

VSNA BOD Meetings Minutes

Date: Sunday, May 3, 2015

Attendees:

Elected BOD Members: Channu Kambalyal, Mamatha Hirannaiah, Leena K. Paul, Irappa Arabhavi, Neetha Dhananjaya, Yuvaraj Patil, Srishail Hadimani

Nominated BOD Members: Girish Budibetta (FL), Shiva Patil (NY), Jagadeesh Halyal (TX-South), Vidya Kondajji (TX-North), Raj Galagali (VA)

Non-Voting: Tarakesh Siddalingiah (MD- for Savitha Shivananda)

Invitees: G. Doddamani (AC-Chair Nominee), Dada Patil (BOR), Girish Nimbekai (NJ)

Meeting Notes:

- 1) Roll Call by Leena Paul- Quorum verified.
- 2) Prayer with a Vachana led by Yuvaraj Patil.
- 3) Approval of Agenda: No objections
- 4) Approval of April meeting minutes: Mamatha Hirannaiah proposed, and Yuvaraj Patil seconded
- 5) Proposal for approval of Nominations for BOD: Three approved/verified nominees are: Sajjan Shiva, Shivappa Palled, and Srishail Hadimani. Proposal: The Election committee has followed the rules set forth and that there are no objections. Proposed by Mamatha Hirannaiah, and seconded by Irappa Arabhavi.
- 6) Proposal for approval to increase funding for Youth Scholarships: High school and College category each: first prize \$1,000 & second prize \$500

Previously the funds have come from the VSNA operating funds. Raj Galagali raised a concern of using funds from operations for scholarship, but rather raise funds separately for scholarships as a sustained model. Yuvaraj Patil mentioned that the proposal is three times the previous year's amount, although \$3000 is not much money; but with in the short time frame BOR is getting this proposal approved, we can either reduce or approve using the funds from convention trust funds initially and later on use a sustained model for future years. Dada Patil stated that the two ways to raise funds were through either raise funds for scholarship separately and also offer naming rights both to chapter or individuals. Neetha also suggested instead of increasing funds for Scholarship, we must probably consider raising funds for disaster relief. Dada added that youth involvement is low, and that we need to offer scholarships to attract the youth. Smaller chapters can raise \$500, and larger chapters can raise \$1000 for this year OR raise \$5000 for 1st prize for five years and \$3000 for 2nd prize for five years for both categories. Channu asserted that raising the prize money is more of a motivation for the youth, more than a financial need. Raj said that if the objective is to get the youth involved, he suggested conducting a global VSNA essay writing or debate competition, and having winners rather than scholarship.

- a) Proposal: "Under the initiative of BOR, led by Dada Patil, a sustainable model for scholarship needs to be explored and established" Proposed by Yuvaraj Patil, and seconded by Raj Galagali
- b) Proposal: "To encourage youth members to associate with VSNA, as a one-time exception, a \$3,000 scholarship amount for 2015 to be used from VSNA operating funds, only if sufficient funds are not raised to meet the target" Proposed by Mamatha Hirannaiah and seconded by Srishail Hadimani.
- 7) New member introductions:
 - a) Srishail Hadmani (Chicago) has been an active member for last 19 years and believes that we need to uphold the Sharana philosophy and propagating it to the next generation.
 - b) Vidya Kondajji (Dallas) has been an active member from last 5-6 years; she is very interested in the increasing the youth involvement activities.
- 8) 2015 VSNA Convention Update: provided by Shiva Patil
 - a) Registration Status: Currently have about 250 registrations as of 3 or 4 days back. Collected \$80,000 so far. He urged that all people who have pledged to provide those funds; chapters who had pledged, please send them in soon.
 - b) Entertainment: Need programs details from chapters quickly.
 - c) Program Content : Confirmed guest Speakers and artists
Panditaradhy Swamiji, Vachananda Swamiji, Trinetra Mahanthshiva Swamiji, Ramzan Durga, Ashok Kheni, Neeraj Patil, Mysore Nagaraj, Sangeetha Katti; also some local artists
- 9) BOR Updates by Dada Patil:

- a) Matrimonial website: Currently have about 15 registrants, need to increase the registration. Uma Sajjan will send some information to all Chapter Presidents to be forwarded to members.
- b) Shylendra Kumar has taken a lead in fund raising for the Convention.

10) Two Year Agenda Updates:

- a) Communications:
 - i) Convention notification sent to all emails IDs available to Central VSNA.
 - ii) Chapter Presidents are requested to forward any communication immediately to all their chapter members that comes from Convention group, Channu or Leena; or through mail chimp. Some emails to mail chimp go into some promotional folder.
 - iii) Request: need help in making creative brochures.
- b) 2016-2020 Convention Planning:
 - i) 2016: Savitha Shivananda (MD Chapter) confirmed
 - ii) 2017: Mamatha (GA) are exploring the option of hosting in 2017
 - iii) 2018: Detroit-no update
 - iv) 2019: Chicago –no update
 - v) 2020: Toronto – no update
- c) By-Law Committee: The committee (Prabhu Patil, Nagbhusan Malakla, and Prema Shankar) meets via conference call on every Sunday to go through few items on the list. They are almost ready with four articles for review by BOD and chapter presidents.
- d) Audit Committee and Investment Committee: Audit: All the statements have been collected from chapters and sent it to VSNA auditor.
- e) Website and Social Media: VSNA website is functional. Mamatha and Channu will work on third party tool for registration.
- f) Rejuvenate Local Chapters: No update
- g) Membership Drive:
- h) Scholarship Fund:
- i) Youth Participation: Leena urged all chapter presidents to provide names of youth 18-28 and 28-32 yrs of age as leaders of the future.
- j) Welcome Kit: The work-group met to discuss next steps. We have documentation to be printed out by the convention time to provide all members.
- k) Newsletter:
 - i) The newsletter is almost ready to be rolled out.
- l) Awards Committee:
 - The committee will led by Vijay Aivalli, Anuradha Burji, and Nanjundappa. They will be sending out nomination forms for the awards.
 - We will need BOD meeting before the convention to approve the awards.

11) Next BOD meeting and Closure: Channu and Leena thanked everyone for attending and providing input for this May BOD meeting.

- a) The next meeting is on Sunday, June 14th, 2015.