

## Veerashaiva Samaja of North America

### VSNA BOD Meetings Minutes

Date: Sunday, February 8, 2015

#### Attendees:

Elected BOD Members: Channu Kambalyal, Mamatha Hirannaiah, Leena K. Paul, Irappa Arabhavi, B.S. Nanjundappa, Neetha Dhananjaya, Nayantara Swamy, Yuvaraj Patil

Nominated BOD Members: Vijay Kumar Ex-President, Mrutunjay Hiremath (CA-C), Renuka Puttappa (CA-N), Girish Budibetta (FL), Sanjeev Mungaravadi (MI), Shiva Patil (NY), Ashwini Koratagere (NC), Rashmi Naikar (OH), Kevin Gangadhar (PA), Anu Benakatti (TX-N), Raj Galagali (VA)

Invitees: Laxmi Hiremath (BOR-Chair), Nandi Nagaraj, Lead from proposed Indiana Chapter.

#### Meeting Notes:

1. Roll Call by Leena Paul, as listed above.
2. Introductory note by Channu Kambalyal. Members observed silence on the sad demise of Dr. Jagadish Kothegal. Channu thanked Sanjeev Mungaravadi who attended the funeral and represented Central VSNA.
3. Minutes of Meeting of January 2015; clarification was asked for items 4b and 8 by Nayantara Swamy, to be incorporated into January meeting minutes. B.S. Nanjundappa proposed the modified version of the meeting minutes, seconded by Shiva Patil.
4. Minutes of Meeting of December 2014. Sanjeev Mungaravadi raised a question on the number of paid members on petition- item # 7. Channu Kambalyal clarified that even if there is one life member, then it is valid petition, and there were more than one paid member in the petition. Meeting minutes proposed by Yuvaraj Patil, seconded by Irappa Arabhavi.
5. Channu expressed the importance of code of conduct for sending mass emails, and the need for everyone to be cognizant on the relevance of the email sent to the recipients. If a positive note is sent, that is fine, but in case of any objections or questions, the send may be sent only to concerned person, who can address the issues. If not addressed, then those topics will be discussed with others in an informal meeting to come to an understanding.
6. Indiana Chapter formation: Nandi Nagaraj, an active person in Indiana, proposed Indiana to be recognized as a chapter of VSNA. He had sent a letter to Channu (1/15) with a list of 10 families interested in joining who mainly live around Indianapolis. Nayantara Swamy indicated that according to the Bylaws, there is minimum requirement of 12 families. After some deliberation and input from B.S. Nanjundappa, Laxmi Hiremath, and Vijay Kumar; it was proposed to conditionally approve the resolution to be then approved in the next BOD meeting (3/8/15).
7. The resolution on Indiana Chapter: Conditional approval subject to Nandi Nagaraj and team coming back with a minimum of 12 families to form the Indiana Chapter of VSNA. Conditional resolution was proposed by B.S. Nanjundappa and seconded by Yuvaraj Patil.
8. NY-chapter convention update by Shiva Patil: The team has checked out more than a dozen different venues, and has had several meetings internally to discuss Convention 2015. Expenses regarding catering and service charges are also being discussed. Shiva said that they would have a more definitive confirmation by 2/15. Yuvaraj Patil questioned Shiva about the probability of hosting the convention 2015. Shiva was optimistic and said that he would get back on 2/15 with the best efforts of his team to make the convention happen.
9. Two-Year Agenda:
  - i. Communications: Newsletter was sent out to the list Central VSNA has through mail-chimp. Channu requested that Chapter Presidents send those communications to their respective chapter members, as we don't have a complete list. As requested previously, VSNA secretary has not

received any chapter email lists, which are essential to keep members updated. Ashwini Kortagere added that she would send an updated list after their Shivrathri functions. She expressed a concern about usage of the list and the security of IDs. Channu confirmed that email IDs will not be revealed to others. Nayantara Swamy asked about the email that came from Nilesh Dessai regarding tour for Veerashaiva Samaja members. Nanjundappa and Raj Galagali also said that they have received similar emails. Channu indicated that we do not share the email list with any one, anything that comes from others can be considered as SPAM emails.

- ii. VSNA 10-year strategic convention planning: Work in progress, but our focus is mainly to support Shiva Patil for convention 2015. We will talk about convention 2016 in MD in the next BOD meeting.
  - iii. Election committee: Channu will work with the committee, and notifications for nominations for two BOD positions will go out before February 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - iv. Audit Committee: Updates by Irappa: Irappa received final 2014 statement, and list of paid and life members from Nanjundappa. Monthly statements are now going to Irappa. He encouraged chapter presidents to become life members or paid members of Central VSNA and thanked those who have sent their dues. He additionally urged all chapter presidents to send their year-end statements. More updates in the next BOD meeting.
  - v. Investment committee: Nanjundappa updated: Prabhu Patil, Irappa Mamatha Hirannaiah and he have discussed about investment objectives and choices—they plan to talk over phone every two months to discuss each investment and progress. Dr. Palegar is also part of this committee and will be consulted.
  - vi. Website update: There is a work group in place. Convention news can be updated in one day notice. Work in progress for combining VSNA.org and VSNAconvention.com.
  - vii. Membership Drive and Rejuvenate local chapter: The purpose is to brainstorm on ways of to increase membership by providing benefits etc. Channu stated that as investment point of view, we have not grown, and will have a target of adding 50 life members in this year. Channu will initiate the call in the coming weeks. He has also sent a PowerPoint presentation to be shared with local members.
  - viii. Scholarship fund: Dada Patil is leading this effort, assisted by Leena.
  - ix. Youth Participation: Work will begin soon; and is being discussed in other task groups also.
  - x. Welcome Kit: Work in progress. Some senior members are willing to financially contribute to printing of materials.
  - xi. Newsletter update: Channu said that we need photos of all chapter presidents and BOR to send along with the next Newsletter. Also need updates from Shankranthi and Shivrathri functions at chapter levels.
  - xii. Bylaws committee: Nayantara Swamy has sent the task group's findings to the BOD officers. She proposed that the committee findings be sent to all BOD members and be discussed part of the agenda in the next BOD meeting. Yuvaraj Patil commented that the previous BOD in December had accepted the task group's findings and it is the next group's prerogative to take it forward. Mahesh Rajaghatta said that the task group should send the completed task; the BOD would then decide what needs to be done to close the task. Nayantara Swamy wants it to be put on the next BOD agenda.
  - xiii. Award committee: Vijay Aivalli will be leading this group.
10. Approval of the agenda: Nayantara Swamy and Nanjundappa reminded of good practices of BOD meeting: The first topic even before meeting minute approvals must be to approval of agenda in every meeting as a standard practice. Also, if anyone wants anything to be added to the agenda, it can be added based on voting.
11. Next meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Leena thanked all who attended the meeting.