

# **2015 GBM Minutes**

## **GENERAL BODY MEETING OF OSA**

**Place:** Gaylord Resort, Washington, D.C.

**Date:** July 4th, 2015

**Time:** 10.30 AM-12.50PM

### **Present on the Podium**

Dr Niranjan Tripathy (Parliamentarian)

Niraj Rath (Legal Counsel)

Tapan Padhi (President)

Sikhanda Satpathy (Vice-President)

Sabita Panigrahi (Secretary)

Prashanta Ranabijuli (Treasurer)

**Sergeant at arms** – Pramod Mahapatra and Sunil Sabat

**Attendance:** Quorum was established and altogether 139 members signed the sheet. There was some inflow and outflow of members in the interim period.

### **Agenda**

1. President's Report (Overall activities and achievements)
2. Vice President's Report (Awards)
3. Secretary's Report (2014 GBM Minutes approvals)
4. Treasurer's Report (Finance)
5. Constitution amendment
6. 2015-2017 OSA Executive
7. 2016 OSA Convention
8. Presentation by Odisha Development Committee
9. Q&A
10. Closing remarks

#### **1. President's Report**

President Tapan Padhi shared the activities and the achievements of OSA with the members. The highlights are:

- **Social**

- Fully Functional OSA Help Line – HAI-888-4OSA
- Charitable Activities
  - Library Project - Phailin donation
  - Annual Emergency Fund Raising Initiative
  - Immediate assistance for funeral etc. - \$20K donation
- Higher Education
  - Annual HE Day in Bhubaneswar
  - Steering Committee
  - Entrepreneurship Collaboration, Proceedings publication
- **Youth**
  - Dedicated Inauguration
  - Dedicated Journal
  - Youth Related Competitions
- **Senior Citizen**
  - Initiative of Senior Citizen Forum
  - Distinct committee to conduct senior citizen affairs
  - Dedicated meeting time and facility in convention venue
  - Recognition on OSA platform
  - Special Publication in Utkarsa
- **Cultural**
  - Literature, Utkarsa and Urmi
    - Emphasis on 2nd Generation, Widely reviewed and feedback incorporated, Theme based publications in every quarter
    - Lifetime Recognition of Odia Literature icon – Bibhuti Pattanaik
  - Champu, Chhanda, Odissi
    - Mrs. Lata Mishra initiatives - 100's of young kids are getting trained
    - Odissi Music Icons on OSA platform - Shyamamani Devi, Ramahari Das
    - Best of the Best – Tala Badya presentation
    - Incredible Odisha
    - Three Odissi Stalwarts performing on OSA platform
  - Odissi Steering Committee - Annapurna Biswal, Purna Patnaik, Pratap Das, Niranjana Tripathy, Ipsita Satpathy and Nivedita Mohanty
- **Organizational**
  - Membership
    - 1200 Mark crossed
    - Upgrade from annual and 5yr membership to life membership

- New Chapter
  - Rocky Mountain Chapter - Sadhu Behera
  - Florida & Atlanta - Continued effort to create new chapters
- Collaboration with Govt. of Odisha
  - State department visit
  - Smithsonian, EPA etc.

## **2. Vice President's Report**

Vice President Dr. Sikhanda Satpathy recognized the 2013-1015 OSA award committee for its diligent work. The committee members were Saswat Mohapatra (Chair), Sridhar Rana (member), Dr. Purna Patnaik (Advisor); Dr Sikhanda Satpathy served as the Ex-officio member.

He announced recipients of various awards.

### **OSA National Awards:**

Distinguished Odia Award: Amiya Mohanty

Arun Das Memorial Kalashree Award: Gayatri Joshi

Utkalamani Gopabandhu Das Memorial Award: Dr. Debi Mishra

Subrina Biswal Award for Academic Excellence: Amrita Mohanty

Youth Volunteer Award: No nomination

Yuva Kala Vikasha Award: No nomination

OSA Lifetime Achievement Award: Smt. Shyamamani Patnaik

### **OSA Service and Leadership Recognitions:**

OSA Stalwart Award

(sustained support of OSA mission, OSA conventions, and Odias in NA)

- Dr. Sri Gopal Mohanty
- Dr. Digambar Mishra
- Dr. Jnan Dash
- Dr. Jogesh Rath

OSA Leadership Award

(exceptional leadership role in support of OSA mission and Odia diaspora)

- Sumitra Padhi
- Jayashree Mohanty
- Pratap Das
- Dr. Sitakantha Dash

OSA Service Award

(exceptional service to fulfill OSA mission)

- Babru Samal
- Annapurna Biswal
- Hemant Biswal

He also updated members on Award sponsorships

- Agreement signed with Nilambar and Annapurna Biswal, who will fund \$1200 annually towards Subrina Biswal Award for Performing Arts
- Agreement signed with Dr. S.K.Dash, whose foundation will fund \$1000 towards Subrina Biswal Award for Academic Excellence
- Dr. S.K. Dash has announced creation of \$100k OSA Fund from which \$10k will be available annually for OSA use.

