

METHODIST GIRLS' SCHOOL ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

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Minutes of the 63rd Annual General Meeting of the Methodist Girls' School Alumnae Association held at 3pm on Saturday, 27th April 2024.

Present:

Sharmila Nair

Angelina Wong

Lynn Lee

Jean Lee

Sim Suh-Ting

Melissa Sim

Tjio Bee Ann

Corinne Sim

Fang Lum

Esther Mak

Elaine Khoo

Ong Lee Wha

Barbara Chee

Belinda Teo

Fock Yin Ling

Gwee Su Li

Vanessa San

Ong Lian Wha

The Methodist Girls' School (MGS) Alumnae Association (AA) President for the 2023/2024 term of office, Sharmila Nair, informed members at 3pm that a quorum had not been met. Under the constitution, members are required to wait for 30 minutes before the general meeting can commence.

At 3.30pm, Sharmila Nair called the meeting to order with a quorum of 18 members in attendance.

1. **PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS & WELCOME**

" Good afternoon everyone, welcome to the 63rd Annual General Meeting of the Methodist Girls' School Alumnae Association.

With God's Grace, the Alumnae Association has had yet another successful year engaging with the MGS community on many levels.

On 27 May 2023, we had our inaugural Retired Teacher's Lunch. We always invited our beloved retired teachers for the Teacher's Day Lunch celebrations with the wider School. However, we noticed that most of them felt overwhelmed and didn't attend. Having a smaller gathering just for the retired teachers allowed them to meet up and connect with each other in a more meaningful way and we hope to continue this tradition to ensure our retired teachers know just how much they are valued and cherished by us.

After the long hiatus, due to the Covid pandemic, the School held its long awaited MGS Carnival, aptly themed, A Time to Give Thanks. The Carnival was a resounding success for the School and she was able to raise \$365,000.00. On our part, the MGS Alumnae Association had set up several stalls selling our alumnae merchandise and cakes, knitted and crocheted items from the Wesley Active Aging Centre (run by MWS in partnership with Wesley Methodist Church) and Noreen's Knits, our famous walking pets balloons and caricatures done by our dear Jean Lee's son, Mark a.k.a "Gunkman". We were also blessed with a coffee stall donated by our Old Girl, Yvonne (Class of 1997) from Wanderlust Café. In total we managed to raise close to \$23,000.00 of which we donated \$14,255.00 in coupon sales to the School.

LoveMG last year was held on 7 July 2023 with the theme "Who you Say I am" and the speaker was Joanna Kwok. The event was held in person and live streamed on YouTube.

We are very thankful for a dedicated group of Alumna particularly Lo Su Li and Koh Sian Ann who faithfully lead our young alumna each year to organise this inspiring event showing deep faith and love for our School and Old Girls. Last year the event was organised by our young alumna from the Class of 2020 and it managed to reach out to many Old Girls through testimony and prayer.

On 25 July 2023, we celebrated our 136th Founder's Day with a Founder's Day Dinner at the Shangri-la Hotel. We were grateful to be able to be able to fellowship with more than 600 MGS girls past and present to celebrate the greatness of our beloved School and give thanks for God's everlasting presence at the forefront of MGS.

Alumnae Day was held on 12 August 2023 at school where much fun was had by all who attended! The highlight of the day was the Past v Present Games where we had the introduction of Pickle Ball as a new sport. For the less active (like myself) we also had Board Games and a Preserved Bloom Workshop. Unfortunately for our present girls, the Past team reigned supreme again!! Clinching the Anna Tham Challenge Shield for the 12th year in a row!

To culminate 2023's events, the MGS Alumnae Association organised the Teacher's Day High Tea on 30 August 2023. We usually hold a lunch for the teachers but due to the Presidential Elections, we had to change up the celebrations a little but that is not to say that the teachers were not celebrated with the usual fanfare of a sumptuous high tea and entertainment for the beach themed event!

We started off 2024 with another Retired Teacher's Lunch, which this time saw even more retired teachers join in! We hope with every one of these lunches more and more retired teachers will come and join us!

In the coming months, we will have more events which we hope all of you can attend :-
5 July 2024 – LoveMG held at MGS.

25 July 2024 – 137th Founder's Day Dinner held at Orchard Hotel.

17 August 2024 - Alumnae Day held at MGS

Please look out for more information on our social media platform and support us in these events!!

