Minutes of Meeting for General Body Meeting 2019-2020

Meeting Date: August 1st, 2020
Venue: Zoom Video Conferencing

Agenda

- 2019-2020 Mandal Year Overview
- DFWMM Special Moment
- Programs & Activities
- Financial Overview
- BOA Amendment Discussion
- Community Questions
- Welcome Committee 2020-2021

Attendees

Harish Nehate, Sushil Dravekar, Rohini Raut, Anup Shahapurkar, Manoj Pagnis, Abhijeet Patil, Rachana Pednekar, Vaishali Patil, Ajit Jagtap, Salil Joshi, Mandar Wadekar, Atul Chaudhari, Vaidehi Chaudhari, Rahul Karnik, PB Ghate Kaka, Subhash Gaitonde kaka, Ilka Netravali, Harshad Khadilkar, Poornima Karhade, Makarand Joshi, Manjiri Joshi, Sujit Sathe, Sarvesh & Amruta Marathe, Priya Dravekar, Raj & Neeta Jangade, Vaishnavi Apte, Hemat Tembhikar, Nishank Save, Padma Joshi Pulkeshi Jape, Manohar Lele Kaka, Umesh & Sheetal Jalindre, Gitendra Chaudhari, Milind Pandit, Apurva Bhagali, Archana Saraf, Purnima Karhade

Minutes of the meeting

- The meeting started on time at 1 PM in the presence of 2019-2020 EC and community members.
- Membership was verified for all members who joined the Zoom session.
- Secretary Sushil Dravekar opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees and provided guidelines for the first-ever online General Body Meeting
  - Attendees will be placed in the Virtual Lobby/Waiting Room upon joining
  - Committee will verify current membership and allow existing members to join the virtual GBM. Membership can be purchased while waiting in the Virtual Lobby/Waiting Room.
  - Committee will ask attendees to identify themselves with the first and last name mentioned on their zoom account.

- All attendees will be automatically muted upon joining the GBM room until the questions and answers section. All communication until that time will occur through the Chat application.
- Voting on the amendments or agenda topics will be conducted using the Poll feature on Zoom Webinar
- Only one vote per membership account (family/individual)
- Time for each Poll will be 2 to 3 minutes depending on the topic

- At the opening of the meeting, Atul Chaudhari raised the question based on the guidelines informed earlier on would it be one vote per attendee? Ajit Jagtap and Harish addressed that we have followed and will follow one vote per family.
- President Harish Nehate welcomed the entire quorum thanked the present committee and community for all the support throughout the year.
- Harish thanked current years' business and individual sponsors for their continued patronage to support Mandal and its activities.
- Harish reiterated the schedule for the day and started the meeting with a special moment for DFWMM.
- Harish announced the "Lifetime Achievement Award" to Dr. Arun Netravali and complimented him for his career and service to the society. Handed over the Lifetime Achievement Award plaque to Ilka Netravali, daughter of Dr. Arun Netravali
- Our senior member Prabhakar Ghate kaka, expressed a few words about Dr. Netravali.
- Following this, Harish felicitated our BMM CEC committee for their extraordinary leadership in delivering Mandal's successful BMM event, presented with a Plaque virtually.
- Harish felicitated Mrs. Vaishnavi Apte for her contribution to get Marathi Language listed at local school districts with a Plaque.
- Harish presented the 2019-2020 Mandal activities overview;
    - Key Highlights of executed Mandal programs
        - Regular programs like Ganeshotsav, Kojagiri (Aphale+ Padhye Program), Diwali (Local Talent Show), Sankrant (Local Kids Talent Show), **Senior BanquetConnect with broader Indo-American community -** Local city representative attended a few of our programs. Irving Mayor Rick Stopfer was confirmed for Shi Jayanti, Mayor Protech Janet Depuy, City of Richardson was confirmed for NatyaMahotsav 2020
        - **New social Initiatives** - NTFB volunteering hours. One hundred community members from age 10-60 participated. It helped the young student to earn some volunteering hours as well.
        - **COVID related social service -**
            - **Fundraising for NTFB, Mandal donated $13,000, contributing to feeding 39,000 meals.**
            - **Meal donation at UT Southwestern hospital to front line COVID Warrior**

