

**September 28, 2014 Sunday**

**NASeA Meeting (15<sup>th</sup>)**

**Minutes**

**Online Conference:** Telephone number: **1-712-432-0385**; **Code: 139004#**

Participants: Dr. Ram Chandra Baral, President; Bimal Nepal, EVP; Shailendra Bajracharya, VP; Dr. Tilak Shrestha, GS; Ambika Sharma, Joint Secretary.

Members: Bidya Gurung, Bishu Sapkota, Choodamani Khanal, Dr. Dilip Panthee, Janak Baral, Krishna Shrestha, Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung, Dr. Nita Thapa, Pravin Paudel, Dr. Ramjee Sharma, Dr. Samar Magar Paija, Dr. Shankar Parajuli, and Udhav Karki

Guest: Dr. Sushil Adhikari, Auburn, Alabama; Sanjeev Sapkota, Former President

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

Minute taker: Dr. Tilak Shrestha, General Secretary

Time keeper: Pravin Paudel

### **1. Joint NASeA \ ANMA Convention, Denver, Colorado.**

Dr. Ram Baral, President: Welcome all. I am happy to note that the convention went really well. The convention was participated by honorable Nepalese Ambassador Mr. Sharma and Honorable Colorado Senator Ms. Linda Nelson.

The quality of cultural and concert programs were great. Our participation also was good. Our EVP Bimal Nepal Jee and VP Shailendra Bajracharya were going around all over making sure the convention went smooth. There was an issue of not enough participation and revenue. However, our treasurer, Bala Ghimire went around collected pledges over \$ 7,000. NASeA Annual General Meeting (AGM) went well under the Chairmanship of our Advisor, Gyanendra Gadai Jee. It is good note the regional cooperation with Colorado, South Carolina and other states.

Bimal Nepal, EVP: Happy Vijaya Dashami. I agree with President Dr. Ram Baral. It is a success story. We need to work to bring in more participation. All the programs went well. Local volunteers and artists did great job.

I am happy to report the meeting of national, regional and local organizations, and exchange of ideas and connections. The NRN meeting also went good. Let us release the money we have pledged including that of SC. I am happy to report that Lok Tiwari Jee pledged \$ 2,000. My appreciation.

Shailendra Bajracharya, VP: Namaste to all. We need to learn from ANMA's success story. All programs including cultural and forums ran on time. Volunteers were effective. Many young people participated and carried our heritage to next generation. Also I am happy to see parents joining in with their children. It proves that the program is not only for adults. Participants were slightly less than expected. Finance and communication well done. Happy Dasain.

Dr. Tilak Shrestha, GS: Namaste to all. Happy Dasain. I agree with all the above. The cultural program was superb. It started with the invocation of Lord Ganesh and then the non-stop music and display of the array of our cultural diversity was marvelous. The stage was full of young girls in our diverse cultural costumes made me proud to be a Nepali.

### **2. Nepali School Committee:**

Choodamani Khanal: Happy Dasain from Florida. Saturday Nepali class is running well. We are adding dance \ music in Miami and Orlando; and organizing school in Jacksonville.

### **3. Publication Committee:**

Dr. Dilip Panthee: Namaste. We are about to publish 3<sup>rd</sup> issue of Shangri-La. Need more articles and committee reports.

### **4. IT Committee:**

Shailendra Bajracharya: We are posting our different activities. We are also designing Game for young people. Sanjay Dhakal from Iowa is helping. It will be an online game, a joint program of ANMA and NASEA.

### **5. Public Relations Committee:**

Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung: Happy Dasain. Monthly discussion program is going on fine. We had Prof. Subedi today morning. We had participants all the way from California, Canada and London. In the month of this October Dr. Nita Thapa has proposed Dr. Smriti Manadhar. We are also trying to get Dr. Parag Pathak, MIT – economics \ math and others.

### **6. External Relations Committee:**

Bimal Nepal: We are updating it all the times. Success of an organization is all about net working. Please be active and let me know. I am keeping contact with all the organizations and have sent 'Shuvkamana of Vijaya Dashami' to all of them. I have also requested them to update their information. Please let me request all of you to help me in contact the local organizations.

### **7. Membership Drive Committee:**

Bidya Gurung: Shuvkamana of Vijaya Dashami from me and my family. I am talking with all the advisers and hope to get all of them to be life members soon. I have also recruited Dr. Sushma Pradhan. I hope to get 200 soon. So far we have 184, and 16 more to go.

