

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
October 10th, 2015 (Saturday)
2:00 – 5:00 PM

Location of Meeting:

ABAC Office
The Sammons Center for the Arts
3630 Harry Hines
Dallas, Texas 75219

Meeting Attendees: General Members

Mr. Rashedul Hussain (President) called the annual general meeting of ABAC on October 10th, 2015 at the ABAC office. The following includes the discussed and approved agenda of the meeting.

I. Approval of the meeting agenda

The agenda of the meeting was distributed and unanimously approved.

II. Review of previous meeting minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.

III. Consideration of Open Issues

a. Activity Report – Ripsita Adhya, General Secretary

ABAC had two programs in Fiscal year 2014 – 2015

1. On *February 22* ABAC celebrated *International Mother Language Day* at the Majestic Theater, 1925 Elm St., Dallas, TX 75201.

ABAC's full day program included a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic presentation to celebrate cultures from around the world in an effort to foster cultural exchange programs, discussions with distinguished guests including scholars in the areas of languages and cultures, scientists, politicians, and others to discuss and highlight the importance of these issues; and, finally, a recognition of local area students for an essay competition focused on cultural heritages, the benefits of multiculturalism and global citizenship.

2. ABAC also organized a cultural workshop from the 13th to the 28th of May, 2015. Renowned Rabindra Sangeet artist from Bangladesh Mr. Sadi Mohammad conducted the workshop. Those who participated in the workshop, were given an opportunity to perform at the most famous and prestigious Majestic Theater in Dallas, on the evening of May 30, 2015 at the celebration of Tagore's 155th birthday.

There was also an elegant dance performance by Anwesha Putatunda. Finally, the well-known recitation artist and famous news reader Mr.

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Iqbal Bahar Chowdhury gracefully concluded the program with an ecstatic recitation.

b. General Discussion and Q&A – All members

Discussion – Audience Attendance

Members discussed their views and ideas of how to improve the attendance and participation of ABAC programs.

Resolution: A committee has been formed with the following three members to formulate an effective marketing strategy that would enhance audience attendance.

- Arka Adhya
- Subhro Mitra
- Sheikh Mohsin Uddin

Discussion – Upcoming Programs

In addition to our regular productions, members suggested presentations of imminent artists that would help promote ABAC's reputation and embellish the programs.

Resolution: In addition to two scheduled programs (International Mother Language Day and Rabindra-Nazrul Jayanti), ABAC will present a performance of a reputed artist and will organize a Bengali festival sometime in fall.

Discussion – Presentation of Bengali Movies

To have an exposition of Bengali movies as a fundraising endeavor.

Resolution

Gulshana Andalib Hossain (Juthy) will explore the possibilities.

Discussion – Fundraising Dinner

To have a gala dinner event as a fundraising endeavor.

Resolution

Mehbuba Zubair (Shaheen) will explore the possibilities.

IV. Nomination and Election of the Board of Directors FY 2015 – 2016

The Advisory Council submitted a list of 11 names to be considered as candidates for the Board of Directors for FY 2015 – 2016

Sheikh Mohsin Uddin read the list of possible Board of Directors candidates on behalf of the advisory council. The candidates are as follows:



Academy of Bangla Arts and Culture (ABAC)

1. Hasin Akhtar
2. Rashedul Hussain
3. Sayeda Mohsin Uddin (Tamanna)
4. Selima Tasneem (Chhonda)
5. Subho Malakar
6. Mita Rahman
7. Afroza Hussain
8. S. Chowdhury (Shantoo)
9. Arka Adhya
10. Gulshana Andalib Hossain (Juthy)
11. Iqbal Mahmud

All persons listed above accepted their candidacy except for Mr. Iqbal Mahmud and Mr. Shuvo Malakar, both of whom declined.

ABAC members present during the general meeting elected their new nine-member Board of Directors, they include the following:

1. Hasin Akhtar
2. Rashedul Hussain
3. Sayeda Mohsin Uddin (Tamanna)
4. Selima Tasneem (Chhonda)
5. Mita Rahman
6. Afroza Hussain
7. S. Chowdhury (Shantoo)
8. Arka Adhya
9. Gulshana Andalib Hossain (Juthy)

The newly elected Board of Directors selected the following individuals as the Executive Committee members.

- President - Rashedul Hussain
- Vice President - S. Chowdhury (Shantoo)
- Treasurer – Sayeda Mohsin Uddin (Tamanna)
- General Secretary – Arka Adhya

V. Additional Resolutions

- a. Mehbuba Zubair (Shaheen) proposed the name of Dr. Shubhra Mitra (PhD) to be an additional member of the advisory council who is a professor of Management at the University of North Texas. All members in attendance unanimously approved this resolution.
- b. A proposal for a yearly membership fee of \$50/person was unanimously accepted. Only paid members will have voting rights in the decision-making process/meetings and all other ABAC membership privileges. All members are requested to provide their membership dues before the end of calendar year 2015.

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- c. ABAC's bank account at Branch Banking & Trust Company (BB&T bank) will be operated by ABAC's Treasurer Sayeda Mohsin Uddin (Tamanna) and President Rashedul Hussain. This resolution was unanimously approved by all ABAC general members in attendance.