Minutes of meeting of Umma wa Wapanda Baisikeli Dar es Salaam 16th June 2007

Attendance

Ally Salum
Elaine Baker
Juma Ali Salehe Jongo
Kibwana Mohammad Msiga
Rashidi Saidi Karanji
Sosthenes C Amlima

Communications with Ilala Municipality

Sosthenes reported that he, Mejah, Prosper and Juma attended the transport sector meeting with Ilala Muncipality on 15th May. Mejah and Prosper made a presentation jointly and circulated photographs. Much of the discussion during the meeting centered around dala dalas and there was a suggestion to have single companies controlling particular routes and subcontracting to bus operators. The meeting elected a task force to continue discussing the congestion issue. Prosper was elected to this task force. Elaine said she had talked to Prosper on the phone and he said that no meeting of this task force had been called yet.

Last Thursday 14th June the Citizen newspaper published a first and second page article which said that Ilala Municipality was banning three wheeled cycles and carts (maguta and mikokoteni) from the city centre. Elaine was surprised by this as Ilala Municipality had previous assured us that this policy was not going ahead. She visited the office of the mayor of Ilala on Friday and he told her that the article was incorrect and that there would be no ban on maguta and mikokoteni entering the city centre. Elaine phoned the Citizen newspaper and talked to the journalist who wrote the article and told him he had not reported correctly.

Roads planned for construction

Juma reported that he went to TANROADS to find out the contact details and the office locations of the consultants and contractors involved in the three roads – Sam Nujoma, Nelson Mandela and Kilwa roads. Elaine drafted a letter based on the brainstorming of questions we had at a previous meeting. This letter will go to the consultants, the contractors and TANROADS Dar es Salaam and headquarters. The other people at the meeting checked the draft letter and made corrections.

Bicycle caravan

The first step in our proposal for the bicycle caravan is to get sponsorship. Elaine drafted a letter asking for sponsorship and the other members made corrections. We brainstormed a list of companies to ask for sponsorship from and divided them into areas:

Town and Kariakoo

• Azam (Saidi Salum Bakresa) – office in Bandarini Kurasini

- Vodocam office on Ohio Street
- Tigo office in Kariakoo
- Scandinavia
- National Microfinance Bank
- National Bank of Commerce
- Embassy of the Netherlands

Mwenge and nearby

- IPP (Mr Menghi) office in Mwenge
- Celtel office in Kijitonyama
- NABICO office in Mwenge

Nyerere Road

- Mohammed Enterprises office on Nyerere Road
- Knight Support office near TAZARA
- Guta company office on Nyerere Road

Other

• Zantel – office near the American embassy

To each we will give a letter in English and Kiswahili, a copy of the proposal and a copy of our NGO registration certificate.

Other business

Sosthenes reported that he had been at Mlimani City shopping centre and they are no longer preventing bicycles from entering or parking there. However, they have not yet put special parking facilities.

There was discussion about getting an office. The constraints are financial – getting an office will need a monthly rent and a monthly salary for someone to stay in the office which would work out at about Tsh 100,000 a month. It is difficult to find sponsors for ongoing costs.

The meeting place was discussed. It was suggested that we meet at Mabibo Makama ya Ndizi as there is a place with lots of maguta and also bicycle hire so plenty of cyclists are in that area. It was agreed to meet at Jumanne's office where he fixes maguta. It is near Maktaba Bar. It was agreed that Rashid would ask if this would be OK and then Elaine will text the members about the new meeting place for next week's meeting.