

The meeting of the General Body of the Maharashtra Foundation was held on Sunday, June 17th, 2007 at the residence of Shaila & Ashok Vidwans, 8 Stonehedge Drive, East Windsor NJ08520-2825 at 2 pm.

Following general body members were present:

Sunita Dhumale, President
Arundhati Vinod, Vice-President and Secretary
Satyajit Vaidya, Vice-President
Shaila Vidwans, Treasurer
Shakun Panse
Gauri Narsale
Arun Adya
Arvind Khandekar

General Body Members:

Surekha Adya
Meena Deodhar
Ashok Deodhar
Rajan Gadkari
Rajesh Gilda
Mrs. Govande & Guest
Vijay & Jayashree Joshi
Sharayu Tulpule
Sharmilee Vaidya
Sarita Vaishampayan
Ashok Vidwans
Hrishikesh Vinod

Sunanda Mane, Member of the Executive Committee had communicated her inability to attend as she was in India.

Meeting was called to order at 2.15 pm by Arundhati Vinod, Secretary, MF. She presented the proof of the notice of the General Body meeting dated April 30th 2007 which sent to the general body members in advance.

The following business was transacted:

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the earlier General Body meeting.

The minutes of the General Body meeting held on June 25th 2006 were read by Satyajit Vaidya and they were confirmed.

2. Annual Review – 2006

Sunita Dhumale, President, MF presented the annual report for the year 2006, including the update on the Khedker Project. This year the annual report was printed and sent to all the General Body members.

The President introduced the new members nominated on the Executive Committee in the positions which had fallen vacant during the year: Mrs. Shakun Panse and Mr. Arun Adya. She mentioned that the EC is seeking ratification of their appointments to the EC.

The President also presented the un-audited statement of income and expenditure of the MF for the year 2006. This statement was also circulated to the members along with the annual report. The President mentioned that Arvind Khandekar and Shaila Vidwans (the past and the present treasurer respectively) will present the financial report later on. However, such report was not presented.

The President concluded her remarks by sharing information with the General Body about MF's participation in the forthcoming BMM Convention, the launch of MF's website, and the Annual Fund Raising event to be held at New Jersey on December 1, 2007.

Following comments were made on President's report:

The EC should ensure that the General Body is informed, well in advance, about the openings on the Executive Committee. Though it was argued that it was implicit that the two new members are being appointed on the EC and therefore whoever was interested could have sent in their nominations, it was not explicit enough. Every care should be taken to protect the right of the General Body members to participate in the elections for the office bearers of the MF.

The President and the EC members assured that in future they will take due care in inviting nominations and filling the open positions.

Expenses – It was expressed that due care should be taken while spending money on annual events. It should be carefully studied whether it is necessary to invite more than one main speaker for the event. Such remarks are provoked because the audited statements of accounts are not made available to the General Body well in advance. It was expressed that the EC should give priority to this and bring before the General Body correct pictures of the financial position of the foundation to avoid such discussion.

Disbursements – It was asked why the disbursements from the Endowment Fund were not made for the past three years. The President tried to explain that the information is incorrect. However, her voice was not heard.

3. Ratification of Shakun Panse and Arun Adya

The General Body unanimously approved the ratification of appointment of Shakun Panse and Arun Adya on the Executive Committee from the date of their appointment for a full term of three years. Sharayu Tulpule proposed and Vijay Joshi seconded the proposal.

In the light of the earlier discussion and concern regarding failure to announce to the General Body about the vacancies on the EC, it was decided that the minutes of this general body will be posted on the MF website.

It was once again confirmed that due care will be taken to notify the General Body members, well in advance, about the vacancies for the positions on MF committees and the process for sending their nominations.

4. Progress on the items from the last General Body meeting

Desirability of Board of Trustees

This item was dropped as the two members of the General Body who had proposed this idea and who were entrusted with the responsibility to study the pros and cons of this proposal did not get back with any report. If necessary this item can be taken up again if desired by the General Body.

Constitution Revision

This item was postponed to the next General Body meeting as the preparatory work on this item is not yet complete.

5. Other Comments

Rajan Gadkari - care should be taken to examine the expenditure pattern and curb them wherever possible, produce the audited financial report in timely manner, encourage general fund donations, take care to follow the constitutional requirements.

A. Vidwans - current and ex-EC members should provide timely constructive comments rather than waiting for the GB meeting, follow appropriate processes to avoid misunderstandings, provide comparative picture of expense ratios etc.

Surekha Adya suggested establishing a transition period for the outgoing EC members to remain active in a non-voting manner for a limited period of time.

The meeting was adjourned at 4 pm with thanks to the Chair and the host.

Sd/-
Sunita Dhumale
President

Sd/-
Arundhati Vinod
Secretary