        - **Donated money to Maharashtra Foundation toward helping backstage theater artist back in Maharashtra**
    - **First-ever Mandal Shala staff appreciation dinner for both Mandal shala locations, i.e., Irving & Plano**
  - **Missed/canceled programs due to COVID Pandemic**
    - **Bhondla**
    - **Natya Mahotsav**
    - **Shiv Jayanti**
    - **First Gudhipdwa Celebration of DFWMM**
    - **Annual picnic/camping**
    - **Vaishali Samant Concert**
    - **Sports day**
    - **International Student Guardianship**
- DFWMM Financial updates by Manoj Pagnis & Anup Shahapurkar
  - Sujit Sathe asked whether Mandal balance includes Marathi shala revenue and expenses – Manoj Confirmed, yes, it is.
  - Sujit asked questions on whether PayPal balance includes Mandal membership? – Manoj confirmed, yes.
  - After this, no question came up and moved to the next topic.
- BMM Financial presented by Rahul Karnik – No question came up
- Harish then tabled a proposal received by Dilip Rane to make the year 2020-2021 membership free for existing members of 2019-2020, considering the money saved from the convention event.
  - Quorum discussed the impact of this proposal. Giving free membership to all 2019 members will translate to almost $20k to write off and considering the pandemic year. It is not advisable to do so; instead, you may want to donate money to a needy organization.
  - A poll was conducted; 98% of attendees voted to keep the membership fees and concluded adding more programs, whether online or in-person, some of it could be free.
- Harish then presented an update on the Board of Trustees Discussion:
  - Harish updated that a BoT draft was sent to the community at large, seeking any amendments. Only two amendments received from 1 community member
    - P.B. Ghate – Amendments received: To speak with an attorney and get the draft verbiage vetted and corrected as appropriately required. Another amendment was to change the BoT to BoA.
      - Harish updated that EC consulted Burch Lawfirm and Asiatico Law firm have been consulted. And their charges were Burch law firm – $1250, and Asiatico was $5000 retainer fees and per session XXX.
      - There was additional advice received from attorneys to convert the EC team name as the Board of directors. And this was approved at GBM.
      - Mr. P Ghate suggested going legally and suggested having new EC form a sub-committee and appoint someone from community work.

- Harish then updated that EC had sought in the application for the Board of trustee position, and only one application by Pulkeshi Jape was received with his detailed profile by the deadline on July 25th, 2020. However, EC also received a 2-line application by Sujit Sathe on July 31st night.
- Pulkeshi Jape raised the question and expressed dissatisfaction with delays to have a BoT in the last few years, and that Mandal discusses this every year, but no action and delay even by the current committee had. Harish expressed an apology on the recent EC behalf and explained the delay in last year. And also said that Mandal has missed implementing/take action items closed following to corresponding GBM's, e.g., one such approved change in 2013 GBM is to have EC tenure for two years, which was voted yes for better continuity. Pulkeshi suggested having a timeline for this.
- Harish proposed the next EC will decide to take on the further steps, and the quorum agreed.
- Question by Mr. Rahul Karnik - Are Board of Directors required to have BOT? – Harish replied that the attorneys told to have a Board of Directors in place to work on appointing a board of trustees subsequently. And also, Mandal may find creating a trustee structure unnecessarily complicated, considering the size of DFWMM.
- The BoT topic was concluded with the following action item,
  - The new EC will appoint someone from the community as part of the subcommittee.
  - The current BoT draft stands approved as only one received amendment was received to change BoT to BoA.
  - A revised constitutional living document will be created, consolidating all changes captured in the previous year's GBM minutes.
  - A Special GBM will be called to update the community on the Board of Directors and BoA topics.
  - New EC to publish a timeline on this topic.

- Harish then shared that DFWMM had sought application from the community for the various committee at large and EC positions. And we had received an application from Sushil Dravekar for the post of President, and his other executive committee team names nomination. Based on the application received and Harish's recommendation, Sushil Dravekar was appointed as the new President for DFWMM 2020 - 2022 year, and subsequently, he introduced his EC team and committee at large. Find below the new committee member list,
  - Sushil Dravekar - President
  - Manoj Pagnis - Secretary
  - Rachana Pednekar - Treasurer
  - Vaishali Patil - Co-Treasurer
  - Abhijeet Patil - Webmaster
- Sushil thanked Harish and addressed the meeting.
- Sushil introduced the new committee to a large team
  - Anagha Gokhale

- Apurva Bhagali
- Amruta Marathe
- Archana Saraph
- Amit Buche
- Hemant Kulkarni
- Nishank Save
- Hemant Tembikar
- Purnima Karhade
- Ritesh Joshi
- Salil Joshi
- Sarvesh Marathe
- Sheetal Rane
- Sadbhav Natu
- Manjiri Joshi
- Rajeshree Varanashiwar
- Meghana Joshi
- Ajit Jagtap (BMM Representative)

- Attendees thanked the outgoing committee and congratulated the new committee.
- Mr. P Ghate congratulated the team with said that we should start and close all meetings with prayer
- Sushil delivered a thank you note
- Harish Announced the closure of GBM 2020

Sincerely,
Harish Nehate, President (2019-2020)
Sushil Dravekar, Secretary (2019-2020)
Dallas Fort Worth Maharashtra Mandal