



Minutes of Meeting of Annual General Meeting 2016

Venue: AV room, Global Indian International School, Queenstown campus, 1 Mei Chin Road, Singapore 149253

Time: 16 to 18.30 Hours

Executive Committee members (2015) attending the meeting:

Ms. Manjiri Kadam: President
Ms. Asmita Tadwalkar: Vice President
Mr. Vishal Pendharkar: Secretary
Ms. Smita Ambike: Treasurer
Mr. Swapnil Lakhe: Asstt. Secretary
Ms. Nalini Thite: PRO
Ms. Pushkar Pradhan: Committee Member
Ms. Samir Kozarekar: Committee Member
Mr. Sadanand Rajwade: Committee Member

Executive Committee Members (2015) absent with apologies:

Ms. Rajashri Lele: Committee Member
Mr. Vedashree Jathar: Committee Member
Mr. Arun Manohar: Asstt. Treasurer
Mr. Koustubh Rao: Committee Member

Meeting Minutes

1. There was no quorum at 16:00 hrs as only 19 member were present. As per Article 6.4.5 of the Constitution, the meeting was adjourned for half an hour. The meeting commenced at 16:30 hours with 33 members forming the quorum required for holding the AGM
2. The President called the meeting to order and welcomed all the members to the AGM. She read out the Agenda for the meeting.
 - 2.1 To confirm the minutes of AGM held on 28th February 2015
 - 2.2 To present and adopt the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for year 2015

2.3 To discuss below points with the permission of the chair and adopt as AGM resolution if voted in favour

2.3.1 Vitthal Mandir proposal (from Life Members' Meeting dt 10 Jan 2016) and feasibility study discussion

2.3.2 Proposal to increase the limit on monthly expenditure permissible to the Ex-Co from \$10,000 to \$15,000, adopt the AGM resolution to and amend the constitution accordingly.

2.3.3 Proposal to restrict the membership lapsing to 31st March (10\$ of Registration fee to be charged from 1st April) instead of 1st July and amend the constitution accordingly

2.4 To elect the Executive Committee for the year 2016

2.5 Any other business with the permission of the chair if time permits

3. The minutes of the AGM dated 28th February 2015 were confirmed by the AGM. The resolution for approval was proposed by Mr. Kiran Sankhye and seconded by Mr. Ajit Mungre.

4. Manjiri Kadam gave a summary of overall performance and major highlights of the 2015-2016 executive committee.

4.1 This year MMS reached out to the broader indian community through collaborations with ZeeTV, ThinkAloud and radio masti, resulting in increased attendance for Ganeshotsav from non-marathi audience

4.2 Manjiri highlighted that the statement of account circulated at the AGM is from January 2015 to December 2015. However the tenure of the committee was from March 1 2015 to February 28,2016.

4.3 During the committee's tenure (March 1, 2015 to February 28, 2016), the total income was approximately 127,300 SGD (approximately 68,000 SGD during Ganeshotsav) and expenses were approximately 71,500 SGD resulting in approximate saving of 55,800 SGD. The numbers in the statement of accounts are different due to the point mentioned in 4.3

4.4 Manjiri also mentioned that at the end of committee's tenure on 28th February there were no outstanding invoices or pending payments from sponsors and donors. There are also no major payments to be made by MMS.

4.5 Manjiri highlighted that 'Advaitachi Gani' music album was published in a CD format during the year 2015. MMS being a cultural organisation this CD and other collections such as earleir published 'Kavita sangraha' are the real assets and wealth of MMS which we should preserve and promote.

5. The Executive Committee members presented the highlights of key events for the year 2014 through a Powerpoint slide presentation.

5.1 Mr. Swapnil Lakhe presented Holi event, Holi ki sham at esplanade, Gudhi Padwa, HEB-New Year celebration, Blood donation camp, Creative writing workhop, felicitating cyclist, Art workshop for kids and SG50 celebration.

