

**April 27, 2014 Sunday**

**NASeA Meeting (9th)**

**Minute**

**Participants: Online meeting**

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, Dr. Dilip Panthee, Krishna Shrestha, Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung, Dr. Nita Thapa, Pravin Paudel, Janak Baral

Non-members: Gobinda Shrestha, Sanjeev Sapkota,

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

Minute taker: Dr. Tilak Shrestha, General Secretary

Time keeper: Ambika Sharma

**1. Dr. Ram Baral, President** – NASeA, opened the meeting and welcomed all. We have received many suggestions and let me assure you all that we will take them seriously and implement as best as we can.

I am happy to note many programs we did and participated recently. Let me mention a few and our representative:

New Year Program – NASeA \ NAG - Shailendra Bajracharya \ Ambika Lohani \ Janak Baral \ Bidya Gurung

New Year Program NASeA\ United FNA – Bimal Nepal

New Year Program – NASeA \ SCAN – Pravin Paudel

New Year Program – NCNC– Dr. Ram Baral, sorry could not be every where

INLS – Washington DC - Ram Baral and Raja Ghale

Facilitate Dr. Amreeta Regmi – Nepali ethnic woman – Sanjeev Sapkota and Raja Ghale

**Tilak Shrestha:** Let me stress that ours is a cultural organization based on our families. Thus, we need to stress more on family values and friendship than bylaws and regulations. We planned to have Udhav Karki to begin the agenda discussion, but he is still in Nepal. We will have him in our next meeting.

**Dr. Ram Baral:** Let me mention an important issue. If we have any issue, let us reason together. Then, we can correct them. Let us discuss our problems within our EC and not by emailing to others. Once we have come to a conclusion, we will inform to all the concerned.

**2. APAC essay competition:**

Tilak Shrestha: Our winner for APAC Essay competition was Rojesh Shakya, but there was a technical problem and we had to forward another candidate. Let Shailendra jee brief the issue.

**Shailendra Bajracharya:** Due to technical reasons APAC decided not to accept our candidate Rojesh Shakya for the Essay competition award. We forwarded Monica Acharya as our candidate. She is awarded \$400 as the Nepalese winner of Essay competition.

APAC is going to celebrate Gala event on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. We are going to participate in this multi-cultural and multi-national event. We are planning to stage 4 Nepali girls in our costumes and dance to present our culture. However, we need \$200 to participate in the event.

**Krishna Shrestha:** Our committee evaluated the Essay had determined Rojesh Shakya. Thus we like to recognize his contribution.

**Bimal Nepal:** Yes, let me second Krishna Jee's proposal.

### **3. Committee Reports:**

**Janak Baral:** Festivals and religious committee: Abhivadan to all. It is sad to note that we have large gathering in the parties but only a few in Puja programs. This is Kali yuga in action. Our Pahichan comes from Puja and Parampara. Our tradition holds us from our birth to death. We are struggling too much for Bhautik subidha. But let us recognize Subidha is good, but it is not happiness. True Happiness comes from cultivating within. Let us keep our tradition by celebrating our festival, naming our children Nepali names. I am happy to note NAsEA is for our Nepali brotherhood and sisterhood.

**Dilip Panthee:** Publication committee: We had 5 publication committee meetings. I am happy to report our Shangri-La publication. So far feed backs are good. Please send reports, articles, poems, activities for our next publication. We are very proud to publish NAsEA's first quarterly publication Shangri-La.

**Bimal Nepal:** Dilip Jee has done excellent and hard work. As Tilak Jee mentioned earlier 'Yeti' is NAsEA's publications. 'View point' is the publications of ANMA. We also publish 'Yeti – View point' as a joint publication on the occasions of the joint NAsEA \ ANMA conventions.

**Shailendra Bajracharya:** The 'Yeti' publication begun in 1992 by Shaubhagya Shrestha. The 'Yeti – View point' started in 2002.

