



ST ANNE'S OLD GIRLS' GUILD

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, 2ND JUNE 2018.

- Mrs Greene thanked Rev van Niekerk, Mrs Hibbert, Mr Oosthuizen and the choir for the beautiful chapel service. She opened the meeting as a quorum was present. She welcomed members to the 111th AGM, as well as Mr Arguile, Mrs Martin and the winner of the St Anne award, Nokuthula Sibeko, and her sister, Nonhlanhle Dakile.

APOLOGIES: Mrs Jo James and Mrs Pippa Richards

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

- The minutes of the 2017 AGM were taken as read and approved, as proposed by Mrs Dillon, and seconded by Mrs Hoatson.
- The matric class of 2017 were accepted and welcomed as new members of the Guild, as proposed by Mrs Whyte, and seconded by Mrs Hayes. Currently the subscription is R800 for lifelong membership; this may be increased in order to present matric girls with a gift from the Guild when they leave the College.
- A minute's silence was observed for the following deceased Old Girls: Erica Benham (nee Kimber), Mary Field, Hazel Haines (nee Joubert), Fay Rafferty (nee Hatrick), Debbie Girdwood (nee Somers-Vine), Ann Horsfield (nee Crossoer) and Diane Dawson (nee Hardingham).

ADDRESS BY HEADGIRL, DANIELLA CHASENSKI:

- Miss Chasenski welcomed Old Girls to the College, and thanked them for their commitment to the College and the bursary award, as well as helping build the excellent reputation of St Anne's.
- The Head girl said that the chatter at OG Day encapsulated the sisterhood at St Anne's, similar to the chatter of the pupils after a long holiday. She said that there were many impressive changes to the exterior of the College, but the internal changes were less obvious but very important. Miss Chasenski cited the 'Social Awareness week' as an example, which helped promote the girls' independence, confidence and empowerment.
- Miss Chasenski thanked the OG's for being good role models, reconnecting with pride, and wished them a happy celebration.

HEADMASTER'S REPORT:

