

## **Minutes of the NVAS Annual General Meeting**

**20 May 2017**

**Johanna Westerdijkplein 756**

**The Hague**

Absent with cancellation: Javier Pinon, Peter Slits, Mieke Weterings, Joy Clancy, Mineke Schipper and André van Dokkum.

### **1 Opening address and announcements by NVAS President.**

Felix Ameka opens the meeting and makes three announcements.

A) NVAS is looking for an executive secretary, the vacancy is still open.

B) NVAS will organize a Pubquiz event in Leiden in October 2017, more information will follow. This Pubquiz is a pilot and more will be organized in other locations if the first one goes well.

C) the plan for the Africa Day 2018 is announced: NVAS will celebrate 21 years by then and therefore a special Africa Day will be organized on 20-10-2018. This Africa Day will start in the afternoon (instead of the morning) and it will transform into a party so that it can continue until past midnight in order to properly celebrate NVAS' entrance into full adulthood.

### **2 Adoption of minutes.**

Members were sent the minutes two weeks in advance of the meeting. NVAS President asks whether anyone in the meeting would like to comment. When no reaction is forthcoming, he asks the minutes to be approved. This is moved by Bert van Pinxteren and seconded by Maarten Mous.

### **3 NVAS Annual Report 2016.**

The annual secretarial report is approved by the meeting.

### **4 NVAS Financial Report 2016 + Report by Auditing Committee.**

NVAS President Felix Ameka asks Jan Jansen (NVAS treasurer) to comment on the remarks of the Auditing Committee. Jan Jansen explains that NVAS now has 11 lifelong members and 60 members who pay their dues through direct debit. A total of 100 members pays their dues regularly, but all the others do not. The amount of overdue dues therefore continues to increase and NVAS has to find a way to deal with this. Jan Jansen explains that there are two solutions:

A) Exclude members who do not pay their dues from the association

B) Leave things the way they are and regularly attempt to remind members of the fact that they have to pay their dues

The AGM is in favour of option B, but also wants to take more action to remind members that they need to pay. Anneke Breedveld (NVAS board member) proposes to do another book promotion: last year several of the winners paid their dues upon discovering that they hadn't yet done so in the past years. Jan Jansen states that this is possible: he still has books left. Wouter proposes to put this problem of overdue dues in writing and send it to all NVAS members to make them aware of the problem. Jan agrees but mentions that many e-mails have already been sent. Renewed attempts will be undertaken. The annual financial report is approved without comment.

5 Appointments to the executive board and farewell to out-going executives.

NVAS President Felix Ameka expresses his thanks to Froukje Krijtenburg who was NVAS' secretary for 9 years. She is the longest serving secretary and the AGM applauds her commitment and work for NVAS. Froukje gives a brief speech in which she reflects on her 9 years as a 'servant to the Africanist Community'. The president welcomes Michiel van den Bergh to the executive board as a candidate member.

6 Membership drive.

NVAS President Felix Ameka invites volunteers to become active for NVAS.

7 Upcoming NVAS events. This has been discussed under agenda point 1.

8 AOB. The AGM does not bring forward additional points to discuss.

9 *Rondvraag.*

Lifelong member Diana Bosch congratulates NVAS on the good speakers that were present at the conference. Marieke van Winden mentions that the Africa Day 2018 will be very special and focus on music and theatre.

10 Closing statement.

The President thanks the members who are in attendance and subsequently closes the meeting.

22 May 2017

Tanja Hendriks

Secretary Netherlands Association of African Studies