CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF BENGAL

2017 AGM MINUTES

Minutes of the 45th Annual General Meeting

Day & Time: Saturday the 29th April, 2017 at 12.00 Noon.

Venue: 35-37 36th Street, Long Island City, NY 11106

Present:

1. Milan Awon - President
2. Dilip Chakrabarti - President Elect
3. Debiprasad Palit - Vice President
4. Tapas Sanyal - Vice President
5. Arunava Sinha - Secretary
6. Dhriti Bagchi - Assistant Secretary
7. Ranadeb Sarkar - Treasurer
8. Sugata Bagchi - Member
9. Dipayan Sarkar - Member
10. Kajal Sarkar - Trustee
11. Chitta Saha - Trustee
12. Pranab Das - Trustee
13. Purna Bhattacharya - Trustee
14. Arun Bhattacharjee - Trustee

Members Present

15. Debol Gupta, 16. Adrish Chakraborty 17. Debasis Adhikari, 18. Partha Sarathi Das, 19. Prabir Roy, 20. Anit Maitra, 21. Sipra Maitra, 22. Biswajit Chakraborty, 23. Anjali Dasgupta, 24. Snigdha Chakrabarti, 25. Sushmita Sarkar, 26. Aarati Bhattacharya, 27. Pabitra Chaudhury,
28. Amalendu Das, 29. Ashok Rakhit, 30. Subhra Goswami.

Members Apologies

31. Kumar Sankar Mandal - Trustee
32. Asok Motayed - Trustee
33. Asoke Deysarkar - Trustee
34. Somprakash Majumdar - Trustee

Discussion

Item # 1: Welcome address by the President

i. Milan Awon - CAB achievements in recent time, including success of NABC 2016, New York after overcoming arduous hindrances.

ii. He expressed thanks and appreciation for all volunteers, donors and all members for their contributions in NABC 2016.

iii. NABC 2020 will be organized in Las Vegas.
iv. CAB 50 years anniversary – future planning..

Item # 2: Secretary's Report

i. Arunava Sinha – Last AGM report was read and adopted.
ii. Activities and achievements in the last one year were narrated.
iii. New members were welcomed. Members were requested to support and participate in Rabindra Utsav to take place at Ananda Mandir in NJ. To participate in NABC 2017 at Santa Clara, CA.
iv. One agenda item is Amendment of three sections of the By-laws of CAB, adoption and approval by members.

Item # 3: Treasurer's Report

i. Ranadeb Sarkar – Last year's account was presented and adopted.
ii. NABC 2016 financial performance explained.
iii. Current bank balance and liabilities as on date was presented.
iv. CAB 2016 tax return is not prepared and finalized yet. We have to file Form 990 for 2016.

Item # 4: Brief description of difficulties encountered in NABC 2016

i. Kajal Sarkar – Last moment added financial liabilities thrust on NABC 2016 by MSG management.
ii. Strategies planned, implemented to subsist the crisis and successfully organized the programs.

Item # 5: Activities of CAB

i. Purna Bhattacharya – Expressed thanks to all the attendees of the AGM and to all others who were unable to make it to the AGM.
ii. Expressed special thanks to Prabir Roy for his contribution in making of NABC 2016.
iii. Appreciated the contribution of the next generation of our community, specifically, the contribution and role played by Zee Bangla. Zee Banglaa is participating in NABC 2017 too.
iv. He expressed the need of more people in the activities of CAB and to add more programs in a year. This is to make CAB known to the whole of USA. CAB has been invited to participate in Glorious India celebration in NY/NJ.

Item # 6: The existence and future vision of CAB

i. Prabir Roy – CAB was created in 1970 and we are still going on, which is something we all should be proud of.
ii. CAB can be considered as the mother of all other Bengali organization. There is a need for planning how to continue in future.
iii. We have lost 27 CAB well-wishers since the NABC 2016 kick-off meeting.
iv. It has always been observed that for any activities, financial commitment is the most important factor of worries.

Item # 7: Planning and some activities of CAB

i. Dilip Chakrabarti – He expressed the necessity to bring more members. To achieve this we all need to talk to the community around us.
ii. Public reaction of NABC 2016 and appreciation for all the volunteers.
iii. Sangbad Bichitra – He invited write-ups about our struggle, existence and presence in this country. Or on health issues.

Motions:

Item # 8: Amendment of By-laws

i. Kajal Sarkar – Our By-laws were last updated in 2011.
ii. Section 4.6 of the by-law – The duration of the Chairman of the BOT is One year. It was proposed to make the duration two years. Accepted and approved unanimously.
iii. Section 5.3 of the by-laws – The Executive Committee President is elected from the members once in his life time. It was proposed that same member can be the President for two terms, but not in consecutive terms. Adopted and approved by majority vote.
iv. Section 7.1 of the by-laws – In 2011 the post of President Elected was created. It was proposed that from 2018 Election cycle, there will be no post for "PRESIDENT ELECT" to be elected. As a result, in 2020 Election cycle onwards , the "PRESIDENT" post needs to be elected. The current President Elect will assume the office of President on Jan 01, 2018. Adopted and approved by majority vote.
v.

Item # 9: Next Meeting

i. The President confirms that next year's AGM will be held in 2018 at a time and place to be decided by the BOT and EC members and announced to members as per the By-laws.

Adjournment

With no further business, the Chairman of BOT declares the 2017 AGM adjourned at 3:30pm.

The meeting was ended with a vote of thanks to the host of the meeting Milan Awon.

Minutes prepare by: AS