

## **CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF BENGAL**

### **2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)**

**Venue: On-line ZOOM Meeting**

**Date: 11<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

**Total Active CAB Members: 570**

### **2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM) Attendees: 57**

Chitta Saha, CAB president welcomed all the attendees for Cultural Association Of Bengal (CAB) at 2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Debiprosad Palit, CAB General Secretary spoke about the activities of CAB starting with the fiscal year beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> 2020: CAB life as well as annual membership drives, collecting advertisements to make Sangbad Bichitra self-reliant financially, conducting a EC meeting on the last Sunday of every month to discuss amongst its members accomplishments of goals set in previous months as well as setting goals for future milestones using on-line meeting video conferencing ZOOM.

Ranadeb Sarkar, CAB treasurer presented CAB annual financial statement for the Year 2019. He stated that the annual statement will be published in Sangbad Bichitra. He mentioned of an operating surplus for Year 2019 as well as a surplus from CAB Rabindra Utsav of Year 2019 at Ananda Mandir, NJ. Ranadeb Sarkar also stated the need in future for modification of CAB charter with the addition of a philanthropic wing along with the current Cultural role it depicts to its core.

Tapas Sanyal, CAB Vice President spoke about the upcoming CAB Natya Mela 2020/Sharad Milan Utsav on November 15 and explained how the Event Management Team of CAB EC comprising of Sushmita Sarkar, Snigdha Chakraborty and Tapas Sanyal himself were working with other participating organizations for a successful implementation and urged all CAB members present in the AGM to watch the show on the specified date (November 15<sup>th</sup> 2020).

Dipayan Sarkar, CAB Vice President made a proposal to collect an additional \$5 on a yearly basis from all life members of CAB to offset some costs associated with publishing and maintenance of Sangbad Bichitra.

Partha Chakraborty, CAB Assistant Secretary commented about inclusion of CAB philanthropic activities in Sangbad Bichitra to reach a broader audience.

Milan Awon, chairperson of BOT thanked all the attendees of 2020 AGM.

Kallol Chattopadhyay, BOT member remarked about finding ways to increase more CAB member participation in future AGMs of CAB.

Surajit Sengupta, BOT member, commended about participation and inclusion of members in BOT from west coast and he also touched on an initiative to conduct CAB initiated business forums on a quarterly basis.

Abhik Dasgupta, BOT member proposed circulation of Sanhgd Bichitra to local community and in turn may expect addition of few new members.

Pranab Das, BOT member had a question on the financial statement to the CAB treasurer about how much fund was deposited from future NABC hosts that was answered by the CAB treasurer Ranadeb Sarkar stating that Boston gave \$5000 and Chicago gave \$5000.

Arati Bhattacharya, CAB member advised inclusion of Table of Contents in Sangbad Bichitra.

Resolution to amend Section 5.3 of the Bylaws of the Cultural Association of Bengal (CAB):

At the general meeting on June 18, 2011, the members of CAB unanimously adopted a new Bylaws. According to Section 5.3 of this Bylaws a person is allowed to serve as “President” only one term (for two years).

1<sup>st</sup> Amendment of Section 5.3 – Terms of Office-bearers:

At the general meeting on April 29, 2017, the members of CAB have adopted a resolution to change the “one term” limit to “two terms” limit, and it says as follows: “.....that the sitting President and all the past Presidents are eligible to run for the post of President for a 2<sup>nd</sup> non-consecutive term.”

Amendment to repeal 1<sup>st</sup> amendment of Section 5.3 – Terms of Office-bearers:

At the general meeting on October 11, 2020, the members of CAB have adopted a resolution, by majority in favor (only two (2) dissidents), to repeal the term limit extension for the position of President. At this general meeting the members (by majority) resolved as follows: ““A CAB Executive Committee (EC) President henceforth can serve only once (one two years term only). A president who served one full term as CAB EC President, he/she will not be eligible to run again for the position of President”.

Prabir Roy, CAB Member, explained the stringent criterion of HOPE 2020 (COVID/AMPHAN) funds and mentioned the names of philanthropic partners in West Bengal like Ramkrishna Mission, Bharat Sevasram Sangha, Rotary Club and in future the funds are being allocated to remote places hit hard.

Debiprosad Palit, CAB Secretary on behalf of the CAB EC 2020-2022 adjourned the 2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM) with a vote of thanks to all attendee present.

