UK)
3. **Bevil Williams** – (Multi award-winning Business owner of over 30 years – specialising in IT hardware wholesale, IT asset management and repurposing, and a Member of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations M.C.I.P.R.) – (**Civilian**)
4. **Natalecia Ford-Stewart** – (Leading Steward – 13 years in the **Royal Navy** – **currently serving** at rank of Leading Hand.
5. **Donald Campbell** – (Warrant Officer (**retired**) - 36 years in the **Royal Air Force**, specialised in Life Support, Assisted Escape, and Survival Equipment on fast jets and helicopters. Served in Northern Ireland, Falklands Island, Madagascar, Germany, Norway, Denmark, Sardinia, Belize, Cyprus, USA, and the UK)

Votes and Approval of trustees – all the above-named were approved by members. There were no objections.

Nominations and Approval of Chair – the following members were nominated by members for the position of chair:

1. **Derrick Atkinson**
2. **Bevil Williams** – Bevil declined the nomination stating that he believed the appropriate person for the roll of Chair of TNCCMC should have military credentials and as he had no military experience, he felt he was not the best candidate for this very important position. Bevil thanked the nominee for considering him and he offered his support for Derrick Atkinson's nomination.

Approval of Chair of TNCCMC – Derrick Atkinson was approved as Chair of TNCCMC. There were no objections. Derrick accepted the roll of Chair and the temporary Chair of the AGM, Joshua Johnson, handed the agenda to the new Chair, Derrick.

Introduction of Trustees – Derrick introduced the newly elected board of directors/trustees to the AGM. He thanked members for their contributions. The Chair asked that it be recorded that he thanked all out-going trustees for their pioneering and valuable contributions in laying the foundations of this important organisation. He also said he was delighted to be working with such an outstanding new Board and he promised to fulfil his roll with integrity and vigour to bring to fruition the aims, objectives and dreams of the founding members of the charity. In conclusion, he asked the Board and members to consider appointing Donald as Vice Chair to support him in the new roll, to mentor and share with him his substantial experience, knowledge, and expertise gained throughout his military services and from chairing TNCCMC from its inception. He suggested also that

Donald could best continue to serve TNCMC as spoke-person, media liaison, and PR representative. Donald said he welcomed the consideration and would be happy to serve with the approval of the board and members.

Approval of Donald Campbell to be appointed as Vice Chair was granted – with no objections.

Patron Contributions

TNCMC have three Patrons (Beverly Lindsay, Martin Levermore and Eleanor Smith), all of whom attended the AGM.

Beverly Lindsay - expressed her dismay at two meetings regarding the same charity taking place on the same date and at the same time and the awful message this sends out. She said that she was observing both meetings, one meeting had 6 attendees and the AGM had 34 in attendance. She expressed her desire for unity.

Martin Levermore – echoed Beverly's contribution and he said he commend the enthusiasm, expertise that Donald had shown. He told the AGM that he served in the military at the highest level.

Martin said that the new Chairman's opening remarks were encouraging. He said he did not wish to see the charity go in the wrong direction, focussing on individual personalities. He offered his support to bring everyone together, to heal the divisions and to focus on our mutual objectives.

Martin said he knows the difficulties Donald had faced and he expressed his hope that the new Chair can unite everyone. He offered his services as an arbiter to help bring the other side to the table.

Eleanor Smith – said she was very sad at what had taken place among board members. She pointed out that the charity is not about individual people. It is about a structure that will serve our grandchildren and keep our name alive in honouring our people.

A.O.B – Closing Address by:

Mr Jarrett - WW2 Royal Air Force Veteran

96-year-old World War 2 veteran Mr Albert Jarrett enlisted in the Royal Air Force (RAF) in Jamaica at the age of 17. He later travelled to England and was one of some 15,000 West Indian Servicemen and women who joined the British Armed Forces in the Second World War to serve the nation of Britain.

He completed his training in Wiltshire and served on various Maintenance Units as a member of a team that supplied vital equipment to the front line in support of the war effort. At the end of the war he returned to Jamaica and was demobbed from the RAF. Mr Jarrett later returned to England where had a family and a successful career in running his own business.

Mr Jarrett was interviewed by the BBC in his hometown of Birmingham and he was also interviewed at the Royal Albert Hall to feature in the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance 2020 to be aired tonight on BBC1.


THE NATIONAL CARIBBEAN MONUMENT CHARITY


ARMED FORCES
COVENANT

EMPLOYER RECOGNITION SCHEME

BRONZE AWARD
Proudly supporting those who serve.

Mr Jarrett said how proud he was to be the oldest member of TNCMC and a Royal Air Force Veteran who served his country during WW2.

He stated his disappointment at the divisions and problems that have affected the charity, notably over recent months and he expressed his wish to see unity and resolution towards the ultimate aim of having this important monument erected in memory of the brave men and women from the Caribbean, who served the British war effort and to those currently serving.

It was proposed that Mr Jarrett should be made a Life Patron of TNCMC, which was accepted by all.

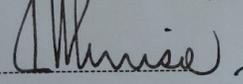
Concluding Remarks by the Chair
Derrick paid tribute to the three previous trustees Pauline Milnes, Deborah Nicholls and Winston White for their contributions to TNCMC. He stated his commitment to have the journey of TNCMC committed as a book and published. And that all who played a part in its history will be recognised. "they will not be forgotten", he said.

Next Meeting
Will be a meeting of the Board of directors/trustees – date and time to be agreed

Purpose
1. The approval of TNCMC updated Memorandum and Articles of Association
2. Plan next steps for TNCMC

Close
There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting at 15:30.

Name DERRICK ATKINSON (Chair) on behalf of Trustees

Signature 

Date 17TH NOVEMBER 2020.

Registered Charity Number: 1172062 / Companies House Registration Number: 10469909
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