Special GBM 2020-21 Minutes of Meeting

Date: June 6, 2021

Venue: Richwoods Academy, 4633 Coit Rd #310 Frisco TX

Start Time: 2:00 PM

End Time: 5:15 PM

Attendance: approximately 75

Agenda: BoA appointment and proposal for new EC structure

Sushil welcomed everyone for this historical Special GBM 2021. The meeting started on time at 2 PM with the required quorum.

Sushil welcomed the BoA nominees, explained the overall timeline, and thanked the committee members for all the work done in 2020-2021.

Sushil then invited Mr. Milind Pandit, our Community Senior, to address the meeting. Milind Pandit gave a short speech in which he talked about the evolution of DFWMM in the last 35 years, fulfilling our community's cultural needs, including the roles, responsibilities, and importance of BoA.

He stated when DFWMM was first established, it was under the IANT umbrella. But now, we are an independent entity. He mentioned, according to Mr. P.B Ghate, as per the current responsibilities given for BoA, they cannot be called as Board of Trustees (BoT). The board should respect the traditions and keep the community together.

- Ajit Jagtap then explained that the first step is to set up BoA, then BoA will take steps to form BoT.
- Mandar Wadekar expressed his support for this idea and mentioned that BoA should work with the DFWMM committee to form the BoT structure.
- Dilip Rane said we should talk with other Mandals who have BoT and get their advice.
- Harish Nehate said we should take help from attorneys while creating the BoT structure.

Manoj Pagnis brought the proposal of a new Executive Committee structure. However, members got up from the seats to get their cup of tea as they realized the tea station was opened. The aforementioned impromptu tea break put a temporary halt to this presentation. Harish requested Manoj to stop the presentation and resume after the tea break, So the committee played the video covering a recap of 2020-2021 Mandal activities.

Sushil resumed the meeting after the tea break. Manoj presented the new EC structure. According to this new structure, the current EC proposed to have 6 VP/Director positions in EC and the President.
Proposed EC Structure 1 – President, VP Programs, VP Operations, VP Media, VP Technology, VP Finance, VP Public Relations
Proposed EC Structure 2 – President, Vice President, Director Operations, Director Media, Director Technology, Director Treasury, Director Programs
Advantages of this new structure:
• Expansion in leadership will help to serve the growing community better

• Activities that need continuous monitoring thru out the year will have a dedicated owner
• Equal leadership opportunity
• Better connect with the community
• More bandwidth to handle the change

Manoj then opened the floor for any questions about this proposal.
Padma Joshi asked, Is the President the ultimately accountable person? When we call Vice-President, does that imply VP will become President?
Manoj said it doesn't. Any person from EC can become the President.
It was agreed by voice voting that EC could have seven members
Sujit asked without altering bylaws and constitution, can we propose this new EC structure?
Manoj answered that to amend the bylaws in the constitution; we need to bring a proposal at GBM, so that's the reason we have this proposal on the agenda today.
Ajit mentioned that According to article 7 in the constitution, there is a provision for having seven members in EC. As per this article, EC can add three more members to EC if needed.
Many of the attendees have not read the constitution, so Dilip suggested having a separate GBM to discuss this proposal regarding new EC positions. Sushil agreed we would have a separate GBM for discussion of the roles in the EC. Manoj commented that a sub-committee should be formed to review and revise the constitution in the coming year.

Saee Kulkarni asked if the BoA proposal was ever sent before this meeting, to which Sushil replied that the link to the document was attached in the Special GBM invitation email.

Then Sushil informed the attendees about the nominations for BOA and explained the general election and voting process.

• 8 applications were received (Ajit Jagtap, Harshad Khadilkar, Mandar Wadekar, Pulkeshi Jape, Saurabh Kshirsagar, Harish Nehate, Atul Chaudhari & Vinayak Agashe

• 5 candidates contested (Ajit Jagtap, Harshad Khadilkar, Mandar Wadekar, Atul Chaudhari & Vinayak Agashe)

• 2 withdrew (Pulkeshi Jape, Saurabh Kshirsagar) due to five-year membership clause

• 1 Withdrew (Harish Nehate) due to sponsorship considered as conflict-of-interest

After this, four candidates (Atul, Ajit, Mandar, and Vinayak) gave their speeches. Harshad had sent the video recording, which the committee played for the meeting. When Vinayak started speech there was a loud applause. Ajit during his speech requested the meeting to refrain from applauding.

In-person paper ballot elections took place with two booths for voting. Total 105 people voted without any issue.

Sushil conducted verification and counting of votes in front of all. Volunteers for vote counting were, Sushil Dravekar, Ritesh Joshi, Amit Buche, Purnima Karhade, Hemant Kulkarni and Milind Pandit. After that, counts verification was done in a separate room, and then results were announced in the main hall.

Winning candidates of the election were: Ajit Jagtap, Atul Chaudhary, Vinayak Agashe.

Next, there was a draw to determine who will serve for three years, two years, and one year. Vinayak Agashe will serve for three years, Ajit Jagtap will serve for two years, and Atul Chaudhary for one year.

Pulkeshi Jape suggested to start the BoA term right away in lieu of upcoming EC elections. Sushil announced that the newly constituted BoA would be in effect immediately with elected members Vinayak Agashe, Ajit Jagtap, Atul Chaudhary, and nominated members Sushil Dravekar (Current President) and Harish Nehate (Past President). On hearing the announcement of Harish's name as BoA, several members, including Pulkeshi Jape, Kanchan Kulkarni, threw a loud outraged reaction. They got up from their seats and aggressively approached Sushil, claiming Harish was ineligible to be part of the BoA as he had a conflict of interest. Sushil answered that the BoA proposal applies to elected members only and does not apply to the nominated members. The wild commotion did not stop until Atul Choudhary and other members intervened and calmed the situation. Atul proposed that a picture of everyone involved be taken to bring everyone together on the DFWMM platform, which was obliged by everyone.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM.