

5th Executive Meeting

Nepalese Association in Southeast America

Nov 20 2011, Clarkston, Georgia

Participants

In person - Sanjeeb Sapkota, Ram Dongol, Dhana Timilsina, Hari Bhandari, Shaubhagya Shrestha, Kumar KC, Janak Baral, Sagun Shrestha

Over the Phone - Ram Baral, Janak Baral, Madhav Dhakal, Choodamani Khanal, Madhav Mainali, Bimal Nepal, Gobinda Shrestha

NASeA president Sanjeeb Sapkota opened the meeting and General Secretary Sagun Shrestha facilitated the meeting.

1. Finalizing NASeA Advisors.

NASeA which is now 22 years old currently has 15 different committees and it is expanding in every area of community service be in sports, education, culture promotion etc. Further NASeA is reaching out to all the nine different states of the southeast region. To support this great movement, we need advisors to guide and suggest us in every area we are growing and expanding. Beside the nine advisors that were nominated during 2nd Executive meeting in Columbia, following 8 were proposed and were unanimously added to the list of 9 that were nominated in the last meeting (a total now is 17 Advisors)

- i. Suman Silwal,
- ii. Saunak Ranjitkar
- iii. Shailendra Bajracharya
- iv. Tara Pun
- v. Lek Sharma
- vi. Srijana Sharma
- vii. Goverdan Shrestha (will also be a liaison for us in Nepal)
- viii. Shakti Aryal

Further, it was determined that advisors needs to be someone who have already worked with NASeA and knows the mechanism of NASeA and they should be life members soon if they are not already. We need to make sure that the advisors are active and contribute significantly towards the mission of NASeA.

2. Life Members

Following NASeA executives and their spouses pledged to be life members

of NAsEA -- Narayan Khadka and Bandana Khadka, Kumar KC and Sabita KC, Janak Baral and Parbati Baral. Everyone applauded and welcomed them on board.

3. Template for Individual Committees

All the 15 different committees are asked to fill out short and long terms plans for each of their committees turn those in quickly. Several Committees already submitted including Immigration, Legal and Conflict Resolution Committee, Community Services Committee.

4. Website transformation

Thanks for the hard work of Saunak Ranjitkar, Sagun Shrestha and Shailendra Bajracharya NAsEA website have been transformed and modernized with new features and more representative of the southeast America. Advertising via NAsEA website has been sought by several entrepreneurs. A rate need to be fixed and for this purpose IT committee with bring suggestions in next meeting.

5. New Year eve Event

The cultural committee has encouraged new year eve activities in different states. In Atlanta NAsEA and NAG is supporting Haveli Nepali Restaurant organize its annual new year eve countdown event inviting artists from Georgia as well as folk singer Ram Prasad Khanal from Baltimore.

6. Monthly Satsang Event

Janak Baral shared that Cultural Committee with organize monthly *Satsang* will be held every month highlighting the significances of philosophies of Hinduism and Buddhism. Such *Satsang* will be live broadcasted via internet so that NAsEA members in Southeast and beyond could see.

7. Providing best NAsEA support when a Nepali dies in the US

We need to have a protocol, policy and resources set in advance to handling unfortunate deaths of a person of Nepali origin. The tragic death of Mukesh Dangi on Oct 31st has reminded us that we could act in a coordinated manner to provide the best possible help. NAsEA, during this tragic event, activated Community Services Committee and set funds collection mechanism to gather funds. Priti Khatri, NAsEA executive member, coordinated fund collection efforts rigorously. For future purposes, the community services committee will make such resources and tools available as list of incineration and mortuary services, funeral services.

8. Long Term Activities

Nepal Festival, Under-19 soccer tournament, Nepali Summer Camps are some of the long term activities of NAsEA. The first two events are being targeted for memorial day weekend. Sports Committee will be active in U-19 planning.

9. Next Meeting

NASeA next meeting (6th executive meeting) will either be on Sunday, Dec 11 or Dec 18.

a. Fundraiser for *Ganga Ghar*

NASeA will host a mega fundraiser event in early February for *Ganga Ghar* Project that aims at recruiting 'One sponsor from USA helping 1 child in Nepal'. The project coordinator Binod Parajuli, briefed the committee about the organization and thanked NASeA for sponsoring its events. Project Committee chair (Ram Dongol) and Entrepreneur Committee chair (Dhana Timilsina) will coordinate activities for this event.

b. Visiting cards for NASeA officials and Calendar

Visiting cards with NASeA position written on it are effective way of introducing self and organization. Individual executive members will pay for their own visiting card but Sagun will assist in design and Gobinda Shrestha will liaise with the printing company. NASeA calendar will be designed and printed in Nepal. Gobinda Shrestha's brother in Nepali and NASeA advisor Goverdhan Shrestha will assist in this.

10. Nepali Cultural Center in Atlanta

It has been over six months since the Nepal Cultural Center initiative has begun in Atlanta and we have come a long way in our progress. However we need to search for different options so that we take advantages of the current housing market situation. We need to differentiate between must have and good to have and the latter can wait until our community is more resourceful but we need to focus on the former 'must have'. Talking about must have we need a simple house to begin with that would have enough space for a office or two and a fairly sized meeting place. This is 'must have'. Later, down the road, the next generation of leader could expand it. Along these here are some of the options proposed:

- i. Buying a commercial property.
- ii. Co-operative (This is similar to renting/time sharing an office suite)
- iii. Talk with Shiva Agrawal of Global Mall, to see if they can give us free a space at their location. (There is a chance that they will give a discounted rate for 501 C organizations).
- iv. Have a *NASeA Ashram*.
- v. Buy a portion or all of strip mall portio convert it into several sections so that we can have NCC office and hall along with other spaces that can be rented out to generate steady cash flow to sustain the daily running cost of the NCC building.
- vi. Buy a foreclosure house.
- vii. Buy a 'time-share' fashion property

Dhana Timilsina will explore the above options and shall brief the committee in the next meeting.

11. Adjourn

NASeA President Sanjeeb Sapkota adjourned the meeting and thanked everyone for their precious time.