

February 9, 2014 Sunday

NASeA Monthly Meeting (6th)

Minute

Participants: Dr. Ram Chandra Baral, President; Bimal Nepal, Executive Vice President; Shailendra Bajracharya, Vice President; Bala Ghimire, Treasurer; Dr. Tilak B. Shrestha, General Secretary; Ambika Lohani Sharma, Joint Secretary; **Members:** Bidya Gurung, Choodamani Khanal, Dilip Panthee, Janak Baral, Krishna Shrestha, Dr. Nita Thapa, Udhav Karki.

Non-Executive members: Tara Pun, Raja Ghale, Alka Gurung, Acharya

Chairman of the meeting: Dr. Ram C. Baral, President

Minute taker: Dr. Tilak Shrestha, General Secretary

Meeting Host: Dr. Dilip Panthee and Family, Fletcher, NC

Agenda: Please refer to the e-mail on February 5th 'Meeting_call_6th.doc' for the rather lengthy agenda for the meeting. We will try to cover as many agenda as possible.

Dr. Ram Baral, President – NASeA, opened the meeting and welcomed all. He especially thanked Dr. Dilip Panthee and family for hosting the meeting.

1. Format of minute:

Tilak Shrestha: We have not posted earlier 2 minutes (4th and 5th meetings) so far. This is issue we need to discuss. In these 2 meetings we have too many redundancy, repetitions, and comments of personal and irrelevant nature. I like to bring this issue in the floor and suggest that the minute must be short and to the point. Since, we also have the audio taping of the meeting, we have recourse to solve the dispute if any.

2. Manju Gurung Pun Bhauju's passing away:

Ram Baral: Let us reflect on the loss of our Manju Gurung Pun, beloved wife of our outstanding community leader Tara Pun Jee. It is a small solace that police apprehended the criminal. We will honor the hero police appropriately. Let Tara Pun Jee reflect and we will hold one minute silence in her honor.

Tara Pun: Namaste to all. I miss her terrible. It is life and bad event happens. Thanks to all my friends who expressed their love and support to me. I do appreciate all your visits, calls, E-mail and Text messages. My apology to all for not responding promptly. I and my son take this opportunity to thank you all from bottom of our hearts.

This kind of event is not the first and will not be the last. We must be careful. NASeA must play import role.

Ram Baral: Let us observe one minute silence in memory and honor of Ms. Manju Gurung Pun, after 'Shanti' mantra by our resident priest Janak Baral.

Janak Baral invokes 'Shanti Mantra.'

< Silence >

3. Pledges:

Ram Baral: We must thank Bala, Tek, Shailendra, Ambika and other in collecting pledge money.

Bala Ghimire: Namaste to all. Happy to report Bhairab Gurung is our life member and donated \$ 300. Almost all pledges are raised. We pledge of \$ 3560, and received about 80%. Many thanks to Ambika Jee, Shailendra Jee and Tek Jee for their help. I expect to close the chapter within one week.

If any donors need Tax code, please let me know. I will provide them. Philippine donation is handed over. We have more than 10K in our account.

Ram Baral: NASEA check of \$ 1,000 has been handed over officially in the Philippines meeting yesterday by our Ex-President Raja Ghale. Raja Jee also did good job in introducing Nepal to Philippine people.

Ambika Sharma: Thanks to Bala, Tek, Shailendra for collecting pledges. Raja Ghale and I went to the Philippine meeting. Raja Ghale handed over the check and gave a good introduction of Nepal in the meeting. He started by mentioned Buddha. We must show case Nepal to other countries.

Shailendra Bajracharya: All the pledges done online are paid. Let us do some personal efforts to collect the remainder and close the chapter within a few days.

Raja Ghale: Namaste and thanks to all. Yesterday evening I and Ambika Jee attended the Philippine Organization party. There were about 200 people in classical dresses. We had two complimentary tickets (\$ 35). We were invited on the stage. I had the opportunity to introduce Nepal and hand over the \$ 1,000 check. Thanks.

4. APAC scholarship.

Tilak Shrestha: Thanks to Shailendra Jee we got the information that APAC announced \$ 1,000 scholarship to school going student from Nepal. The judging will be based upon his/her essay writing and volunteer work. We have already formed a committee to take of the issue: Tilak Shrestha – lead, Bimal Nepal, Chhodmani Khanal, Dr. Sushma Pradhan and Shailendra Bajracharya. Shailendra Jee has already put the information for circulation. We have to choose a student by March 31st this year.

