



## DHARMASOKA COLLEGE PAST PUPILS' ASSOCIATION COLOMBO BRANCH

**MINUTES OF THE 8<sup>th</sup> EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE YEAR 2023/24  
HELD ON 11<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023 AT 6.00 PM AT 11, DE SILVA ROAD, KALUBOWILA.**

**Present:**

Air Vice Marshal Thilan De Silva (Retd) (President), Eng. Chandralal Sooriyaarachchi (Immediate Past President), AVM Dilshan Wasage (Retd) (Senior Vice President), Mr. Kelum Jayasuriya (Vice President), Eng. Palitha Hendahewa (Vice President), Eng. R B M Gunawardana (Vice President), Mr. Iman Perera (Vice President), Mr. Udaya N. Sirisena (Secretary), Mr. Janaka Kumudu (Asst. Secretary), Mr. Harish Guruge (Treasurer), Mr. Hemantha De Silva (Asst. Treasurer), Mr. Chandra Kumara Lokuliyana (Editor), Eng. Lal Premanath, Dr. P. Warusawithana, Mr. Palitha Widanapathirana, Dr. Neela Gunasekara, Mr. Gavesh Ginige, Mr. Dammika Kodikara, Mr. Sisira Prabhath Sugathadasa, Mr. Nipul Goonesekera, Mr. Shammi Uyanage, Mr. D. Wsantha Kumara, Mrs. D M G Shyamalatha, Mr. Chandana Guniyangoda, (24 members).

**Absent:**

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Mr. Rohana De Silva, SSP Nishantha De Zoysa, Mr. M W Janaka Thusil De Silva and Dr. Chandana Ramyasiri (5 members).

1. **Meeting called to order** at 6.50 pm.
2. **Commenced the day's proceedings, by singing the College song.**
3. **Silent tribute to Members who passed away:**
  - Founder member & Former President of DCPA – Colombo Branch and Founder member of the Scholarship Trust, Mr. R G L De Silva
  - Mrs. Irish Damayanthi De Silva – Past pupil, beloved wife of late Mr. Tudor Fernando ( Past Sokian ) & beloved mother of Mr. Jinesh Fernando ( Member DCPA – Colombo Branch )
4. **Apologies for Absence:**

Mr. Susiri De Silva, Eng. Gaveshan Weerakkody, Mr. Prasanna Egodage, Mr. K M G R Chaminda, Mr. Dhananjaya Nandasiri, Eng. Damindra De Silva, Mrs. Sajeewa Priyadarshani and Mrs. Dharshi Guruge ( 8 members).

**5. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2023**

The last meeting minutes were proposed by Dr. Neela Gunasekara as correct and seconded by AVM Dishan Wasage (Retd) .

**6. Matters arising from Previous Meeting Minutes:**

**a. Fund Raiser**

Subcommittee Chairperson Mr. Iman Perera briefed arrangements of the Sing-along event & explained the current status.

It was noted that campaign is in very low profile & stressed that we need to accelerate it. Further it was pointed out that publicity in Ambalangoda also required.

Tickets are priced at Rs. 5,000/= . Ticket book is contained 10 tickets & available now.

It was noted that finding advertisements & sponsorships also are in very low profile. Only 4 advertisements were confirmed yet.

President – AVM Thilan De Silva (Retd) requested all Ex- Co members to engage actively in finding Advertisements & selling tickets.

**b. Digital Media & Communication**

Requested Membership subcommittee to discuss issues & submit a proposal.

It was decided to post photographs of Trustees in the web.

**c. Sports Activities**

15 Foot balls were donated to the School on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023. School very much appreciated the donation & sent a thanking letter too.

#### d. **Physical Infrastructure**

- Subcommittee Chairperson – Eng. R B M Gunawardana informed that they visited the school on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023 & had a discussion with Principal. Accordingly, the following proposals were considered and an inspection was carried out to see the locations proposed by the Principal.

- i. Construction of a Smart Classroom
- ii. Installation of a Solar Panel System
- iii. Converting two classrooms to a mini auditorium  
(This space is currently used as it is for a mini auditorium)
- iv. Converting a classroom to an “English Activity Room”

Ex- Co requested to arrange a budget for each item in order to decide the item & raise required funds.

- It is empathized that we need to request School to use facilities given by us for the designated purpose.
- It was decided to clean & re-paint the Mudliyar Thomas De Silva statue using the Infrastructure Fund & rectify at the AGM.

#### e. **Membership Drive**

- It was noted that Editor has requested contact details of members which are not available with Association by posting a message in the Dharmasoka College Past Pupils’ Association – Colombo Branch WhatsApp group.
- Sub Committee Chairperson Eng .RBM Gunarwardane empathized the importance of having a payment gateway system for the website to make on line payments when Membership Applications are processed.

Mr. Shammie Uyanage provided an overview of different payment gateway options available, emphasizing security, user-friendliness, and compatibility with our website's platform. Ex-Co members had lengthy discussion regarding costs, such as transaction fees, setup fees, and ongoing maintenance costs.

Considered various payment gateway options based on factors discussed and finally PayHere managed by PayHere (Private) Limited, #46, Galle Road, Kalutara 12000 Sri Lanka) was selected as the most suitable payment gateway for DCPA.ORG web portal.

**f. Thomas De Silva Memorial Oration**

Subcommittee Chairperson – AVM Dilshan Wasage (Retd) briefed arrangements made so far. It was noted that Documentary Presentation also needed to grace the event. Subcommittee will discuss with the school & finalized arrangements of the event.

**7. Accounts for the last month**

The Treasurer- Mr. Harish Guruge tabled the monthly accounts for the month of December 2023.

**8. Correspondence**

None

**9. Any Other Business**

None

**10. Vote of Thanks:**

On behalf of the DCPA-CB, Secretary – Mr. Udaya N. Sirisena expressed his sincere gratitude to all Ex-Co members for their participation. He thanked Dr. Warusawithana & his wife for providing their house to conduct the Ex-Co meeting with refreshments & followed by fellowship & dinner together with entertainments.

**The 9<sup>th</sup> Ex-Co meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at the Mercantile Cricket Association , 114, Wijerama Mw, Colombo 07.**

**Udaya N. Sirisena.  
Secretary**

**31<sup>st</sup> January, 2024**

