

**Minutes of meeting of Umma wa Wapanda Baisikeli Dar es Salaam
27th October 2007**

Attendance

Ally Saidi Mohamedi
Ally Saidi Mwishehe
Ally Salum
Bushira Yahaya Rashidi
Dominata Rwechungura
Elaine Baker
Filbert Mbecha
Husein Hamza Hamisi
Juma Ali Salehe Jongo
Kassim Bakari
Kibwana Mohammad Msiga
Paulo Atibu Hatibu
Rahma Ali
Sudi Saidi Ramadhan
Yusufu Juma

Cycle caravan

The members discussed last week's cycle caravan which had been very successful. All UWABA members who had a role to play in the organisation on the day did an excellent job. Juma, Elaine and Mejah had cashed the cheque from the Netherlands embassy. Juma bought the reflective jackets, Mejah hired the music system and tents and arranged ads in Mtanzania and Dar Leo newspapers and Elaine bought the helmets. Dominata arranged for Majira to write an article about the event on the day before it. Juma and Paulo stayed at Mnazi Mmoja overnight to watch over the music system. Jumanne, Filbert, Yusuf Juma and Sudi Saidi brought the water to Kinondoni by guta and distributed it. Allen of CHABADA coordinated the leading and safety of the caravan. Juma coordinated the distribution of raffle tickets. During the caravan itself and at the speeches after it Dominata was an excellent MC. Sosthenes took a video of the event.

Over 200 people took part including disabled and able-bodied cyclists, men and women and a few children. A group of women cyclists called Kali Mata cycled all the way from Gezaulole to take part. Our special guest was a councillor on Ilala Municipal Council representing the mayor of Ilala who gave a good speech supporting cyclists. The prize winners were all very happy with their prizes.

That evening the event was covered on both Channel Ten and ITV news with interviews being shown of Mejah, Elaine and Dominata. No one looked thoroughly at the Sunday or Monday newspapers to check if it was covered there.

Members collected the small flags but the large banners seem to be missing. Juma will check with the people in Mnazi Mmoja if they have seen them.

Elaine lent some money to UWABA to cover the cost of helmets and photocopying, so when we get the balance of money from the Netherlands embassy her money can be returned.

Climate Change event in December

Elaine explained that in December there would be a worldwide day of protest on Climate Change and that a group in London called Campaign against Climate Change together with other groups worldwide were planning on holding coordinated events on one day. It was agreed that UWABA would mark this in Tanzania by cycling to the US embassy to deliver a letter calling on the United States to sign the Kyoto Protocol and take responsibility for its role in climate change, as the US is the country which contributes most to climate change and its political leadership are not addressing the problem. It is appropriate that UWABA takes action on this as UWABA members show a good example of not emitting carbon during transport.

Ally Saidi Mohammed suggested that we also request Mr Legnard Mengi of IPP who is the chair of an important Government environmental committee to support the event. Bushira said he is related by marriage to Professor Jamidu Katibu of the University of Dar es Salaam, the director of the same committee, so he could approach him to support us also.

Follow up on letters

Juma said he would follow up on getting replies to our letters to TANROADS and the Dar es Salaam city council this week.

Office

Now that the cycle caravan is over we can concentrate on putting more materials in the office. It was requested that we look for someone to do translation of materials on the internet and minutes of meetings into Swahili for the office shelves. As this would be a substantial job we could pay someone to do this out of the donation we are expecting from Italy. When it is ready we can then organize an opening ceremony.

Other business

Elaine said she has not yet heard from Wamba Memorial fund on whether our road safety project proposal was accepted. Also the donation from Italy has not yet arrived due to difficulties arranging a bank transfer.

The two new members were welcomed and requested ID cards.