He recommended that OSA awards be raised to \$1000 minimum and that agreements should be signed with corresponding sponsors. He also showed his concern about the lack of nomination for some of the awards over the years. He requested members for their cooperation on this matter and nominate.

He updated members on OSA Guest Selection Committee 2015

- Sikhanda Satapathy, Chair
- Pratap Das, Convener
- Satya Patnaik
- Gyana Patnaik
- Gopal Mohapatra

He expressed that OSA was honored to have the following guests were selected by the committee and invited to the OSA convention and Global Odisha Conference.

Global Odisha Conference

- Chief Guest: Shri Chandrabhanu Satpathy
- Keynote Speaker: Dr. Bhakta Rath
- Chief Speaker: Shri Dharmendra Pradhan

OSA 2015 Convention

- Chief Guest: Shri Debi Mishra
- Keynote Speaker: Hon'ble Nisha Desai Biswal

Guests of Honor

- Congressman Jim McDermott
- Shri Ashok Panda
- Smt. Shyamamani Patnaik
- Shri Rangunath Mohapatra

### **3. Secretary Report**

Secretary Sabita Panigrahi informed that the BOG meeting minutes have been regularly published in OSA Website, OSA newsletters and in OSA net.

Last year's GBM minutes (2014) were presented. The motion was forwarded by Uma Ballav Mishra and seconded by Gopa Patnaik for the approval of last year's GBM minutes. It was approved unanimously.

#### **4. Treasure's Report**

Treasurer Prashanta Ranabijuli reported the 2014 Convention account and 2014-2015 OSA Account Summary report. The report was distributed in OSAnet for the members to review.

He reported that OSA's finance increased year over year.

Total Balance as of 05/31/2015 \$239,474.35

Total Balance as of 06/01/2014 \$220,923.52

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**Net Increase \$18,550.83**

OSA's balance increased by more than \$32K after the transition

Total Balance as of 05/31/2015 \$239,474.35

Total Balance as of 09/01/2013 \$206,726.58

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**Net Increase \$32,747.77**

He shared the 2014 convention report.

Total Convention Income: \$194,431.19 \*

Total Convention Expenses: \$181,049.91 \*\*

Net Income: \$13,381.28

Adjusted Income: \$10,861.28 \*\*\*

\* Includes OSA Fee of \$4,140, membership fee of \$3,100 and loan of \$10K from OSA

\*\* Includes return of the above fees to OSA

\*\*\* Adjustment of the lost membership fee of \$2,520 (63 non-members) from the profit, as approved in the BOG meeting.

Prashanta also shared the achievements in the past 2 years.

- OSA's Long-term investment is performing well  
Gain of about \$6K in 7 months. Expected to generate upwards of \$75K in 10 years.
- Establishment of ERF(Emergency Relief Fund) and Annual Fundraising drive

About \$16K in this fund currently for future humanitarian needs. Prior to ERF we had raised and disbursed about \$100K in several fundraising drives.

- Improved income sources – Effort to increase the source of income
  - OSA Fee increase from \$15 to \$25
  - Long-term investment
  - AmazonSmile program participation
- PAN Card for OSA has been obtained
  - PAN card is now a necessity for receiving funds in India
- OSA's India Bank Account is opened
  - Potential for getting additional sponsorship money for OSA
- Quarterly Account Statements are promptly shared on OSANet
- Receipts are issued for donation and membership fee collection

Durga Mishra proposed to accept the treasurer's report and Surya Mishra seconded.

Sushant Satpathy had a suggestion that each specific fund should be used for specific fund.

Uma Mishra asked questions about distributing souvenirs to all the members.

Sikhanda Satpathy explained the reason pointing to the constitution.

JayGopal Mohanty asked to know more about OSA fee. Sikhanda Satpathy explained OSA fee and its usage.