5.2 Ms Asmita Tadwalkar - Picnic- special thanks to Mr.Kiran Sankhye, SG-50- walk at Fort canning park, Pt.Kaiwalyakumar baithak and Durdeshihi nande, Majhi marathi anande.

5.3 Asmita updated with slides on Ganeshotsav- Je Je uttam, KavyaSwaranjali, Vividh Gunadarshan (attendance of around 850), 'Ananda Doh' by Yogesh Soman and visarjan. Special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Joshi for performing puja during ganeshotsav. As a part of Ganeshotsav program was Ketaki Mategaonkar's show 'Rang majha vegla'. Total attendance over 6 days for all programs was around 1700.

5.4 Mr. Samir Kozarekar updated members on Diwali event. This year MMS organised two plays for Diwali event. There was a demand for balnatak for a long time. Natak- Bechaki and Balnatak- Be-Eka-Be were presented to an audience of 350. Received very good and encouraging feedback from members. Manjiri appreciated Mr. Amit Joshi for handling such a complex topic of Bechaki. Mr. Amit Joshi thanked MMS for giving the opportunity and believing in him and also members who attended the natak.

5.5 Samir presented updates on Library day, Bara Gaav che pani, felicitation of volunteers and library stock taking. Samir presented the figures of library stock. Samir appealed that there was a serious lack of library volunteers during 2015 and hence members should come forward as library volunteer. MMS sports meet- Badminton and Bowling- Special thanks to Mr. Kiran Sankhye for organizing the event. This time all the winners received trophies at the end of each event in an olympic styled felicitation, which was very well appreciated by the winners. The final event of MMS current committee was Haldi Kunku, Learn Science from waste and making compost from home waste.

5.6 Samir presented the regular MMS activities- Rutugandha, Swarandha and Shabd Gandha. Monthly Shabd Gandha activities are organised by the team lead by Mr. Arun Manohar. Five issues of Rutugandha were published this year. To increase the readership of Rutugandha it was published in a blog format for the first time and was well appreciated. Kavyaswaranjali was presented in Ganeshotsav. After the event, considering the popularity 'Advaitachi gani' songs were recorded in studio and later published. Mr. Santosh Ambike if MMS has the copyright of the songs and the CD. Manjiri answered this query - Mr. Arun Manohar has started the process of taking signatures from artists on the disclaimer that the copyright of the CD belongs to MMS. Mr. Ambike suggested to sell the CDs during the event and think of possible marketing avenues. Samir appealed to members that if they have any marketing ideas they can come forward.

5.7 Mrs Nalini Thite updated the members with two events that were not mentioned in the slides - Mrs Chitra Manohar and Mrs Arundhati Ghuman represented MMS at Thomson CC celebration of pongal. They demonstrated til-gul preparation - A small contingent of SG50 dance performers represented MMS at Thomson CC and Modi in Singapore event.

6. Mrs Smita Ambike presented the slides on Memberships and Financials. Hard copies of the Annual Statement of Accounts were distributed to all members before the meeting.

6.1 On the membership slide - Mr. Santosh Ambike pointed out that the category of Sponsors and Advertisers should be referred as 'Associate members'

6.2 On the membership slide - Mr. Amit Joshi enquired if we can have a statistics on renewal of memberships from past members. Is there any increase in memberships since 5 years. How visibility of MMS can be increased

6.3 Smita informed members that such data was not available earlier since it was a manual database and not online. Now such statistics can be made available now as the membership database has moved to wildapricot since two years.

6.4 Dr. Sugam Kale mentioned that few years back, it was contemplated if Life members should take up the responsibility of contacting members and inviting them to renew membership. However at that time such database was not available and now life members can play a role in increasing membership

6.5 Manjiri and vishal - traceability of membership status has improved during the events that has helped increasing membership at each event.

6.6 Shirish Kulkarni proposed cricket tournament for getting more members

6.7 Mr.Kiran sankhye- 30% of members are floating and hence they take up membership but not in singapore next year. This data can help us to plan our programs targeting specific population.

