

Gujarati Samaj of Metropolitan Washington

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

February 9, 2014

1. Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. Due to lack of quorum, it was adjourned for thirty minutes. It was reconvened at 1:30 p.m. with total thirty members present, satisfying the quorum requirement of minimum 25 members. The meeting was chaired by the managing trustee, Mala Udeshi. She thanked everyone for attending.
2. A discussion was held over the definition of “prior notice” for the items to be added to agenda. Kamlesh Shah pointed out that the constitution is silent about the definition of the word “prior”. Subhash Zaveri suggested that in any future revisions of the constitution such terms should be clearly defined.
3. Kirit Udeshi proposed, Jignesh Shah seconded and the members present passed a motion to approve the agenda.
4. Kamlesh Shah proposed, Montu Shah seconded and the members present passed a motion to approve the minutes of annual general meeting held in February 2013 with minor corrections.
5. President Arti Shah presented a brief overview of the activities during the year, including publishing a Gujarati Business and Community Directory and thanked her entire committee for their excellent support during the year. She made special remarks about the services provided by Rasikbhai and Kalpanaben Parekh.
6. Arti Shah also made a call for stronger unity among Gujarati families so that younger generation can emulate.
7. Arti Shah mentioned that Samaj’s liability insurance coverage was current. She added that the Samaj’s draft tax returns for the year 2013 were also ready for filing in coming weeks. She gave a list of items that were included in “transfer of assets”.
8. Everyone congratulated Arti Shah and her committee for a successful year.
9. Treasurer, Kamalkant Shah presented compiled financial statements for the year 2013 prepared by our auditors. He also mentioned that this was a significant achievement of the 2013 committee to have the reports compiled before the annual general meeting. A discussion was held about clarifying the sponsorship portion when combined payments are received. Kamalkant Shah read the notes to the financial statements for the benefit of members present. A brief discussion was also held about the seed money reporting in the financial statements.
10. Dilip Patel proposed, Subhash Zaveri seconded and the members present passed a motion to approve the financial statements for the year 2013 as presented.

11. Topic of scholarship to high school students was discussed. As there are no current guidelines, the committee did not solicit applications in 2013.

12. Raj Shivjani, the election committee chair presented a report on nominations for the year 2014. He then presented a report on the draft committee recommendations for the vacant positions.

Nominations for the following positions were approved by the General Body:

President – Prashant Patel

Vice President – Nayna Desai

Secretary – Asita Patel

Members at large: Sonal Doshi, Deepa Zaveri, Mayur Mody

It was also pointed out that the term for the nominees for the drafted positions were only for one year. A position of the President shall also become open after one year, as the current Vice President shall not automatically become the President for the following year.

13. Outgoing President Arti Shah presented a check of \$10,000 as seed money to the incoming President Prashant Patel and congratulated him on his new role.

14. Urmi Shah proposed, Harshid Shah seconded and the general body approved the motion to elect Arti Shah as new trustee of the Gujarati Samaj. Everyone congratulated Arti Shah on her new role.

15. Kamlesh Shah proposed, Urmi Shah seconded and the members present passed a motion to elect the following member to the election committee: Raj Shivjani – Chair, Vijay Bhalala and Montu Shah – members and Yogesh Shah – alternate.

16. Kirit Udeshi proposed, Dinesh Mehta seconded and the members present passed a motion to appoint Desai and Shah, CPA as auditors of the Samaj for the year 2014.

17. Vijay Bhalala proposed, Arti Shah seconded and the members present passed a motion to appoint Hemangini Shah as comptroller of the Samaj for the year 2014.

The meeting was adjourned.