



VSNA BOD-BOR Meeting Minutes: Date: Sunday , July 2, 2017 3:30 to 4:30PM CST

Savitha Mandi: Roll Call - 4 minutes

BOD members: Laxmi Hiremath, Leena Paul, Savitha Mandi, Karuna Hiremath, MD Patil, Prabhakara Chippadi, Dayanand Paramane, Harish Hiremath

On the phone – Sandeep Hattarki and Vinay Patil

Youth President – Bilva Chandra

BOR members: Dada Patil, Yuvraj Patil, Irappa Arabhavi, Sylendra Kumar

Guests: G Doddamani, Gururaj, ND Patil,

Ex Officio - Channu Kambalyal

1. Prayer - Vachana – Yuvraj Patil

a. Approval of Agenda – Dada Patil – BOR Chair

b. Channu – need a correction – instead of “update on 2019 convention” by Chicago –First the chapter needs to get an invite from the President . In this case Chicago chapter to invite hosting the 2019 convention.

2. Brief Update on 2017 VSNA Convention – Laxmi Hiremath/Bilva Chandra

a. Laxmi – This year’s convention is unique because it is Youth led, and planning by VSNA Officers, BOD, BOR and all other volunteers and with the help of the local Dallas team. We are really excited to be here and see all of you here, we had the youth election, and Bilva Chandra is the Youth president

b. Prabhakara –Whenever we have a convention, the President gives the convention statement/speech, we have not seen it yet. So before the President makes the statement on the stage, can you please share it? Last year, what got printed in the souvenir, was not aligned and was not matching to what was mentioned in the General Body, so this time we want to make sure it aligns so can we see it if you have it?

c. Sylendra Kumar- Agree, it is like the state of the union, so the BOD/BOR gets time to review and sign off, before you talk at the General Body tomorrow. Do you have a draft or outline that we can agree or should we do this next year? To ensure what goes on the souvenir matches what the President says... Next year we need to have the state of the union speech so the BOD/BOR should have enough time to review and agree. Atleast 1 week in advance.

d. Laxmi – I have it and will share the Achievements so far from Jan to June.

i. What we want to do – we always hear that there is a disconnect between local chapters and Central – so we want to bridge the gap. We are already seeing success in monthly meetings as there is a full quorum in our BOD meetings and Chapter presidents are attending.

ii. I was the BOR chair for the last 4 years, thank you for having the confidence and faith and electing me as President. We’ve established a National youth chapter, youth has single handedly taken on the responsibility, they planned the convention and executed in less than 4 months. During the 2008 California San Convention, Sri Taralu Baalu Swamiji said the youth have so much energy and enthusiasm and do very well, so suggested we have the convention run by the youth.

- iii. In 2017 despite all our efforts requesting various chapters to host, as none of them came forward to host the convention, I went to Abhinav, then Youth president and he agreed and ran with it. He put all the committees in place and they all helped tremendously including the officers and adult volunteers who joined the various committee.
- e. All women officers in the Central executive committee,
- f. Treasurer has personally met with the Investment Manager and has consolidated all accounts to make better investments for our organization.
- g. Ratio of adults to youth attendance at this convention is almost equal and hope to see this in all conventions
- h. I believe in Women empowerment – I’ve always encouraged women to participate, at every level, not only at the chapter level, but also at the central level, so we need to encourage all women and youngsters. I thank the youngsters who have done all without expecting anything from us.
- i. Prabhakara – Laxmi aware - Can you please share with us, what initiative you’ve taken and your vision to the Committee and Community as this is the State of the Union, and not the Convention - vote of thanks. If you don’t have it now, we should do it from next year onwards.

3. Brief Comments on 2017 VSNA by BOD/BOR & Chapter Presidents

- a. Prabhakara – This time, we should give it to the youth. They have done a marvelous job. Infact I wanted to send an email but held back because the youth need to be successful. Each chapter with local community and president should have taken up the responsibility, but it seemed we pounded and pushed it on them, and we pressured the youth community. Although they were in the middle of school year, the youth have done excellent and we need to give them every chance to be successful.
- b. MD Patil – Even after all these years, people don’t know much about the Central VSNA, so need to improve communications and coordination. Officers should make an attempt to virtually attend the VSNA chapter events as much as possible.
- c. Harish H- It is a good meeting and successful as after many years, I am able to meet many for the first time.
- d. Channu – It has been an arduous task to come to this level, lot of adults behind, there is always one request or suggestion – but we shouldn’t assume somebody else will do it. We need help from every one of you, you shouldn’t ask questions, just go do it. let us all become volunteers and not become guests. As we are all hosting the convention that applies to all conventions, it is our convention.
- e. Leena – Youth volunteered and Dallas came forward, we need to have a positive outlook, this is our first face to face meeting, it’s our children planning and executing so let’s encourage them, so let us not bring out the negative points, we need honest feedback but stay positive.

