



NEPALESE ASSOCIATION IN SOUTHEAST AMERICA



NASEA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting 5

Date: July 18th, 2010

Venue: Karki Residence
4023 Beth Ane Place,
Auburn, AL, 36832

Submitted By: Saunak Ranjitkar

Attendance

Opening

Raja Ghale opened the meeting and Saunak Ranjitkar outlined the meeting process. Raja Ghale thanked host Dr. Lila Karki and his wife for their generosity in hosting this meeting.

Financial Updates

Ram Dongol presented financial updates of the organization. He informed the body of the following financial activities of NAsEA

1. Picnic : \$1,365/- with \$179 surplus
2. Dheusire Fund : \$1,058/-
3. Ilam Fire Victim Fund: \$325/-
4. Sherchan Family Help Fund: \$1,755/-
5. APAC Asian Soccer Tournament Sponsorship : \$350/- (Pledged)

The Sherchan Family fund was handed over to Nagesh Sherchan at a special function at the residence of Ram Dongol on July 14.

Updates on

1. **ByLaws** : Prakash Malla updated the body on the progress for preparing ByLaws. He informed the body that he had circulated the draft of bylaws internally and needed feedback on it. He also informed that ByLaws Committee meeting was scheduled for July 18.
2. **Nepal Promotion**: Tara Pun updated body about the updates of Nepal Promotion committee. He explained the goal of the committee to promote Nepal and its heritage can be achieved by NAsEA by working closely with Travel Agents, promoting its cause and participating in various talk programs.
3. **Nepal Festival**: Sanjeeb Sapkota updated on Nepal Festival. He explained that once the date and venue is fixed, we are ready to announce the event. He proposed the potential date of Oct 18th(Sunday of Dashain festival) or Oct24-25. He explained that the rental cost for venue at Centennial Olympic Park to be \$2200/-. With the estimated budget of about \$6000 to \$8000, this event needs some startup fund. Sanjeeb said that this event will add a great value to our organization promoting NAsEA and cultural heritage of Nepal. Suman Silwal, suggested moving this event to Spring (around April) so that everyone will have enough time for preparation for a grand event. Lila Karki supported this option explaining time and budget constraints. He added that Auburn Nepalese Student Association recently participated in International Student Festival at Auburn University and encouraged the organizers to involve these enthusiastic students. Sanjeeb Sapkota welcomed the suggestions.

ANMA\NAsEA Joint Convention Update

Sanjeeb Sapkota updated the body on upcoming ANMA/NAsEA Joint Convention at Lexington, KY. He informed that registration has started. Planning Meeting is scheduled on July 24th at Lexington, KY. Efforts on raising funds through advertisements in Yeti View Points have started. Various announcements have been sent. He encouraged everyone to register for the event and also register hotel rooms by August 4th.

Offer of GEICO

Raja Ghale introduced, Arjun Prasad Mainali, a social worker and an employee of GEICO. Mr. Mainali explained a deal from GEICO where NAsEA can receive certain amount of money when any of its members gets a quote from GEICO. After further discussions, everyone agreed that this is a good way of raising fund for the organization. And, we agreed to give it a trial. Saunak Ranjitkar asked if such involvement will be against the policy of non-governmental organizations. Raja Ghale will look into the policy and any potential conflict of interest.

Survey on Nepalese Assimilation in the US

Raja Ghale explained the Survey on Nepalese Assimilation in the US and encouraged members to fill in the survey.

Feedback on

Monthly Talk Program

Sanjeeb Sapkota shared that the monthly talk program that NAsEA initiated beginning July is going well. The topic of the July talk session was 'Health problems in Nepal and how individuals and organizations in US could help. The recording of the session is shared with all via googlegroup and is available at NAsEA site as well. Raja Ghale mentioned that the next session will be on Immigration issues and the speaker is the veteran immigration lawyer, Khagendra GC.

Picnic

Sanjeeb Sapkota mentioned that the picnic went well with over 100 participants and with fund raised beyond breakeven.

Newsletter

Sanjeeb Sapkota, Lila Karki and Suman Lamsal gave update that the first NAsEA newsletter is soon to be launched.

Asian Cup Soccer

Raja Ghale explained the history of Nepal Soccer Team participating in APAC Soccer Tournament. He proposed to sponsor the team in co-ordination with NAG.

Online election

Sanjeeb Sapkota brought this point of discussion the community is ready for online election and if we should work towards. People gave argument both in favor of online election and on site election. There was a feel that a lot of homework needs to be done for online and the community is probably not ready for online election yet. Lila Karki mentioned that since this agenda doesn't fall under executive body's jurisdiction, we should let the election committee decide on this issue.

Renewal of present committee at the convention

Sanjeeb Sapkota reminded that according to the bylaws, the term of executive body is one year though it was customary that the term was extended for one extra year by the general assembly.

Dashain/Tihar Party

The group decided that NAsEA executive will try to attend and represent in Dashain organized by different states like Florida, Alabama. As for Georgia, we will not do a separate Dashain gathering but will join with NAG.

Nepal Cultural Center

Fund Raising

Gobinda Shrestha expressed significance on fund raising.

Bhutanese Updates

National Convention (OBCCA) and (ABA – Association of Bhutanese in America). Raja added about their participation and Raja as Chief Guest. He assured about mutual co-ordination between two organizations.

NAsEA Promotion in Alabama

Sanjeeb Sapkota suggested the consolidation of NANA (North Alabama Nepalese Association) and other university level organizations in Auburn, Mobile and Montgomery to form a collective national organization. Suman Silwal gave history of organization forming in the Alabama and shared his experience. Lila Karki shared his experience from Auburn. It was agreed to discuss on this further.

NAsEA Projects in Nepal

Toilet project: Target time frame : August 2010. President will contact with Tek Thapa for updates on the project.

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to be on August 15th, Sunday at the residence of Ram Dongol residence at Atlanta, GA.

Adjourn

Mr. Raja Ghale thanked everyone for their participation and host, Lila Karki, for his generosity and declared the meeting adjourned.