**Shailendra Bajracharya:** IT committee: We had IT committee meeting last week. Here are a few reports: a. Our Dr. Sushma Pradhan Jee and Krishna Shrestha are working to update our report on NAsEA history. b. Earlier we had only 4 Twitter accounts, now it has grown to 23. c. Instagram account is only 4. d. Facebook account was handled by Suman Silwal Jee earlier. Now it needs be handled by EC member.

These social media are good to check the public opinion. Let there be inclusive input from IT committee and all others. We will try to digitize our publications and put in the website.

**Dr. Ram Baral:** Right after the day of my oath-taking for the President of NAsEA on September 1, 2014, I have been handling the Facebook. Earlier Raja Ghale had managed and now he is helping me only.

**Bala Ghimire:** Finance committee: We need \$300 for APAC program. We may have to raise \$ 25 from each of us. The registration-documents are already sent. Ram Dongol jee and Bala Ghimire jee will be working on finance and the tax filing together.

**Tilak Shrestha:** We need money for other projects also. Perhaps we should raise \$ 30, not \$25 each. It will be much better, if VP Shailendra jee should lead this fund raising responsibility.

**Bimal Nepal:** For ICC, we have Sanjeeb Jee, Raja Jee and Bala Jee as good candidates. Let us support them. We need to form a task team to collect the pledges.

**Shailendra Bajracharya:** I have attended NAG program. Pranaya Rana jee has helped in raising fund for Nepali school by donating 15 Audio music tapes. They were sold for \$10 each. Let me request President to thank him officially.

**Ambika Sharma:** Nepali school: Namaste to all. I hope to run the school for a long time. I am working on Nepali school project. I would like to thank and acknowledge Dr. Prahlad Panta jee and Bindu Panta jee for their generous helps. I also like to thank Pranaya Rana Jee, who has helped us by providing NAsEA with the amount of \$150 raised from his audio album during NAG/NAsEA New Year program. He is also helping me in the Atlanta school project. I am requesting the Academic and Professional Committee to write a grant proposal for Atlanta School in order for the school to sustain for a longer time.

**Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung:** Public relations committee: Namaste. In April, we had a talk program with Dr. Prakash using conference call. There was some minor problem due to wrong number being posted. Let us be careful in providing correct number. The interview with Dr. Prakash covers a very important issue for Nepal. We will have Nepal media icon Durga Nath Sharma next month.

**Dr. Ram Baral:** Conference number remains the same. The code number has been always `139004` not `413900` at all.

**Bimal Nepal:** External relations – we are having and honoring Durga Nath Sharma Jee, an eminent media person. We are meeting regularly with our co-partners and expanding our scope.

**Dr. Nita Thapa:** Medical committee: Namaste. Need to coordinate with Dr. Nar Gurung Jee. We are planning to have a program with Dr. Smriti Manandhar on Diabetics on SKYPE.

**Dr. Nar Gurung:** June month is still available. We can invite her and have a program.

**Bidya Gurung:** Membership Drive Committee: Namaste! We have a new life member – Ramesh Shah. We need to send him a thank you note.

Ram Baral: Let our IT team led by Shailendra Jee send a thank you note to our new life members and general members automatically through NAsEA system automatically.

**Tilak Shrestha:** Perhaps a decorated certificate like letter may be good one.

#### **4. NAsEA \ ANMA convention:**

Bimal Nepal: We both, President and me, are participating in the monthly preparatory meetings. Let us all go to Denver in the coming joint Convention. So far we are financially plus. We like to keep that way, and do not want the loss to incur.

Dr. Ram Baral: We all need to go and participate in the Denver convention. Let us also join in the monthly meetings.

