

General Body Meeting Minutes, VPA 2015

Secretary Sreenivas Nagaraj opened the meeting with quorum at 2:00 PM, July 4th, 2015.

VPA National President Mr. Ravi Shankar welcomed the members and touched upon the following items as part of the president's report.

- About company matching programs and also volunteering pay with company matching
- Accounting timelines from term to term
- Lifetime memberships handoffs and accountability
- Transparency about the membership list and saving it in secured data base and publishing it

- **Finance**
 - Paypal or e-payment arrangement for memberships and records
 - Standardize the payment for both annual and life members

- **Convention accounts**
 - Separate convention account
 - Closing within 60 days is a challenge
 - Org needs to take more responsibility on closing the convention
 - Need to come up with high level guidelines for convention finance accounting
 - Requested GBM to recommend for using the money for operational expenses including CPA, securing data etc.
 - Requested support for auditing convention accounting within VPA members

- **Facebook / Social Media**
 - Facebook is not official VPA communication medium
 - We can use it to express day to day activities of VPA
 - Need to come up with a policy for how to handle/ manage,
 - Should we consider for official purposes

- **BoT Meetings**
 - Going back into looking for accounting details of more than 10 years
 - None of the BoT meetings went well
 - No records any legacy documents
 - Don't know when to file our taxes etc.
 - Need to sort out the two IL filings for VPA
 - KulleGowda and Daga helped out in sorting this
 - Need CPA and money for operation expenses

- Treasurer's report

VPA treasurer Mr. Vijay Lakshman presented the financial status. Key takeaways from Treasurers report

Note: Insert Vijay's slides here for summary

- CPA changed to new company
- Update the financial report and publish

Financial report was accepted and floor was opened for general discussions

General Discussions

- Points from Ravi's report will be documented and discussed in the upcoming BoT meetings
 - Amendment to constitution needs to be circulated at least 180 days prior to the meeting
 - Recommended to change from 180 to 90 days
 - Floor proposal to make changes, why wait for 2 years, but did not come to conclusion
 - Use web site for posting the meeting minutes including BOT minutes for the benefit of all members of VPA
 - Check with lawyer and also make is secure on the website and publish.
 - There needs to be process/way to check life memberships, exe committee needs to come up with a plan to check and publish.
 - Do we have right to remove an elected officer, if not working
 - Do we need financial CPA or not?
 - We have for filing taxes, but not for day to day activities for maintaining receipts etc..
 - Suggested for Audit volunteer committee
 - Everyone agreed, it was well received and suggested to have members from other chapters.
 - We should not audit each other – independent committee, need to have the knowhow, should go from outgoing to incoming
 - Internal audit and not external audit.
 - Self-nomination process needs to be looked into and amended.

Elections

Election committee presented the list of candidates for EC and BoT. Candidates those who were present in GBM were unopposed and were elected. General body accepted the nominees. The list of officer bearers is as follows:

VPA National Executive Committee:

President and Trustee-Dr. Balu Chandra, Colleyville, TX

Vice President and Trustee – Dr. Vasu Bommanna, Houston, TX

Secretary and Trustee-Mrs. Roopa Gowda, Flower Mound, TX

Treasurer and Trustee-Dr. Prasanna Gowda, Frisco, TX

Joint Secretary and Joint Treasurer Positions are open and to be appointed by the President-Elect

Board of Trustees:

Mr. Deepak Budaguppe, Mr. Babu Keelara & Mr. Nanda Kumar all from VPA-East were nominated for BoT positions but since they were not present in the GBM, their nominations were not confirmed.

Mr. Ramesh Gowda & Mr. Dhananjaya Kengaiyah from VPA-West were nominated for BoT positions but since they were not present in the GBM, their nominations were not confirmed.

It was decided the election committee will work with outgoing and incoming (2016 -2017) chapter presidents and send the list of names for open positions to the VPA EC 2016 -2017.

VPA-Midwest

Mr. Samanth Laxman, Naperville, IL

Dr. Indu Vence, Inverness, IL

VPA-East

Positions could not be filled as the nominees were not present in the GBM

VPA- South

Mr. Lokesh Gowda-Flowermound, TX

VPA-West

Mr. Ravishankar Byrappagowda (Trustee-Past President)

Two more positions could not be filled as the nominees were not present in the GBM

Youth

There were no nominations for this.

Motion was passed to adjourn the meeting