- Mr Arguile encouraged OG's to look at the 'Annie document' on the website, which explained the mission statement of the College; to develop socially conscious and balanced 21st Century Old Girls. He emphasised the focus on a holistic education, and assured OG's that the pupils produced excellent academic results, impressive sports and cultural results. The College continued to be in great demand, and the girls were happy, safe and felt valued.
- The Headmaster explained that they would embark on a survey to track and record OGs' progress, and he encouraged all OG's to keep their contact details current, as well as supplying the necessary information. He thanked everyone for attending and wished them a happy day.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- Mrs Greene thanked Mr Arguile for his support and thanked him and his staff for the great job he was doing at the College.
- She welcomed all Old Girls, particularly those attending special reunions, and she thanked the organizers for their time and effort spent encouraging their class mates to attend.
- The Chairman explained the two Guild awards; the St Anne award, which is presented at OG Day to an Old Girl whose dedicated service to the community went above and beyond the call of duty. The second award is the Excellence award which is presented to Old Girls who model determination, success and excellence in their chosen field. Last year, this award was presented to Susan Abro, and Sarah Collins. Details of these awards can be found on the website, and OG's were encouraged to nominate suitable candidates. All award winners address the pupils to help inspire the girls. Mrs Greene thanked Mrs Hoatson for her hard work in this portfolio.
- Mrs Greene explained that the school uniform shop, started by OG's in 1962, still raises funds for OG bursaries, and encouraged members to buy memorabilia items available for sale. She thanked Mrs Fairweather for her hard work in the shop. The OG bursary had been awarded to a worthy recipient for 2019.
- The Chairman explained that the committee had arranged annual OG functions in JHB, one in Cape Town last year which will be repeated on the 30th August 2018. A Midlands function had been held in Hilton recently. She encouraged OG's to attend and re-connect at these enjoyable functions, and she thanked Mrs Douglas for heading up this portfolio.
- Mrs Greene encouraged members to follow the Facebook page, where relevant news is shared and events advertised. She asked OG's to complete the 'update details' form supplied at the lunch table with the complimentary St Anne's pen.
- The Chairman explained that OG news was posted on the website, and encouraged OG's to keep the Guild updated with news and achievements. She showed members the OG Business directory, which lists businesses that are owned or partnered by OG's in different categories; an excellent means of supporting each other.
- Mrs Greene thanked Mrs Wolf and Mrs Ascough for their hard work on the archives portfolio.
- Hard copies of the school magazine are available at lunch, but in future, OG's will be sent the link to the online magazine, to save on printing costs, unless a hard copy is specifically requested. Thanks to Mrs Erskine for her work in the Liaison and magazine portfolio.
- Mrs Greene showed OG's the invitation to the 'Women of the World spring lunch....making a difference, one woman at a time', on the 7th SEPTEMBER, featuring Mrs Devi Govender, Carte Blanche presenter and journalist. She encouraged OG's to attend, as well as buying raffle tickets to win 2 night stays at amazing top hotels; Cleopatra's, Oaklands, Hartford house and Fordoun. The draw will be done at the spring lunch, and some proceeds donated to the 'Care Bear project', the brainchild of OG Rebecca Pinnell. All women invited to attend the lunch. Mrs Greene thanked Mrs James, Mrs Gauntlett, Mrs Johnson, Mrs Douglas, Mrs Erskine and Mrs Ascough for their hard work in arranging the lunch and the raffles.
- There is good accounting governance in place in the Guild finances, and Mrs Greene thanked Mrs Whyte, Mrs Fairweather and Ms Alder for their hard work in updating the financials. She also thanked Mr Acutt for his support, and for taking over the Guild's accounting function.
- Mrs Greene thanked the Secretary, Mrs Chadwick, and Mrs Dillon, Board representative for their support. She thanked Mrs Gauntlett and Mrs Johnson for joining the Committee.
- The 2018 office bearers were accepted, as proposed by Mrs Carmichael, and seconded by Mrs Blevin.
- The Chairman thanked Mrs Ascough, the OG Liaison and archives officer for her hard work and efficiency, and Mrs McKenzie, the marketing manager, for her support, assisting with memorabilia and updating the website. She congratulated them both on all the excellent arrangements for OG Day.

ST ANNE AWARD:

Ms Nonhlanhla Dakile introduced her sister, Mrs Nokuthula Sibeko, a deserving winner of the St Anne award.

MRS NOKUTHULA SIBEKO:

- Mrs Sibeko expressed gratitude to her parents for the sacrifice they had made to send her to St Anne's, where she learnt to be independent and socially conscious.
- In 1999, she became a member of the NPO called Community Youth Empowa'ment, an organization involved in social upliftment projects through community based initiatives. Key projects include Saturday school for learners in Soweto, with tutoring in Maths, Science and English, facilitating a self-development programme, building resource centres in schools, and hosting career workshops for pupils.
- In 2012 and 2013, she cycled the Cape Argus to raise funds for school uniforms for one of the charities.
- Mrs Sibeko co-founded an NPO called 'Girls Invent Tomorrow', which initiates programmes to empower, educate and mentor girls in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, and through this has hosted career days, coding sessions and has run a 12-week tech programme on Saturdays.
- In 2015, she launched the NEXTgen Leadership Conference aimed to engage, motivate and inspire young people to maximise their potential and find their correct career path.
- Mrs Sibeko was nominated in the category Future ICT Leader at the 2016 ICT Achievers Awards, and listed as one of the 60 women changing the narrative in Girls' Code Blog. She was listed as a top 10 youth that are helping revolutionise SA Tech, and in 2017, she was awarded the Distinguished Woman in Business Excellence Award at the African Women Leadership Gala dinner.
- Mrs Sibeko said that she felt honoured and humbled to receive the St Anne award, thanked her sister for her support and the nomination, and dedicated the award to her deceased mum and other family members. Mrs Hoatson presented the framed award to Mrs Sibeko, who received a standing ovation from members.

Mrs Greene congratulated Mrs Sibeko on the prestigious award. She told OG's to collect their copy of the magazine after lunch, and to please donate to the staff tip box. She thanked members for attending the meeting, and declared it closed at 11.45am.