

Minutes
House of Gordon USA 2007 Annual General Meeting
Grandfather Mountain Highland Games
July 14, 2007
1:00 p.m.

Federal IRS EIN # 26-0285150

1. Call to Order: The annual House of Gordon meeting (AGM) was called to order at 1:05pm, by John Lowry, President. There were 29 members present.

2. Reports:
 - Secretary's Minutes. Barbara Wray read the minutes from the July 8th, 2006 AGM held in the Chief's Tent at 2:00-3:00pm. A motion was made by Roger Mills to accept the minutes as read and Tom Adams second it. It was unanimously voted to accept the minutes as read by the membership. A copy of the minutes will be filed for audit.

 - President's Report. John Lowry opened up his report with discussion on developing the website. We had some setbacks as a result of Windy Gordon stepping down from the Board. It was mentioned that we hope he will come back as the need for NC to build back up again and be strong may be a challenge for NC members and their officers. John mentioned that we were now a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Ken Hendrix was brought in to help with the 501(c)(3) because there are legal documents to be filed and, as an accountant, we needed his expertise. This has brought us to where we are today. John appointed Ken as our new Treasurer and we thanked Lu Gordon for the years she carried out these duties. Marcia Gordon McLaurin has agreed to be our new convener in LA and MS. John has contacted our Chief in Scotland, Granville Huntly, but has not received a response as yet. John also wanted to thank everyone for all the hard work as we move forward. John placed a call into Ken Hendrix so that he could give us his Treasurer's report. Ken will call us back later in the meeting.

 - Communication Chair Report: David Todd presented and read Lois Todd's communication chair report. Lois was unable to attend this year. She touched on topics to include status of the National website, The Wall of Honor, a genealogy help section available on the web and our new "In the House" National newsletter. John calls Lois one of our most valuable players.

 - Membership Report: Nellie Lowry gave us an update on the membership. She mentioned that the Gordons were very generous and she was very proud. Prior to the AGM we had 421 members. As of this weekend, we were up to 450 members. Nellie communicates frequently with Barbara Gordon Wray, Sec/Treasurer in VA and Arlene Adams, Southwest Membership Chair to keep all records current.

- Convener Coordinator Report: Roger Mills presented his Convener Coordinator report and said we have taken three steps forward and two steps back. Garth Gordon has ½ of one state and ½ of another (Michigan & Indiana). The Southwest Territory covers five states. Roger is Convener for Illinois and temporarily for Iowa. Roger mentioned the need for regional commissioners to help promote and make sure that states have a presence at the Games. We need someone to represent North and South Dakota. Roger also introduced Marcia as the newly appointed Convener for LA and MS. He provided her with new vinyl banners to take back with her. We will order more. He mentioned that there were a few conveners who were holding down more than one state. Morris Gordon in the mid Atlantic, Tom Adams in the Southwest and Kenny Prather in the Texas area. Roger proposed that we make these our new Commissioners.

3. Old Business: Nothing to report on a Convener's Manual.

4. New Business: The By-Laws were presented and voted on for acceptance by the membership.

5. Treasurer's Report: Ken called back. He said its 120 degrees in Fresno, CA!! He reported that we were a 501(c)(3) organization effective 30 June 2007. He reported that we had an ending balance of \$17,967.79 and that we were a corporation starting on June 1st. Current balance is now \$19,065.32. We have a set of various funds that have been earmarked for charities and scholarships. Roger Mills made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented and Tom Troop seconded it. More discussion followed and it was mentioned that honorary members do not have voting rights. Tom's motion to accept the report with clarification was seconded by Geof Baker. The new motion was proposed by Tom Troop and seconded by Tom Gardenhire. It was voted on and accepted by the membership. The membership decided to continue to support the Gordon Highlanders Museum and to add support for the Culloden Walk at the new Culloden Battlefield Visitor's Center.

** Due to our time expiring in the Chief's Tent at 2:00, we temporarily adjourned our meeting until we could resume at our annual picnic that night.....

6. At the Picnic - Around 7:00pm

- To start where we left off with our AGM, John presented Evelyn Gordon with a glass plaque as a "thank you" for many years of dedication and a lifetime of service. We will continue to have the Charles O. Gordon Memorial Scholarship fund. Discussion will continue via emails on the details of the application process for this award.
- Next we talked about the DNA project. Discussion was to set aside monies to the DNA project. Tom Adams made a motion to determine the dollar amount to be designated. David Todd seconded it.
- It was also discussed to make the Gordon Highland Museum our ongoing charity.

- John presented the information he had on the Culloden Caithness stones. You can put your Clan name on stone. Cost is from \$125.00 to \$3000 for a stone depending on size and what is put on it. John likes the 16x16x4 limestone type with up to 14 characters per line. David Todd made a motion to allocate \$250 for the stone. Geof Baker seconded it. More discussion transpired and the motion was made to amend the original motion from \$250 to \$890 to allow for getting our Clan crest put on the stone. We voted to purchase the stone in honor of the House of Gordon USA.
- Next on the agenda was discussing the location for the 2008 and 2009 AGM. David Nichols of SC suggested the Greenville, SC Games in 2008. It was decided to come back to GMHG again for 2008. Some other suggestions for 2009 were either in CA or VA since that is where a large volume of our active membership is.
- John Crosby has a lifetime membership in the Georgia House of Gordon. Cost is 15 x dues structure. Clan MacLaren charges 10 x dues for life memberships. John Lowry is asking for someone to be on a committee to study this with John Crosby and to bring a report at the 2008 AGM. Also mentioned was the cost depending on one's age.
- Next on the agenda was "The Gathering" at Edinburgh 2009. Roger Mills indicated that in an effort to promote tourism, they are having a Calling of the Clans in Edinburgh around July 25th through the first week of August 2009. The Aboyne Games are the first Saturday in August and also the "Military Tattoo" is during this timeframe.

7. Installation of newly elected Officers.

- Those present stood and were sworn in. They are:

President – John E. Lowry - present
 Vice President – Roger J. Mills - present
 Secretary – Barbara Gordon Wray - present
 Treasurer – Ken Hendrix
 Director – Kim Gordon
 Director – Lucretia Gordon - present

Also, our communications chair is Lois Todd.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 and we all ate a wonderful meal and made a toast with the Chief's brew, "Cock o' the North" in celebration of our new 501(c)(3) status and the adopting of our By-Laws.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Gordon Wray
 Secretary
 House of Gordon, USA