

September 8, 2013 Sunday

NASeA

Meeting – Minute

First Executive Meeting - Subject: Farewell to the outgoing and Welcome to the new Executive Committee members.

Participants: Dr. Ram Baral, Janak Baral, Sanjeeb Sapkota, Bimal Nepal, Shailendra Bajracharya, Dr. Tilak Shrestha, Krishna Shrestha, Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung, Gobinda Shrestha, Ambika Sharma, Bishnu Sapkota, Sagun Shrestha, Bidya Gurung, Raja Ghale, Dr. Komal Mani Baral, Dr. Nita Thapa, Bala Ghimire, Dr. Samar Paiza, Madhavi, Bikash Devkota, Prabin Paudel, Sanjeeb Joshi, Bhesh Raj Regmi.

Motto: “W & H” – ‘Widening and Heightening’ – First used by Raja Ghale to express the feeling that we must work to widen the scope from regional to national level and provide higher quality of services to Nepali Diaspora.

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

Minute taker: Dr. Tilak Shrestha, General Secretary

EC: Executive Committee

Dr. Ram Baral: Welcomed to all, especially to our Ex-President Raja Ghale and out going President Sanjeeb Sapkota. Let us also thank Dr. Komal Mani Baral for coming all the way to Atlanta.

We all must thank all the out going Executive Committee Members led by Sanjeeb Sapkota, who have worked so hard to bring NASeA to the high level as of today. They have done the path blazing and we hope to take it even higher.

In this term we will strive to take NASeA to a new level and make it from a regional to a national level and beyond. We will strive to make it a premier Nepalese cultural organization and work towards founding the ‘Community Center.’

Raja Ghale: Welcome to all the members present in the restaurant and in the conference call. Congratulations to all the elected EC members. Farewell to the out going EC members. They have really worked hard under the leadership of Sanjeeb Sapkota. I am sure NASeA is now under the able leadership of our newly elected President Dr. Ram Baral. Let me use the term ‘Widening and heightening’ of NASeA’s activities and status. We can and must strive to widen our scope from regional to national level, and our services to Nepali Diaspora to new height.

Sanjeeb Sapkota: Thanks to all the members of the team I worked with and the newly elected team. NASeA belongs to all of us. We will work in this transitional period for smooth handover of the responsibilities. We must work for ‘H & D’ and including all young and old. NASeA should look at the Nepali Diaspora as customers and recognize their needs to better serve. In this regards we must focus on student, immigration and gun violence issues. We also need to design a ‘Face Book’ for interface and feed back.

Madhav Mainali: Thanks to all. I am sure new EC will do good. NAsEA is in good hands.

Sagun Shrestha: Welcome to the new EC, all the best. I am happy to see our long hours of work producing fruits for our community, like Nepali school and others.

Bimal Nepal: Thanks to all. Let us honor our past Presidents – Raja Ghale, Sanjeeb Sapkota and past EC members. I am sure our new President Dr. Ram Baral and the new team will give the continuity to our tradition. Let our team work together to fulfill our motto ‘W & H.’

Gobinda Shrestha: Thanks to both out going and new teams. I had the opportunity to work with 3 Presidents – Tek Thapa, Raja Ghale and Sanjeeb Sapkota. We also had fund rising with help from all and increased NAsEA assets. We still have to raise the pledged funds. Hope to see similar growth in the future. We will be working with newly elected treasurer Bala Ghimire for smooth transition. I am happy to note the diversity in the new EC with diversity by region and gender. Let us work together to fulfill our ‘W & H’ motto.

Janak Baral: Sadar Pranam to all. We as a Nepali cultural organization, we must be cognizant of and uphold our values ‘Mulya and manyatas’ like heritage, democracy, human rights, culture. I do apologize for our weaknesses and mistakes. I do appreciate the participation of all and hard work done by our team under the leadership of Sanjeeb Sapkota. I am happy to note that our senior leader Hari Dhungana has written the history of NAsEA. I do hope his writing will be expanded by our past Presidents Raja Ghale and Sanjeeb Sapkota.

Choodamani Khanal: I am proud of all the work done by the outgoing team. Let us learn from past mistakes and do better. Thanks to out going team and welcome to new team. Let me recognize our motto ‘W & H.’

Dr. Tilak Shrestha: Welcome to the new EC members, including myself, but no good bye to old team. We still need help and guidance from them as they are stalwart and experienced leaders of our community and NAsEA. We will work hard to inspired by our motto ‘W & H.’

Shailendra Bajracharya: I have been participating in NAsEA since 1998. I started by helping Hari Dhungana in mailing to NAsEA members. Let me tell a secret. I met my future wife in NAsEA and got married. I always remain indebted. I am in IT technology. I am glad that I am able to help NAsEA in IT issues and will be doing the same.

Ambika Sharma: Namaste. Thanks to all, proud to join in the new EC team. I have been active and experienced in Nepali and other social organizations. Will work hard guided by our motto ‘W & H.’ Our team has four women members. We also need more student participations. I will be working to increase the participations of students\ women\ children.