7. Audit Report- Mr. Amrut Joshi read the audit report to the members

The Auditors noted the following:

7.1 From the beginning records were maintained properly. Vouchers, bills receipts & financial records have been maintained.

7.2. Financial statements accurately reflect the state of affairs of MMS; and

7.3. Overall control and assurance around process to manage MMS funds

7.4 The Auditors also made the following observations on recommendations for improvement.

7.5. Working Guidelines prescribed in respect of funds management have been complied with exceptions as below-

7.5.1 As per working guidelines, Executive committee can hold only 10,000 SGD in cash, however it was observed that higher cash levels were maintained. Mr.Kiran Sankhye pointed out that during Ganeshotsav, the expenses are more that 10,000 SGD and at that time it's not practical to break the fixed deposits. Manjiri told members that this needs to be amended in the constitution where the cash holding and expenses can be increased to 15,000 SGD from 10,000 SGD but it cannot be taken up during the ongoing AGM as quorum was not met at the start of AGM. Smita brought out the point that it is impractical to book FDs as soon as there is 20,000 SGD cash in bank account. instead it is better to make a FD of 30,000 SGD or 40,000 SGD at the end of 4-6 months.

7.5.2 Auditors remarked on how the committee took decisions - During the current committee there was prevalent use of messenger app- WhatsApp. Lot of discussions happened in the Whatsapp group of executive committee. Only the final decisions were approved in the minutes of the meeting or by email. It is important that we adopt digital practices that speed up the work and decision making of executive committee at the same time the executive committee should maintain the records.

7.5.3 Mr Santosh Ambike suggested that we should change working guidelines to include use of whatsapp group discussions and emails to be considered as valid methods of

decision making. Executive committee will maintain regular records of the decisions taken on whatsapp and minitise them whenever possible. This suggestion was welcomed by many members such as Dr. Sugam Kale, Mr.Yogesh Gondhalekar and Mr.Shirish kulkarni

7.5.4 At the end of this discussion, members agreed on accepting whatapp communications in the Executive committee's whatsapp group as official communication that can be used for approving executive committee's decisions. A motion for passing this resolution was proposed by Mr.Shirish Kulkarni and seconded by Mr.Santosh Ambike.

7.5.5 Mr. Amrut Joshi mentioned that this year there is a list of social and digital media assets along with the property or tangible assets of MMS

7.5.6 At the end of reading audit report and the discussion, members were to be satisfied with the accounts and a motion for passing the Annual Accounts and Audit Report was proposed by Dr. Sugam Kale and seconded by Mr Yogesh Gondhalekar. The proposal was accepted and passed by the AGM.

8. Nalini updated on the increased reliance of technology-Website and social media by the current Executive Committee. On behalf of Mr.Arun manohar she updated the use of wild apricot in managing membership database.She gave brief plans for the Website and Social media.

8.1 Nalini highlighted that the Wildapricot is our Website management, Event management and finance management website that has played a major role in the getting more members, validating members on the spot, creating and managing events, registrations for events, creating invoices to advertisers etc. It is because of this website that the operations are becoming more and more efficient. Full credit goes to Mr.Arun Manohar who has worked tirelessly for last two years on building this website and database. Donations, event tickets and absolutely all data is available on website histologically. The database and the transactions are fully traceable and searchable. More members are getting their membership renewed early as the website sends auto reminders at pre-specified dates. Treasurer and Secretary have also diligently maintained the database. Paper work has greatly reduced. Earlier, only few people renewed membership before a Ganpati. Because of the auto reminders, in february which only the second month, 1/3rd of memberships are already renewed. This will help in cash flow of MMS. Any offline transaction is registered backend in Wildapricot, this way we record the transaction digitally, generate invoice and thus in the end, we have digital trail of all the online and offline transactions.

8.2 We have not taken so much effort on Facebook. It is more of announcement board. we have used it diligently to create events, upload photos in events..fan base has increased from 2500 to 3500. likes and comments have increased. So without taking much effort there has been an organic growth on facebook.. There are not many discussions happening as in the other groups but that has to happen spontaneously. we respond to the queries very fast on questions sent to MMS. we also get program proposals on facebook. Much more can be done.