## **5. Bylaws committee:**

**Dr. Ram Baral:** Per our last meeting's agreement and permission, I talked to both Dr. Prakash Malla Jee and Raja Ghale Jee. We need both of their help since both are our former Presidents and NASEA's asset. NASEA belongs to all. And, bylaws also belong to all of us. We are an inclusive organization. Thus, after a whole lot of homework, thoughts, and serious considerations, it will be better to have the concept of Bylaws Committee and Bylaws Advisory Committee because we cannot vote between two former Presidents. Many friends also suggested me to have this synergy from both. Both of the former presidents have verbally agreed with me to help NASEA. Therefore, as a President, let me propose for 'Bylaws Committee' to be chaired by Raja Ghale, and 'Bylaws Advisory Committee' to be chaired by Dr. Prakash Malla.

**Bimal Nepal:** Thanks to all. Let us have only one committee, not two. Let Dr. Malla be the chairperson and Raja Ghale co-chairperson.

**Shailendra Bajracharya:** I agree with Bimal Jee. Dr. Malla has worked on the 'Bylaws' before and have come forward to help. Let us give him the responsibility.

**Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung:** I am happy to note that President Dr. Ram Baral Jee has already talked with both of them and both have already agreed amicably. I would like to thank and congratulate President for taking his time to resolve this issue.

**Chhodamani Khanal:** If Malla is proposed chairman, let me support.

**Ambika Sharma:** I agree with Dr. Nar Gurung Jee. We have to respect both former Presidents and need their help. Thanks to the President for the amicable solution.

**Bala Ghimire:** If both former Presidents have agreed then it is good. Malla Jee has already worked. Raja Jee is committed to complete it.

**Dr. Nita Thapa:** Over all, both are our former Presidents and both have agreed, so I support President's proposal.

**Pravin Paudel:** If both have agreed to work together, that is very good. I support President's proposal.

**Dr. Dilip Panthee:** I appreciate the home work done by Dr. Ram Baral before bringing the issue to the meeting. Thanks to President.

**Krishna Shrestha:** All former Presidents are competent. If both agree, it is OK.

**Janak Baral:** Both are honorable and we need their help. Thanks to President for bringing them together.

**Dr. Ram Baral:** I am happy. Let us go for 'Sarva Sammati.'

**Bimal Nepal:** I just talked with Malla Jee. I do not think he agreed to two committees. Let us have only committee with Malla as the Chairperson. Let Raja Jee be co-chair or alternate chairperson.

**Shailendra Bajracharya:** I just talked with Mall Jee. He does not agree. May we postpone the discussion?

**Dr. Nar Gurung:** In our last meeting, we all agreed and requested President Ram Baral to talk with both and come with a conclusion. Let other members not call them during the meeting and create controversies.

**Dr. Ram Baral:** We are in a meeting. Please do not call outside and manipulate the good faith and understanding among the Presidents. Two of you left this meeting without permission and came back to the meeting without permission. Please do not try to make any issue worse as we are talking in the meeting now. Mainly, we can solve the issue by voting.

**Bala Ghimire:** Let us be disciplined. President has brought a solution. Let us help.

**Ambika Sharma:** President has brought the solution. Why bring controversies? Let us be friends and work together.

**Dr. Ram Baral:** Please let us not break discipline. Please stay in your civility. Most probably, we are going to vote.

**Janak Baral:** It is not good to have less 'Sewa' and more controversies. Let us have more Sahamati and Dharma.

**Chhodamani Khanal:** There could be misunderstanding and that Malla Jee may not have agreed. Perhaps we can invite them both.

**Tilak Shrestha:** Let us go by these guidelines: 1. Sarba sammati or no voting between former Presidents, 2. No controversies. But let us vote on: 1. One committee or 2. Two committees.

**Bimal Nepal:** Let us have one committee, no voting and include both – Chairperson and Alter chairperson.

**Dr. Nita Thapa:** I like Tilak Jee's view. Let us have Sarba sammati, and vote on the concepts – one committee or two committees.

**Bimal Nepal:** If the majority decides to go for two committees, I withdraw my proposal.

**Dr. Ram Baral:** Thanks Bimal Jee. I salute you for your cooperation to resolve this matter amicably. Now it is is 'Sarva Sammati' then.

**Dr. Ram Baral:** Thanks to you all for the cooperation. Let us adjourn the meeting.