

GamChix Meeting Minutes

Date: October 6, 2023

Time: 13:00

Location: Zoom

ATTENDEES

- Anna Ndure (AN)
- Oumie Saine (OS)
- Fatou Secka (FS)
- Suun Faye (SF)
- Binta Saidu (BS)
- Marie Ellen Chery (MC)
- Aisha Saho (AS)
- Marie Louise Johnson Njie (ML)
- Emily Innis (EI)
- Elizabeth Ndene (EN)

APOLOGIES

- Esther King (EK)
- Aji Alima Jah (AJ)
- Saffie Jobe Mballow (SM)
- Linguere (L)

I. Welcome and Introduction

A. The meeting was called to order at 13:10 by AN.

B. AN delivered opening remark, extending a warm welcome to all attendees and expressing gratitude for their presence.

II. Review of Last Meeting Minutes

A. The minutes from the previous meeting were thoroughly reviewed.

III. Reviving the Vision of Gamchix

A. AN presented the poll results regarding the hiatus's causes and member opinions. FS, OS, and AS shared their reasons and emphasized the importance of virtual meetings for remote members. AS commended the use of polls on WhatsApp for easy results, while FS suggested using Google Forms for more detailed data, including the choice between virtual and physical meetings.

AN expressed concerns about member participation and stressed the need for effective communication to propel the organization forward. Intense deliberations followed, during which FS pointed out the contrast between poll response rates and the number of attendees on the call, suggesting that Anna should examine this discrepancy.

OS, MC, and AS emphasized the importance of member focus, regardless of cooperation, and OS suggested recruiting new members if need be.

B. A discussion ensued to finalize rules around inactive members and the termination process. It was decided that members who responded positively on the polls would be given two chances, including today's meeting and the next. Failure to attend would result in membership termination and removal from the WhatsApp group. Members who haven't participated in the polls and miss meetings will also face membership termination.

IV. Next Steps

A. Immediate Next Steps:

- AN emphasized the need to streamline organizational operations and mentioned the development of a preliminary action plan to be presented at the next meeting. AS further appreciated the plan to include the Arts (STEAM) and suggested adding leadership training to the activities, stating that women are sometimes hesitant to take on leadership roles. She proposed leveraging on our MOU with UTG to train students on office applications, as some of them are unfamiliar with these, which can be a hindrance in the workforce.

- AN elaborated on the planned activity before the year ends.

- AN encouraged members to share organizations or donor agencies that could support GamChix's work. AS suggested sharing a list of past partner organizations. AN pledged to check with the chairlady and share the list for members to add potential partners to it.

V. Any Other Business (AOB)

- Girls for the Future is hosting its first Rural-Urban Summit on October 20th, 2023, and has invited Gamchix. MC volunteered to attend if no other member is available.

- FS recently got married, and the group took a moment to offer congratulations, prayers, and best wishes for her journey.

VI. Action Points

- AN/EK to prepare a skeleton document to serve as an action plan to be presented at the next meeting.
- AN to obtain the list of partner agencies/donors that GamChix has worked with before from EK and share it with members so they can add potential agencies/donors that are not on the list.
- Provided we decide to hold an onsite meeting, AN should create a Zoom meeting link for members outside the Gambia.

VII. Next Meeting

A. The date for the next meeting was announced as Friday, October 20th, 2023, to be hosted on Zoom.

B. AN delivered closing remarks, expressing appreciation to all attendees for their valuable contributions and active participation.

Meeting adjourned at 14:13.

Respectfully submitted by:

Anna S. Ndure