

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Sunday 21 August 2022
IAASA Community Centre, 6 Blamey Ave, Broadview, SA-5083.
Chair: Mr Trimann Gill, President

1. Welcome by the Secretary – Ms Priya Premkumar

Ms Priya Premkumar opened the meeting, welcomed everyone, and acknowledged the Country. The meeting started 30 minutes late as the required quorum was not present at the scheduled time, 4.00pm. as per the Constitution.

2. Apologies and declaration of Quorum

The proceedings of the AGM were stated at 4.30pm, 38 members were present at the time. Those who were present were declared as the quorum available for the meeting.

Apologies have been received from Dr Vittala Shettigara, Mr Sam Dahm, Mrs Jenny Lee, Dr Raj Sharma, and Mrs Vini Sharma.

3. Adoption of Minutes of the AGM held in August 2021 – by the secretary.

Ms Premkumar advised the Minutes of the 2021 AGM held on 22 August 2021 at the same venue had been circulated by email on 8th August 2022 and copies were available.

As no queries were raised, motion to approve Minutes was put to the Members.

Acceptance of the Minutes of the 2021 AGM was proposed by Mr Surendra Agrawal and seconded by Retd Major General Vikram Madan.

Minutes of the 2021 AGM were accepted. Motion was passed unanimously.

4. President's Report – Mr Trimann Gill

Mr Gill welcomed all the members present and presented the report for the year 2021-22.

Mr Gill thanked the members for their continued support of IAASA and attending IAASA events. He mentioned how difficult it has been for the community members during the COVID pandemic and hopes across the globe, family and friends are safe and well.

Mr Gill also thanked his predecessor Mr Amarjit Grewal for maintaining the organisation in great shape. Mr Gill mentioned various activities over the last 12 months including meetings with Honourable MP Jing Lee (then assistant Minister to the Premier), Gandhi Jayanti, Diwali, Republic day, Seminars (e.g domestic violence, visa migration), Gala dinner, meeting with the incoming multicultural minister Zoe Bettison and 75th Independence Day celebrations at the SA Parliament House on 11th of August and then at the Scott Theatre in Adelaide University on 14th of August (which was attended by several parliamentary ministers and MPs). As a result of the COVID pandemic, Mela 2022 was rescheduled from February to March which was attended by the incoming Premier Peter Malinauskas. Mr Gill thanked the organising committee led by Mr Amarjit Grewal for running the event effectively within COVID restrictions.

Mr Gill concluded his report by thanking everyone in the committee for their efforts and hard work throughout the 2021-22 year.

5. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of the Financial Report for the year ending 30 June 2022 – Mr Shammi Batra

Mr Batra presented the 2021-22 Financial Reports of IAASA. Copies of the reports were distributed and was available to the members prior to the Meeting.

Mr Batra presented the Major items in the Financial Reports and Balance Sheet items. This included the breakdowns of the Income and Expenses related to the grants received, Gala Dinner and Mela 2022 events.

Subsequent to the presentation of the report, welcomed queries from the members.

Dr. Surinder Agrawal, queried, if the grant amount in the report includes all the grants received including Mela?

Mr Batra and Mr Amarjit Grewal clarified that the grant received towards Mela is shown separately in the report.

Mr. Daniel Connell, queried, the details as to how the grants received towards COVID Pandemic relief was spent?

Mr Batra, Mr Gill and Mr Amarjit Grewal clarified that all the events and programs under COVID relief were published on IAASA FB and acquittal was submitted to SA Govt.

Mr Daniel also queried about What is Indian Education Trust?

Dr Jagdish Saraf clarified the query by explaining the formation of India Education Trust and IAASA.

Couple of members queried about the current membership status of IAASA.

Mr. Batra clarified that new members are joining the organisation as an ongoing process; however, annual memberships are not renewed as expected.

Dr. Surendra Agarwal congratulated the committee for securing a good amount towards sponsorship.

Query on income/expense from Gala Dinner in the report: it was clarified that the same has been amalgamated with functions and sponsorship in the report.

Dr Rakesh Mohindra suggested that necessary changes in the financial statement may be made to show the Gala Dinner income / expense separately and the financial report may be amended appropriately.

As no further queries were raised, motion to approve the financial report was put to the Members.

Motion to accept the 2021/2022 Financial Reports of IAASA was proposed by Mr Laxmipathy, Seconded by Mr David Dahm. Motion was passed unanimously.