5. E-mail policy:

Shailendra Bajracharya: I have given the suggestions. Please let me have your opinion. We have two sets: a. Internal - Executive Committee members, and b. External - All NASEA members. We may write internally as we need, but must careful what we send to external set. Here are the policy suggestions:

- a. not to forward e-mails
- b. not to use many e-mails of the same person
- c. not to send in personal stationary, electronic
- d. Link – double check, send to yourself first
- e. Google group – EC members can e-mail directly
- f. Main in front in large fonts
- g. not to send multiple e-mails
- h. use 'Reply all' button carefully

6. Discontinuation:

Ram Baral: We do not have to inform all the issues to all members and earlier office holder. We have to be selective in passing information.

Tilak Shrestha: It is for quality control and not to bother others for small affairs.

Bala Ghimire and Bimal: President and Secretary may send the e-mails to Ex-Presidents, Advisors etc. if needed.

Shailendra Bajracharya: Let us discontinue 'Ex-Executive members', but keep and change the names of 'Advisors', and 'Ex-Presidents.'

7. Committee formation:

a. External Relations Committee.

Ram Baral and Nar Gurung proposed Bimal Nepal as the lead of the committee. Ambika and Shailendra seconded the motion.

Bimal Nepal: I have been working on the issue for a few years and have good relationship with ANA, NRN etc. We need to develop Net work. Thanks for the opportunity.

Ram Baral: It is 'Sarba sammati', Congratulation.

b. Nepali School Committee:

Bimal Nepal: Proposed Choodamani Khanal.

Ram Baral: We also need to have a person who can focus in Atlanta school also. Shailendra Jee also has experience in it.

Choodamani Khanal: Thanks, I am already working in Florida schools. For me to lead I need support in Atlanta.

Shailendra Bajracharya: Choodamnai Jee is an expert and helping to run 5 schools. In Atlanta we have only one. I am working here to improve logistics, venue etc. and has been contacting churches, schools, Vietnamese etc. for place, but no definite answers yet.

Ram Baral: Let Choodamani Jee lead, Shailendra Jee and others join the committee. Congratulations Choodamani Jee. We will discuss other committees in next meeting.

8. Advisory Committee:

Ram Baral: In choosing the Advisory Committee members, we have to consider their earlier and potential contributions to NAsEA by both quality and quantity. Let me invite names.

Janak Baral: C.K. Parajuli, a great social activist.

Nita Thapa: Raja Ghale, earlier NAsEA President.

Ram Baral: His membership is automatic.

Ambika Sharma: Dr. Alka Gurung, women's activist, helped NAsEA earlier. Dr. Alka Gurung is the daughter of Chancellor of the Nepal Academy of Music and Drama and the Composer of our current National Anthem, Ambar Gurung.

Bimal Nepal: In my opinion, we do not need lead for this committee. Let me also propose – Ajay Satyal, Dr. Rudra Aryal and Dr. Bidya Subedi.

Ram Baral: It may be a good idea to have one lead to coordinate. But decide it later.

Bidya Gurung: Let me propose Deva Acharya, an imminent business man who could help our entrepreneurs.

Dr. Alka Gurung: Thanks to all. I am happy to note NAsEA promoting our culture and heritage.

Bimal Nepal and Krishna Shrestha: Let us collect all the proposed names first, and then check them as per our criteria.

Udhav Karki: We also need regional representations. Meanwhile, let me propose Gobinda Shrestha, our ex-treasurer.

Dilip Panthee: Dr. Khushi Ram Tiwari, our very active NAsEA advisor and Binod Rokka, an attorney with the immigration background.

Shailendra Bajracharya: Saunak Ranjitkar, very active in Youth programs, IT, and Net working. Perhaps we should inform general members and invite their suggestions.

Nita Thapa: We need one lead to coordinate the advisors. Let me add my voice on behalf of Dr. Alka Gurung.

Tilak Shrestha: Let me add Madhav Mainali from Huntsville also. He is a prominent business man and helped NAsEA in bringing Legal experts in our conventions and meetings. He will be great help to our entrepreneurs.

Ram Baral: Let us decide on the number of Advisors first. Let me suggest 7 advisors.

Bimal Nepal: Perhaps we should collect all the proposals first and decide.

Tilak Shrestha: One way to consider is to include all the proposed members to be in the advisory committee. That will be 11 advisors.

Ram Baral: Let us think about it and come up with concrete proposals later. Meanwhile, let me thank Dr. Dilip Panthee and family being such a nice host. Thanks to all who drove all the way, and individuals participating through phone and online. **Let me adjourn the meeting for today.**