Bala Ghimire: Thanks to all ex-Presidents and out going EC members. Congratulations to the new team. I understand the controversy about me being the treasurer living in the far city of Chicago. However, let me promise you that I will work hard to make sure that there would not be any complaint. Thanks to friend Gobinda Shrestha for the help in the NAsEA finance.

Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung: Namaste to all friends. I have worked for NAsEA in 1994, Auburn, Alabama. This is my second term. Thanks to the outgoing team. Congratulations to new team. Hope to contribute as a member of the new team.

Krishna Shrestha: Thanks to all Ex-Presidents and out going team. We will continue the good works started earlier. Sanjeeb Sapkota did a great job. I like and will work to fulfill Raja Ghale's motto 'W & H.'

Bikash Devkota: Thanks to all the out going team and welcome to the new NAsEA team. I am happy that I joined the team. I have done blood drives along with Dr. Lila Karki and would like to continue the work. Support out motto 'W & H.'

Dr. Dilip Panthee: Thanks to the out going team. Your good work is appreciated. I am happy to join in the team as the editor of the 'Yeti' publication.

Dr. Nita Thapa: Thanks to the out going NAsEA team. NAsEA is a good platform for children and Nepali cultural programs. We will be working hard under the leadership of Dr. Ram Baral and will contribute to our community. Will also work to increase women's participation.

Dr. Samar Paiza: Thanks to all the out going team. They have done good job. Good bye and thanks to Sanjeeb Sapkota. Will work as a team and contribute to our community.

Dr. Ram Baral: Let me welcome Prabin Paudel, a student leader, from South Carolina. In view of low students participation as pointed out by Ambika Sharma I am happy to welcome a student leader. We must have students working in the public relations.

Prabin Paudel: I am from South Carolina and have known NAsEA for 3 \ 4 years through Dr. Ram Baral. We have been working in helps to needy and Nepali culture. I am really enthused to contribute more.

Bishnu Sapkota: I came to USA in 2001, but was not active in any social organizations. But thanks to all my friends and encouragements I am trying to be active this year.

Bidya Gurung: Namaste to all. I like all the ideas and good wishes being expressed here. Thanks to Sanjeeb Sapkota team. I will be working in Dr. Ram Baral team.

Sanjeeb Joshi: I was living in Louisiana before, now in South Carolina. Came to know NAsEA only recently. We can and should communicate with people in different states with e-mail or other means. Many organizations, e.g. in Louisiana, do not know NAsEA. We can connect and increase our scope. We must connect with more students. I will be communicating with the students in Louisiana. Bhesh Raj Regmi: Thanks to outgoing team and congratulations to new team. Hope for more progress. Thanks to all.

Dr. Komal Mani Baral: (Dr. Komal Baral is a professor of mathematics in Tribhuvan University, recently came to Atlanta. He is also a musician and a poet.) Congratulation to the new EC team. I am happy to see democratic election. A 'Good will' is not written but re-written. I like the motto 'W & H' mentioned by Raja Ghale. We all must try it. We may have green card or even be a citizen here, but still in heart we are still Nepali. We can help our nation living abroad. We need to support Nepali nationalist leaders. One way to do is to strive for dual citizenship. I am happy to participate in the coming 'Teej' festival. Thanks to all.

Janak Baral: Citizenship is a legal and moral issue. Nationalism is of heart.

Ram Baral: By the way, Dr. Komal Baral has written many nationalistic songs.

Hearty Congratulations to the outgoing team for doing great job. We have now 15 different sub-committees looking after different issues like: Culture, children, immigration, sports etc. Let me point that NAsEA is not merely about meeting once a year but all the time. We also must strive bring women in fore front.

In this term we also will be focusing on:

- a. Medical: We have many medical doctors, whom we can request for help.
- b. Agriculture: We also have many research fellows like Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung and Dr. Dilip Panthee. We can tap their talents to help Nepalese farmers.
- c. Literature: I am happy to note Sanjeeb Sapkota is the grandson of Mahananda Sapkota and son Hem Raj Sapkota, both are well known literatures in Nepal. We must encourage women and children in the literature. We have many active members for the literature program. A few to mention are Choodamani Khanal, Bimal Nepal, Sujata Dhungel, Kusum Baral, Ambika Sharma, Bidya Gurung and others.

Dr. Ram Baral continues: This meeting is for meeting, greeting, good bye to our outgoing EC team, and welcome to the new team. Our next meeting will deal with the organization of different sub-committees on different issues. Bala Ghimire, our new treasurer, will come to Atlanta to take over the responsibility of NAsEA finance. Hope to increase our asset again. Gobinda Shrestha, our out going treasurer, is ready to help Bala Ghimire. We must thank Gobinda Shrestha for working so hard to keep us financially sound. Next will be in Atlanta and will be announced in due course.

Thanks to all let me adjourn the meeting.