

**Minutes of meeting of Umma wa Wapanda Baisikeli Dar es Salaam
15 March 2008**

Attendance

Ally Athuman Jumbe
Ally Saidi Mwishehe
Aseli Wilison
Elaine Baker
Filbert Mbecha
Juma Ali Salehe Jongo
Jumanne Idd Selemani
Kassim Bakari
Kibwana Mohammad Msiga
Paulo Atibu Hatibu
Protace Mugondo
Sosthenes C Amlima
Sudi Saidi Ramadhan

Meeting in Temeke

Last Saturday Juma, Elaine, Paulo and Sudi Saidi went to Temeke market to tell cyclists there about UWABA and recruit new members. 41 new members joined. However, in order to form a branch we need some members who will hold regular meetings there, so we recommended that any Temeke members interested in running a Temeke branch should come to the Mabibo meetings a few times first. Paulo also recommended that we also go to Kigamboni another day as there are many cyclists there.

Meeting with City Council, Morogoro Road, tax on cycles

When we were following up to get an answer to our letter to the city council, Mrs Mlamba suggested we visit her to get further explanations on Monday. Juma, Elaine, Paulo, Jumanne and Filbert went to meet her. She also gave us an answer to our letter saying we will be invited to discussions on the transport master plan and Morogoro Road, but the letter did not answer our other specific questions on the design of Morogoro Road such as how vehicles will be prevented from using the cycle lanes to park or drive on. Overall she and her unit are very supportive of promoting cycling and are planning to put cycle lanes on Morogoro Road, and she is also supportive of cycles for disabled people but she is not so supportive of guta cycles. Elaine wrote notes of the meeting which were circulated at this meeting, and Juma also brought a copy to Mrs Mlamba during the week.

Mrs Mlamba suggested we request that the tax on import of bicycles be reduced. We decided to first find out how much tax is levied on the import of bicycles before requesting a reduction to the Ministry of Finance.

The covers on the drains going across the service road in Jangwani part of Morogoro Road have been removed, possibly by thieves. This means that cyclists must keep dismounting and mounting again after every short distance and is a particular problem for disabled cyclists. Many cyclists are using the main part of the road to avoid this. We

decided to write a letter to TANROADS Dar es Salaam to ask them to put new covers and to cement them in place so they can't be taken.

SUMATRA and problems of students travelling to school

The Citizen newspaper had an article saying that SUMATRA (Surface and Marine Transport Regulatory Authority) are writing a report on the problems of transport to school for students in urban areas such as Dar es Salaam. Elaine visited their office and talked to David Mziray who is writing the report. He showed her a draft report summary and it talks only about buses and doesn't mention cycling or even walking. However when she suggested he also include discussion of cycling to school in his report he said this was a good idea. The next day Juma delivered a letter to him which points out the advantages of cycling as a transport to school for students living within 10km of school and over 12 years of age, and made recommendations for how to encourage students to cycle to school and how to ensure their safety.

Office, guta and finances

Ally Saidi Mwishehe has continued to bring the guta hire money to Juma each week and Juma is holding this money – he now has Tsh 18,000. Juma bought hooks for tying string lines to make the papers stand nicely on the shelves. We need some more string as the first string enough for one set of shelves only.

Mejah organised the painting of the logo on one wall in the office. It looks nice, but the members said that the prominent way the church and the mosque are displayed among the buildings makes UWABA seem like a religious organisation and could be misleading. The members decided to remove the cross and the mosque symbol from the logo in the office. Sosthenes said he would do this during the week.

As the logo is on the right hand wall it was decided that we put up the extra notice board on the back wall instead. Ally Saidi Mohammed has still not put it up. Jumanne said he would follow up during the week to see that he does it.

Wamba Memorial Fund

No reply to the email to Wamba memorial fund has yet been received. Elaine phoned and left a message on the answering machine of the chair of the fund in the USA.

Essay contest

We reminded ourselves about the Ibike essay contest and members said they would try to get children to write something for it.