I have reached the end of my 4 year term as President. It has been an honour, privilege and a pleasure to serve the MGS Alumnae Association in this capacity. Due to Covid, we were not able to meet in person and it was a challenge keeping the events going under restricted circumstances but I am glad to say that this Committee 100% stepped up to the challenge and we made the very best of a dire situation. Since things have resumed to normalcy, we have moved ahead and tried to do as much as we can to engage the greater body of alumnae members.

On a personal note, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Mrs. Sim Suh-Ting, Chairperson of the MGS Board of Management and the members of the Board of Management, Mrs. Valarie Wilson, Principal of MGS, Mrs. Corinne Sim, Vice-Principal of

MGS and the Senior Management of MGS for their continued support of the MGS Alumnae Association.

I would also like to thank each one of my committee members for always being obliging and working hard despite the fact that I know many of you have served on this committee for many many years and have a lot of other commitments to deal with. Barbara, Bee Ann, Angelina, Yin Ling, Ruth, Fang, Joy-marie, Lynn, Belinda, Debbie, Jen, Jean, Melissa, Vanessa, Su Li & Esther, ... Thank you !!

On this note, it is with great sadness that we will have 2 members of our Committee leave us. Sng Jen Hwei and Deborah Wong will be stepping down as Committee Members after this AGM.

Jen has been a member of this Committee for many years and due to work commitments she will retire from the Committee.

Deborah, who is based in the US but has continued to help us from afar, will also be stepping down as she takes on more responsibilities in her life overseas.

Jen and Deborah will remain on our sub-committees because you know you can run but cannot hide from us!! We still need you!

On an even sadder note, our beloved Mrs. Corinne Sim will be retiring as Vice-Principal of MGS from 31 July 2024. Whilst we still have her on the Committee as an ex-officio member until then, I would just like to express my deepest gratitude to Mrs. Sim for her selfless dedicated service both to MGS and the Alumnae Association. Mrs. Sim began teaching in MGS when I was in Secondary 3. As she takes her well-deserved break from her school duties, we hope she will continue to be a part of our Alumnae Association Committee! After all, once an MGS girl, always an MGS girl!

As I pass the baton into the very capable hands of Yin Ling, I just want to say a big thank you to all of you for your support in the past 4 years!

May we achieve all we set out to do with God's guiding hand as we continue To Master To Grow & To Serve !

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 62nd AGM HELD ON 15 APRIL 2023

The Minutes of the 62nd AGM was proposed to be adopted by Angelina Wong and seconded by Jean Lee.

3. ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT 2023/2024

The Annual Report for 2023/2024, which contained a summary of the Alumnae activities in 2023/2024, was taken as read.

The Annual Report was proposed to be adopted by Esther Mak and seconded by Tjio Bee Ann.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The approval of the Audited Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 was proposed by Tjio Bee Ann and seconded by Belinda Teo .

5. APPROVAL OF BUDGET AND EXPENSES FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2024

Our Treasurer for the 2023/2024 term of office, Fang Lum, presented the proposed Budget and Expenses for the Financial Year 2024.

There were no objections to the budget and expenses raised for 2024. The Budget and Expenses for Financial Year 2024 was proposed to be adopted by Barbara Chee and seconded by Tjio Bee Ann.

6. RE-APPOINTMENT OF SH ONG LLP AS HONORARY AUDITOR

The re-appointment of SH Ong LLP as Honorary Auditor was proposed by Sharmila Nair and seconded by Belinda Teo and confirmed with a note of thanks and appreciation for their services rendered.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR 2023/2024

A vote is only required for the 4 Committee Members as there were no other nominees for the other positions.

The positions that have been elected unopposed are :

President - Fock Yin Ling
Vice-president - Tjio Bee Ann
Honorary Secretary - Ruth Yam
Assistant Honorary Secretary - Angelina Wong
Honorary Treasurer - Fang Lum
Honorary Legal Advisor - Sharmila Nair
Honorary Publicity Officer - Lynn Lee

The following members were up for election as Committee Members : Barbara Chee, Belinda Teo, Esther Mak, Gwee Su Li, Jean Lee, Joy-marie Toh, Vanessa Leung, Elaine Khoo and Lucretia Aik.

The following members were elected to the Committee : Barbara Chee, Belinda Teo, Joy-marie Toh and Gwee Su Li.

The following members were co-opted to the Committee : Jean Lee, Melissa Fam, Vanessa Leong, Esther Mak, Elaine Khoo and Lucretia Aik.

8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:15pm followed by a dedication service, tea and fellowship amongst members present back in the Alumnae Room.

Recorded By



Ms Fock Yin Ling
Hon Secretary

Confirmed By



Ms Sharmila Nair
President