8.3 We have created a new Youtube channel where all our videos are displayed. As well a google plus is now active.

8.4 Ms.Aditi Patankar suggested on converting likes and comments into members by contacting them by sending a message. This can be explored. Mr. Amit Joshi appreciated the work done and wanted it to continue for more FB engagement.

8.5 Mr Amrut Joshi pointed out that the new generation is going to be more tech savvy and they appreciate virtual presence so any mediums that can reach them should be explored even like live streaming of events can be done. Mr.Santosh Ambike commented that such a healthy discussion on social media has never happened before as a part of AGM agenda and it's a good sign. we should continue this and the technical details can be decided by the PRO and the committee.How much time we should spent also has to be decided and who will do it? These efforts take up lot of individual time. Such digital efforts were taken before but they do not continue when the committee changes so it is more driven by the people and not by the system. Nalini recommended PRO as a technology position in the executive committee and its role has to be defined in the working guidelines to maintain the continuity of effort.

8.6 Nalini updated members that the committee has made a list of digital assets of MMS and the access to these assets will be transferred to the new committee in the form of handover checklist.

9. Any Other Business- Manjiri presented the three points that were included in the AGM agenda

1. Discussion on vitthal mandir as proposed by Mr Santosh Ambike through a letter to President. It was also discussed during life members meeting and was decided to discuss in AGM

2. Increasing the limits of monthly expenditure from 10,000 SGD to 15,000 SGD. Already discussed and will not be taken for further discussion

3. Restrict membership benefits to 31th March instead of June 30. This discussion also cannot happen due to lack of forum at 4pm and hence no changes to constitution can be made.

9.1 Manjiri invited Mr.Santosh Ambike to speak on the proposal of temple. Mr.Santosh Ambike presented different aspects of owning a property by MMS. MMS needs space for two purposes- 1. for meetings and as office and 2. for library. From this came an idea of having a property not just used on weekends as office which will be closed at other times. But something where people can freely come and go. So the idea of temple came to his mind. People can visit also give donations. Why vitthal mandir? Because it is very specific to Maharashtra and some parts of karnataka. There is also precedence to such a project. Gujarati society has shop house that has krishna temple, multipurpose hall and office. Similarly Dakshin Brahman mahasangh has similar property.

9.2 To decide how the property can be maintained, how it will generate revenue, manpower required to maintain it,location, funding, approvals such and many more aspects of the property will be studied by a three membered committee and presented to AGM or EGM. Lot of people will get involved to help this committee to reach its conclusion. People who are experts in their field will be approached by the committee to seek their expert opinion. On a question raised by Asmita on changes in the constitution required, Mr.Ambike clarified that this is too early to talk on that as there will be a trust formed, lawyers will be appointed etc., but MMS can have a property. Constitution permits MMS to have property without making any changes. Constitution only says that if property is purchased a trust has to be formed.

9.3 Many people will contribute and help the committee but the Committee will have accountability and responsibility to complete the study and submit its findings to the AGM or EGM.

9.4 Mr Kiran Sankhye pointed out that the committee should not start out with objective of having a vitthal mandir but start with an objective of having a property/vastu for MMS and if the committee comes to a conclusion that Vitthal Mandir is the best option then that should be presented to AGM or EGM. This we are not fixed of having a vitthal mandir at the start itself.

9.5 Mr.Yogesh Gondhalekar suggested to complete the study in two-three months. Mr. Santosh Ambike responded saying we can do it as early as possible, but we cannot do anything is hurry. Lot of people need to be consulted and even people from Government have to be consulted so it will take time but committee will try to complete the study earliest

9.6 At the end of discussion, Manjiri put forward the motion to form a committee. The motion was proposed by Mr.Santosh Ambike and seconded by Mr.Amit Joshi and Mr. Srirang Kelkar.