### **8. Academic and Professional Committee:**

Dr. Ramjee Sharma: Happy Vijaya Dashami. Prahlad \ Bindu Pant scholarship is awarded to Ms. KC. The academic advising is being carried on by Dr. Sushila Adhikari, Dr. Paudel and Dr. Dhamala. Pravin Paudel jee is spreading information about academic advising to students. We are targeting students here in US and also new arrivals. It is very important to do networking and data base creation to make the program a success.

Sanjeev Sapkota: If students want to go to Nepal we may try federal grants.

### **9. Medical \ Health Committee:**

Dr. Nita Thaa: Shuvkamana: We are working with Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung to bring in Dr. Smriti Manadhar perhaps in this November. She is expert in diabetics and children issues.

### **10. Dharma and Festival Committee:**

Janak Baral: Mngalamaya Shuvkamana. Dasain is about victory of Satya and Deva against Asatya and Asura. I like to mention a news about Nepal. Dr. Baburam Bhattarai said that there may be special provision for NRN, but not dual citizens. Let NASEA also look into the case.

### **11. Bylaw Committee:**

Dr. Ram Baral: It is important and serious issue. I am doing home work and like to help from all. Let us have opinion from all EC members, former Presidents, law professionals. I have been talking with Dr. Bishwa Acharya Jee also, and will report in next meeting.

### **12. Literature Committee:**

Krishna Shrestha: Monthly program in Florida is going on good, with help of Bimal Jee and Choodamani Jee. We are planning to honor Mahakavi Laxmi Prashad Devkotw and Kavi Shiromani Lekhnath Paudel.

### **13. Finance Committee:**

Dr. Ram Baral: Our treasurer Bala Ghimire jee is in New York handling an important case and sends apology for not attending. We have donations collected for 'Nepal flood victims', but have not released to PM fund, as per the transparency issue. Our JS Ambika Sharma is in Nepal and let her handle the case there.

Bimal Nepal: Good, let Ambika Jee handle it. We need to release ASAP. Victims need now.

Dr. Nita Thapa: I also agree let Ambika Jee handle it.

Dr. Ram Baral: I agree with Bimal Jee and Dr. Nita jee.

Ambika Sharma: Namaste to all from Nepal. We have 3 options: a. to Pararastra mantralaya 'foreign ministry', b. to CDO 'Chief district officer', or c. Victims in the presence of CDO. I prefer directly to victims.

Bimal Nepal: Ambika Jee thanks, for joining in all the way from seven seas away. I like Ambika jee's proposal.

Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung: I support the sentiment. Let us release the donation to the victim group, in front of CDO.

**No objection: The proposal stands.**

### **14. Shailendra Jee's proposal to make the pledges public.**

Shailendra Bajracharya: Let us make the donors \ donation - amount, state, project, and handing over method public and post it in the website.

Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung: I support VP Shailendra Jee. However, let us have the option for the donors to post their name or not.

Bimal Nepal: I also support the proposal. Transparency is good. Let us also post photos and results of the donations being send. It helps to collect more donations. Let there be option for donors to post their name or not, but the amount of donation must be posted, for transparency.

Dr. Ram Baral: I support all the proposals.

Dr. Dilip Panthee: IT may write a note on pledges – public or not.

Shailendra: IT can do it easily. Proposal – 'To post donation amount, state, project, and handing over method public. The donors have option to post name or not.

Bimal Nepal: I second the motion.

**No objection. The proposal stands.**

### **15. Joint convention – 2015 preparation:**

Bimal Nepal: Congratulation to TNCC, High Point, NC for being chosen as the host for the convention. The countdown begins.

Dr. Ram Baral: Thanks Bimal Jee. TNCC has already 5 hotels. The contact person is Pashim Paudel Jee.

### **16. Replacing EC member:**

Tilak Shrestha: Earlier we had Bikash Devkota jee as one of our EC member. He resigned we need to fill the vacancy.

Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung: Let me propose Dr. Sushil Adhikari. He is fellow scientist and Associate Professor in Auburn University. He has sponsored 12 students from Nepal. It will be our honor to have him as our EC member.

Ambika Sharma: I support the proposal. Dr. Adhikari is a great asset and will be helpful.

Bimal Nepal: Thanks to Dr. Nar Kaji. However, let us check the bylaws. Earlier there was vacancy and we did not bother to fill it. How about open the invitation to other candidates? We may have candidates from Florida also.