4. Presentation of 2017 VSNA Awards by Awards Committee – Announced by Laxmi

Awards committee comprises of Anuradha Burji and Vijay Aivalli

- Outstanding Professional Award to Basavaraj Ullagaddi
 - Outstanding Service award - Men to Basavaraj Mudenur
 - Outstanding Service award - Women to Rohini – Mensinkai
 - Outstanding Service award -Youth to Trishul Nagenalli
- a. Shylendra Kumar - question on the process- hesitant to make statements as I was one of the nominees, but seems there are issues with the process.

- b. Dada - At the next BOR meeting we need to come up with the criteria and qualifications - sitting officers whether they are eligible or not, - let us discuss and then present to BOD.
- c. Savitha - BOD did not vote
- d. Channu - Awards committee decides and sends one name to the BOD, BOD will make a decision on Yes or No. Vijay Aivalli – sent the full list this time, so BOD said come back with one name
- e. Group - What is the process to select the VSNA award winners? And what is the guideline on it? Is there a guideline, if not, document it.
- f. Award committee should be changed every year. Requires volunteers, President and BOD picks 3 members. Then they can pick the winners.

Group Statement:

- i. 1st motion – If there is no written guideline for the VSNA awards – we need to create it. - Proposed by Prabhakara ; Seconded by – Yuvraj Patil.
- ii. 2nd motion – change and solicit new nominations for award committee - Proposed by Yuvraj Patil ; Seconded by Irappa Arabhavi
- g. Karuna – There are 235 attendees in all this year – we had planned for 70K budget and we have collected a total of 72K.

5. Bilva Chandra – Youth president – update

- a. This year’s youth exploration trip was to the Dallas Zoo – it was very good and we all enjoyed.
- b. As Youth President I believe in 3 C’s
 - i. Charitable giving – giving back to the community, The NJ chapter youth organize charity drives, for clothing and food. Similarly maybe we can have the youth take charge at functions and make donations, to put together the charity drives – either different charities, or one specific charity.
 - ii. Career opportunities – For youth either in college or graduating college, getting a job, internship etc.. we have a lot of resources, great jobs and wealth of resources in VSNA adult members, so we need to streamline the information, networking outreach we can do, calling professionals, career panel at conventions etc.
 - iii. Coordination – the number one issue, is although we have so many youth, we don’t have their contact information, emails and phone numbers etc.. so all chapter presidents should collect their youth information and send it to Bilva. Quarterly newsletters – we can make announcements on either charity drives, recognize the admission of college, achievements of youth members and sharing announcements which will encourage us to know each other and getting the youth involved.

6. Update on 2018 VSNA Convention – Detroit Team

- a. Doddamani – we got the invite from the President of VSNA and we have accepted to host the 2018 convention. We will present the video later to all, later tomorrow.

7. Discuss 2019 VSNA Convention –

- a. Channu K– official invite needs to be sent to the President of Chicago Chapter
- b. Sylendra K – Send the invite for next 5 years to the chapters and let them make the decision on which year they want to host and give them a deadline to respond.
- c. Savitha - Since it is a voluntary organization it is not mandatory but there are some responsibilities to deliver, so how will we enforce those responsibilities? BOD/BOR needs to discuss and decide.

8. Open Floor for discussion

- a. Karuna - Only 3 or 4 chapters send the \$10 membership fees.
- b. Yuvraj - The \$10 fees was introduced as a trial basis for 2 years and if this doesn't work, then it will be discontinued.
- c. Group - This joint BOD/BOR meeting is well organized, but as there are atleast 20 people in attendance, we need to have more time. This is our only opportunity for face to face so we need more time, so maybe from next year on, we should meet for half day. This is a chance if we need to come a day earlier, we can have a longer workshop. This will be good and for example even rewriting the bylaws would have been effective face-to-face in a workshop if rather than interest based offline phone discussions.
- d. For next year's convention – let us consider atleast 3 hours for BOD/BOR meeting
- e. MD Patil – youth have done an excellent job so recommend Detroit chapter to also encourage and leverage the youth
- f. Prabhakara – If anything comes up at the General body – let us work on the agenda, if questions, let us tell the progress, vision, budget, make it crisp and for any other questions we can take it offline fr further discussion.
- g. Sylendra K - Officers can announce – that the registration package has the agenda and if there are any questions, to please come prepared for tomorrow's General Body.

9. Next BOD Meeting - August 13, 2017 - Noon EST

10. Next BOR Meeting - August 13, 2017 – 8 PM EST

11. **Vote of Thanks and Closure – Savitha Mandi** – Thank you all for attending this year's convention. It has been a pleasure working with you all since the past few months and to meet you all in person today. We hope to see you all next year at the 2018 Convention in Detroit.