6. Any other business

Nil

7. Open Forum: Points and suggestions from Members

- Mr Daniel Connell wanted to seek clarification from the President's report with respect to how IAASA is representing itself as a peak body in dealing with community issues such as dealing with wage theft and connecting with new migrants etc. Mr. Daniel also has mentioned that he did not receive any response from IAASA committee for couple of emails regarding similar community issues.
 - Reply was given by Mr Trimann Gill, Mr. Amarjit Grewal, Ms Priya Premkumar, Dr Jagadish Saraf, Mr Narayanan Rai, Mrs Sushila Palani and Mr Neeraj Pandya.
 - Responses provided to Daniel were in general clarifying that IAASA always willing to help the Indian community in the best of their ability by considering the scope and objectives of the organisation. Committee members consult and seek advice from senior members as and when required on need basis, discuss with Local Govt authorities as well as with Indian High commission as required in dealing with such community issues. Further clarified with few situations dealt with during the period of COVID pandemic.
 - Dr Jagadish Saraf, clarified the limitations IAASA has as a community organisation in dealing with certain social and community issues.
 - Ms. Premkumar clarified that email responses were provided to Mr. Daniel's emails and the committee tried to arrange a meeting with Daniel as well on a mutually convenient date and time; somehow it couldn't happen.
 - Ms Sushila Palani and Mr. Niraj Pandya commented that IAASA committee is willing to work together with Daniel in dealing with community issues that he may like to deal with, in future.
- Ms. Sushila Palani suggested that IAASA could apply for a grant from Port Adelaide Council for running community programs such as for improving cultural awareness for new immigrants, conducting any survey in the community etc.
- Mr Amarjit Grewal proposed a long-term solution may be developed for upgrading the IAASA Hall and its facilities considering the growth of Indian community in Adelaide and the surrounding suburbs. Mr Trimann Gill suggested that a sub-committee could be formed following the AGM to look into this matter.
- Retd. Major Gen. Vikram Madan raised an issue regarding absence of an IAASA committee member during the High Commissioner's (Mr. Manpreet Vohra) visit to Adelaide recently. Ms Premkumar replied that IAASA committee had no information about the High Commissioner's visit. However, upon receiving information from other reliable source, High

Commissioner's office was contacted, and a meeting as arranged with the High Commissioner at Intercontinental hotel before he returned to Canberra. Hon High Commissioner assured IAASA representatives that his next visit will involve IAASA. Mr Gill further commented that apparently a communication gap resulted in IAASA not being invited to the High Commissioner's visit that was arranged by HOTA.

- Dr Devendra K Kulshrestha proposed a Super Seniors group may be formed and pledged his support for this initiative.
- Mr Narayanan Rai appreciated and thanked the current committee for their great work.

8. Election of New Executive Committee for 2022-23 (Returning Officer, Retd Maj General Vikram Madan to preside)

Retd Maj General Vikram Madan in an email sent on the 14th of August 2022, explained that an election was not necessary as single nominations per position (and a withdrawal) were only received by the due date.

Retd Maj General Vikram Madan thereby announced the incoming Executive Committee for 2022-23 (all uncontested):

President: Mr Trimann Gill

Vice-President: Mr Neeraj Pandya

Secretary: Ms Priya Premkumar

Treasurer: Mr Shammi Batra

Committee Members: Ms Jumana Hardwarewala, Mr Navdeep Sharma, Mr Saurin Madhusudan Patel, Ms Navneet Gill, Mr Surinderpal Singh Kalra, Ms Geetha Sureshkumar and Mr Chandan Kumar Avula.

Retd Maj General Vikram Madan welcomed the new committee and invited Mr Trimann Gill to address the members.

9. Nomination of Honorary Auditor, Solicitor and Returning Officer

The current President Trimann Gill, suggested the following names for various positions and called for proposal and Seconders:

Honorary Auditor – Mr Ramiah Palani (Proposed by Amarjit Grewal, Seconded by Dr Jagadish Saraf)

Honorary Solicitor – Mr Sigan Devassy Enchakal (Proposed by Mr Amarjit Grewal, Seconded by Mr Narayanan Rai)

Returning Officer – Retd Maj General Vikram Madan (Proposed by Amarjit Grewal, Seconded by Mr Sudhir Thakur)

10. Vote of thanks by the Secretary

Ms Premkumar thanked the current President Mr Trimann Gill for all the support in managing and running IAASA efficiently and all the committee members for their input, commitment and hard work in organising various events.

Moreover, Ms Premkumar thanked the retiring committee members, Ms Vineeta Dogra for organising Seniors events efficiently. She also thanked Mr Rajat Shah for his enthusiastic involvement and support in the meetings and IAASA events.

Special thanks were extended to:

- Honorary Auditor Mr Ramiah Palani
- Honorary Solicitor Mr Sigan Devassy Enchakal
- Returning Officer Retd Maj General Vikram Madan
- Advisors Dr Jagadish Saraf and Retd Maj General Vikram Madan

Ms Premkumar also thanked all the valued sponsors for their generous support as well as the Government officials, Indian consulate officials, volunteers, regional and cultural organisations and IAASA well-wishers. Moreover, Ms Premkumar also thanked all the members and those who have helped her in conducting the committee meetings successfully.

11. Conclusion of AGM.

The AGM was closed at 5.46pm.