

QUEEN ELIZABETH COLLEGE (KENSINGTON) BRANCH, K.C.L.A.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 15th October 2005: Minutes

Present

All those present were invited to record their attendance in the signing in book.

The following Committee members were present

Ann Wood (Chair)

John Brockhouse

Gary Thomas (Webmaster)

Henry Embling (Membership Secretary)

Lyn Embling (Editor ENVOY)

Helen Parsons (Minutes Secretary)

Hilary Phillips

Audrey Stubbs. (Treasurer)

Apologies

The chairman read out a list of apologies from those ordinary members unable to attend.

Minutes

The minutes for the AGM 16th October 2004 were accepted by the meeting as a reliable account of that meeting.

Correspondence

The Chairman read out or reported on items of correspondence received by the Committee.

Chair's Report

A copy of this was in the current Envoy and available on the QEC website.

Treasurer's Report

This was presented to the meeting by Audrey Stubbs. The invoice for the AGM expenses for 2004 had still to be presented to the Association. Ann Wood had been chasing this up. When this was taken into account the loss on the year stood at about £200. The accounts were accepted by the meeting. The meeting thanked Audrey Stubbs for her work as Treasurer and Mavis Everitt for carrying out the audit of the accounts.

KCLA

John Brockhouse had contributed a report on the major relevant activities of KCLA in Envoy. Our contact at KCLA, Barbara Thorpe Tracy was on sick leave and this lack of a named contact caused some communication problems between QEC association and KCLA. There was to be a new chair of KCLA and a new vice president, Sir Ian Gainsford (at Guy's). Alison Taylor was the Social Secretary and she would deal with arrangements for meals, refreshments etc and booking events and tickets.

ENVOY

The new, 2005 issue was now available and the Chair gave a vote of thanks to Lyn and Henry for their continued hard work and dedication to producing ENVOY each year. Some members continued to prefer to receive a paper copy of ENVOY and overall production costs had remained about the same. Any articles/snippets for ENVOY would be very welcome and should be forwarded to the Editor.

Committee issues

There was no change in the current Committee and all members were willing to continue in their current duties for the coming year. Ann suggested that John Brockhouse be given the role of Deputy Chair in recognition for his continued involvement and interest in the association and for his work in maintaining

links with KCLA. John had attended many KCLA events and meetings on our behalf. This proposal was accepted by the meeting.

Membership

The Membership Secretary reported that 580 members had been sent information by post and a further 60 members via email. The increased number was due to the inclusion of additional names made available to KCLA in 2003. Approximately 125 postal responses and 30 email replies had been received. 17 envelopes had been returned as 'unknown at this address'. It was expected that the active membership list would decrease significantly during the next year as members had been invited to record their preference for receiving ENVOY with the implication that a nil response would result in no information being sent from QE(K)A. 56 members had made donations to continue receiving ENVOY by post whilst 39 members elected for obtaining ENVOY via the internet.

Special Reunion June 2006

The arrangements for this were well under way and this reunion to mark the closure of some biological science degree programmes at King's would include the QEC AGM for 2006. It will replace our October reunion. Ann invited comments from the floor on the suggestion that from now onwards June would be a more suitable time of year to hold our AGM. There were no particularly strong views either way from the floor and of those who did express a preference the numbers were fairly evenly split between the 2 months. Votes were; 8 for June, 8 for October and 13 had no preference. Gary Thomas said that he would put a questionnaire on the website to consult the membership further. There was some concern that subsequent reunions and AGMs should not be subsumed into King College events. There would be 2 speakers, Keith Gull and Geoff Watts. Coffee would be shared with other KCLA activities on the day but there would be QEC designated tables for lunch. The Principal of King's would open the proceedings.

QEC Bursary

The Committee had put forward the suggestion in the past for a QEC named bursary in order to preserve the link between QEC and Kings. Ann Wood had done some ground work and in essence we would have permission for such a bursary should we wish to pursue the idea. This bursary would be funded by donations from members of QEC association and there would be discussion as to appropriate criteria to employ when selecting a student for the award. Discussion was opened at the meeting by Ann Wood and the membership, although interested in the idea, could not see where such a bursary might be placed given the recent and imminent departmental closures. There remained very few degree programmes at Kings that could in any valid way be linked with past QEC courses. The meeting felt that awards in Medicine / Medical Sciences were not suitable as QEC had been a Science faculty. There was some discussion about the possibilities of raising travel bursaries to enable students to attend conferences but this would be almost exclusively to the benefit of postgraduate and post doctoral students. Duncan Steel suggested approaching an Educational Foundation in Surrey, Dill Faulkes and he would pass the email address to the Committee. The item was left open as a point for possible future discussion.

Contact details on Website

Henry Embling put forward the idea of making the website more effective in enabling members to contact each other by putting details on to the site such as an email address. The feeling of the meeting was that although this would certainly improve communication most people were unhappy about having their details published. Many members already had serious problems with spam emails. The idea was therefore shelved.

AOB

The QEK Association was invited to put forward nominations for Fellowships of King's and Ann Wood asked the meeting for permission to put forward the following; Nancy Rothwell, Howard Dalton and Keith Gull? The meeting were happy to do this.

Date of next meeting

AGM June 10th 2006: Next Committee meeting 7th December 2005