9.7 Mr Santosh Ambike proposed to have a three membered committee if AGM approves. He proposed to be the coordinator of the committee and proposed Ms Manjiri Kadam and Dr.Sugam kale be another committee member. Both Ms Manjiri Kadam and Dr.Sugam Kale agreed to be a part of this committee.

Manjiri proposed the composition of following three membered committee to study and submit the report to AGM or EGM

- 1.Mr.Santosh Ambike
2. Mrs. Manjiri Kadam
3. Dr.Sugam Kale

The composition of committee was proposed by Mr.Ajit Mungre and seconded by Mr.Satish Lele

10. Election of new Executive Committee of 2016

Manjiri invited any representative of Election Commission to come forward and decide on forming the new executive committee.

10.1 Mr.Satish Lele on behalf of election commission updated the members that the election commission received following nominations for office bearers before 19th February, 2016 and were found to be valid. It was proposed that they be declared elected unopposed as below:

President – Ms. Asmita Tadwalkar

Vice President – Ms.Smita Ambike

Secretary- Mr Vishal Pendharkar

Asst Secretary – Ms Jui Chitale

Treasurer- Ms Nalini Thite

PRO – Ms. Aditi Patankar

No application was received for the post of Assistant Treasurer

10.2 Mr. Satish Lele asked members if anyone was interred to take up the position of Assistant treasurer.

Mr.Sadanand Rajwade who has applied for the post of committee member was interested to work as Assistant Treasurer.

Mr.Santosh Ambike checked with the election commission if any PR or citizen was interested for the position of Assistant Treasurer as Mr.Sadanand Rajwade is not a citizen or PR.

There were two nominations received by the election commission for committee member that were

- Mr.Aun Manohar- Citizen - But he was an Assistant Treasurer in 2015-2016 executive committee and constitution does not allow treasurer or assistant treasurer to take up these same position in the consecutive committees
- Mr.Bhushan Gore- is a permanent resident but not will to take any position.

10.3 Under these circumstances, Mr.Satish Lele asked AGM what decision has to be taken in this situation as the position cannot be kept vacant. Mr.Santosh Ambike suggested that AGM can co-opt Mr.Sadanand Rajwade as Assistant Treasurer.

The motion was proposed by Dr.Sugam Kale and seconded by Mr.Yogesh Gondhalekar, thus approved by AGM.

10.4 For Six committee members election commission had received seven nomination forms but as Mr.Sadanand Rajwade was co-opted as Assistant treasurer so no election was required.

10.5 Mr.Satish Lele announced names of committee members and that be declared elected unopposed.

Mr. Arun Manohar -Committee Member

Mr. Koustubh Rao -Committee Member

Mr. Pushkar Pradhan -Committee Member

Mr. Samir Kozhrekar -Committee Member

Mr. Bhushan Gore -Committee Member

Ms. Vedashree Jathar -Committee Member

10.6 AGM approved all nominations and Mr. Satish Lele welcomed the 2016-2017 executive committee as below

President – Ms Asmita Tadwalkar

Vice President – Ms Smita Ambike

Secretary- Mr Vishal Pendharkar

Asst Secretary – Ms Jui Chitale

Treasurer- Ms Nalini Thite

Asst Treasurer – Mr.Sadanand Rajwade

PRO – Ms Aditi Patankar

Mr. Arun Manohar - Committee Member

Mr. Koustubh Rao - Committee Member

Mr. Pushkar Pradhan -Committee Member

Mr. Samir Kozarekar -Committee Member

Mr. Bhushan Gore - Committee Member

10.7 Ms. Manjiri Kadam declared that the Executive Committee of 2015-2016 was dissolved and new Executive Committee of 2016-2017 declared elected by the approval of the AGM comes into effect.

10.8 Asmita proposed appointment of auditors as below

1. Mr.Surjit Mehendale
2. Mr.Kuldeep Joshi

The proposal was seconded by Mr. Santosh Ambike and thus approved by AGM.

11. The AGM was declared as concluded at 6.45pm.