Dr. Ram Baral: Bylaw is clear that the 'EC shall select.'

Shailendra Bajracharya: I am happy with the candidacy of Dr. Adhikari. However, even for formality sake the vacancy should be announced so that other interested individuals may apply.

Dr. Nita Thapa: I support Dr. Adhikari. We must welcome scientist like Dr. Adhikari. It is already 1 year with the vacancy.

Janak Baral: We had only 19 members in our earlier EC. Then I talked with President, but nothing came out of it. Let us nominate today, it is good for NASEA.

Bimal Nepal: Thanks to all. Let us check the Bylaws. Shailedra jee also makes a good point. Let us invite other candidates also and let us take the issue in the next meeting.

Tilak Shrestha: Let us vote. Issue – 'Decide today or in the next meeting.

Dr. Ram Chandra Baral - Today, Bimal Nepal - Today, Shailendra Bajracharya – Next meeting, Dr. Tilak Shrestha - Today, Ambika Sharma - Today, Bidya Gurung - Today, Dr. Dilip Panthee - Today, Janak Baral - Today, Krishna Shrestha - Today, Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung - Today, Dr. Nita Thapa - Today, Pravin Paudel – Today.

**Proposal passed: The issue to be decided today itself.**

Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung: Proposes – Dr. Sushil Adhikari as our new EC member.

Ambika Shurma: I second the motion.

**No objection. The proposal passed.**

Dr. Sushil Adhikari: Namaste: Shuvkamana of Dasain. Thanks to all for inviting me to NASEA. I have been working along with Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung, Dr. Ramjee Sharma and others. I will do my best.

### **17. Chairperson of the Joint Convention, 2015.**

Tilak Shrestha: We have to choose the Chairperson for the 2015 Joint Convention to be held in NC. It is to be hosted by TNCC. In this connection, Narayan Khadka Jee, President, TNCC sent us a letter nominating Madhav Dhakal Jee as their choice for the Chairperson position, dated September 28, 2014. The text is given below.

Bimal Nepal: I know Madhav Dhakal Jee and he is a good candidate. However, the responsibility of the convention is primarily of NASEA. Thus, a NASEA EC member is better suited. Let me propose Shailendra Bajracharya Jee.

Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung: Madhav Jee is also earlier NAsEA EC member. The local NC leader may be able to mobilize the local volunteer better.

Bidya Gurung: Let me vote Madhav Jee.

Ambika Sharma: Local leader is better and let me vote Madhav Jee.

Shailendra Bajracharya: I know Madhav Jee and have worked with him. In my opinion current EC member should be the Chairperson. Thanks to Bimal Jee for proposing me. Let us go by the protocol.

Dr. Ram Baral: There is no directive in the Bylaws. It is only convention. EC can decide.

Dr. Dilip Panthee: Local leader to mobilize local volunteers. Narayan Khadka Jee though he is the President, he forwarded other candidate. I do appreciate that.

Dr. Niota Thapa: We have given responsibility of hosting the convention. Madhav Jee was EC member twice over. Let us not wait and nominate him.

Bimal Nepal: Our VP Shailendra Jee has good experience as he really worked in earlier Conventions and the Denver Convention as well. We must keep the Chairmanship within our EC. We were not informed in time. I think we need to do some homework before making decision. Let me humbly request to decide only in the next meeting.

Dr. Ram Baral: OK. **Let us meet next Saturday (Oct. 4th) and make decision on Chairperson.** Congratulation to Dr. Sushil Adhikari. Thanks to Shailendra Jee for doing good job in website. Also please remove the audio\video recordings from the website. It is a matter of our privacy. Thanks to all. **Let me adjourn the meeting.**

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Date: 09/28/2014

Dr. Ram Chandra Baral  
President, NAsEA.

Dear Dr. Baral:

As we all know that we have been chosen as the host of 11<sup>th</sup> NAsEA/ ANMA convention for upcoming year 2015 by the executive board of NAsEA.

In conjunction to the 2015 Convention, Triad Nepalese Community Center (TNCC) board has conducted a rigorous discussion and decided to nominate TNCC Life member and NAsEA Ex-Executive committee member Mr. Madhav Dhakal as a Convention chair. We, as a TNCC board would like to request you to accept our recommendation and appoint Mr. Dhakal as a convention chair for upcoming NAsEA/ ANMA Grand convention.

Your consideration on this matter will be highly appreciated.

Thank you.

Narayan Khadka  
President -TNCC