Debaki Choudhury suggested about complied donation receipt.

Tapan Padhi explained the donation money disbursement as question was asked by Pramod Mohanty.

The finance report was approved unanimously.

## **5. Constitution amendments**

Vice President Sikhanda Satpathy presented two amendments. He mentioned that the motions were sent on 4<sup>th</sup> of June, 2015, prior to GBM. After receiving feedback, they were updated and were being presented at the GBM.

### **Motion 1: Bylaw II Section 3**

Rationale for Motion 1:

The convention ends the first week of July.

The OSA Secretary and Treasurer are expected to prepare and submit the list of voting members to the election committee by December 31 of the same year.

However, as per bylaw II, section-3, the host chapter President should submit the Treasurer and the Convention Audit Committee within six(6) months after conclusion of the Annual Convention which is falling after December 31 i.e. January first week of the following year.

The discrepancy between these two submission dates needs to be amended.

**Current** Bylaw II, Section-3:

"...It is the responsibility of the Host Chapter President to summarize any collections and expenses relating to the Annual Convention, and prepare a written list of any new members to have joined OSA during registration for the Annual Convention, and submit the same to the Treasurer and the Convention Audit Committee within six (6) months after conclusion of the Annual Convention."

**Current** Bylaw IV, Section-4:

"...It is the joint responsibility of the Secretary and Treasurer to prepare a list of Voting Members, as described in these Bylaws and the Statement of Rights, by December 31st of the year preceding an election year for submission to the Chairperson of the Election Committee."

**Proposed modification:**

**(Replace 6 months with November 30 in By-law II, Section 3)**

**Resolved that** it is the responsibility of the host chapter president and convenor to summarize any collections and expenses relating to the Annual Convention, and prepare a written list of any new members to have joined OSA during registration for the Annual Convention, and submit the same to the Treasurer and the Convention Audit Committee ~~within six (6) months after conclusion of the Annual Convention.~~ **by November 30 of that year**

Sikhanda Satpathy brought the motion which was seconded by Uma Ballav Mishra. After discussion, it was passed with simple majority.

**Motion 2 - Bylaw VIII**

**Rationale for Motion 2**

A proposal to BOG members through email is assumed to have received a "yes" vote if no response is received within 2 weeks of submission of the proposal.

Many BOG members, especially new members, may not be aware of this clause, and reminders citing this clause would ensure an active decision to vote "yes" by not responding.

### **Current Bylaw VIII Voting rules**

Approval from the Governing Board shall be sought via electronic mail. In the event a member of the Governing Board does not respond within two (2) weeks after a request for approval has been circulated to the Governing Board, it shall be assumed that the Governing Board member has approved the request.

### **Proposed modification to Bylaw VIII Voting rules:**

*Resolved* that

Approval from the Governing Board shall be sought via electronic mail. In the event a member of the Governing Board does not respond within two (2) weeks after a request for approval has been circulated to the Governing Board, **and at least two reminders (including, but not limited to, those sent 7 and 10 days after the initial request) to vote citing this clause are sent to the member**, it shall be assumed that the Governing Board member has approved the request.

Sikhanda brought the motion and it was seconded by Gagan Panigrahi. It was approved with simple majority.

### **6. 2015 Election Result - 2015-2017 OSA Executives**

Tapan Padhi welcomed and congratulated the new elected OSA executives.

- Sushant Satpathy – President
- Sulochana Pattnaik – Vice President
- Sharadakanta Panda – Secretary
- Siddharth Behera – Treasurer

### **7. 2016 Convention**

Tapan Padhi updated that Odisha Society of New England (OSNE) had shown interest and had submitted their intention for hosting 2016 OSA convention. He also mentioned that no other chapter had submitted request by the deadline. He thanked New England chapter and congratulated chapter president Arun Mohanty

to come forward to host the 2016 OSA convention. OSNE Chapter president Arun Mohanty invited everyone and requested to encourage their local members to attend 2016 convention.

**8. Presentation by Odisha Development Committee**

This item was removed as Odisha development committee was not present.

**9. Q&A**

Nihar Nanda asked about OSA souvenir keeping only pdf copy in website. Bijay Satpathy suggested that we should keep a table in every convention to seek membership. Gyana Patnaik thanked the outgoing executives.

**10. Closing Remarks**

Tapan Padhi thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Pramod Mohapatra brought the motion and seconded by Sikhanda Satpathy and meeting was adjourned.