



Telugu Association of North Texas (TANTEX) A

Nonprofit Organization, Established in 1986

www.tantex.org E-mail: info@tantex.org

P.O.BOX 167781, Irving, TX 75016

President

Vijaymohan Kakarla
president@tantex.org

President-Elect

Dr. Narsimha Reddy Urimindi

Vice-President

Subramanyam Jonnalagadda

Secretary

Krishna Reddy Uppalapati

Joint-Secretary

Mahesh Aditya Adibhatla

Treasurer

Chinasatyam Veernapu

Joint-Treasurer

Krishnaveni Seelam

Immediate Past President

Suresh Manduva

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Chandrasekhar Kaja
Jyothi Vanam
Neeraja Padigela
Raghu Chittimalla
Raghu Gajjala
Sharada Singireddy
Shashikanth Kanaparathi
Sri Lakshmi Mandiga
Subhashini Pentakota
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Venkat Danda
Venu Pavuluri

Board of Trustees

Ajay Reddy (Co-Chair)
Dr. C.R. Rao
Murthy Mulukutla (Chair)
Sugan Chagarlamudi
Srinivas Reddy Gurrām

TANTEX- Annual Meeting of the General Body called for by the Governing Board -2014

Date: Sunday, October 19, 2014
Time: 3:00 PM, (Registration started @2:00 PM)
Venue: St Mary's Malankara Orthodox Church
14133 Dennis Lane, Farmers Branch, TX 75234

Meeting Minutes Recorded by: Krishna Reddy Uppalapati -Secretary

Presiding Officer: Vijay Mohan Kakarla, President

BoT Chair: Murthy Mulukutla, Chair, Board of Trustees

Attendees: Total of 37 in attendance as per the verification and confirmation from Venu Pavuluri, Chair, Membership & Registration.

Beginning from 3 PM, attendees count was obtained from Membership Chair, for every 30 minutes. Since quorum requirements were not met to initiate General Body Meeting, it was decided to conduct normal meeting and it was call to order by Vijaymohan Kakarla at 3.15 PM.

AGENDA:

1. Welcome by Secretary
2. 2013 General Body meeting (Pending due to lack of quorum)
 - Review of 2012 meeting minutes and approval
 - Review of proposed 2013 amendments and approval
3. Current General Body meeting related:
 - Review of 2013 meeting minutes and approval
 - Review of proposed 2014 amendments and approval
4. President's Report
5. TANTEX Building proposal
6. Secretary's Report
7. Treasurer's Report (un-audited)
8. Vote of Thanks by BoT Chair
9. Open items with the Approval of the Chair

Welcome by Secretary: Krishna Reddy Uppalapati, Secretary extended a warm welcome to the members and informed that the normal meeting would be conducted as per agenda circulated except for the agenda points 2 and 3, as required quorum was not present. Secretary then welcomed President to chair and preside over the meeting.

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President Report: Vijaymohan Kakarla shared the 2014 TANTEX accomplishments with the members present.

He assured during 2014 TANTEX has been diligently utilizing the funds with focus on local Telugu members' necessities and by encouraging Cultural programs by involving local members/artists in lieu of external artists. He addressed that this year focus has been to project TANTEX as "ONE TEAM".

He also informed that with growing numbers and necessity of Telugu population TANTEX undertook following innovative programs:

- Vasantha Gaanasourabham
- Sirivennela Antharangam
- Dr. Shobha Raju Vesavi Vennela summer workshop for Telugu kids and adults
- Dr. Shobha Raju classical concert together with the workshop participants
- Grameena Kreedalu
- Upcoming Sports Day
- Innovative subjects via Health Seminars for Telugu speaking population
- Supported Mahatma Gandhi Memorial project in Irving via donation from TANTEX GoB members
- Bringing signature program "Gaanasudha" back on-air via 1220AM.

Treasurer Report: Chinasatyam Veernapu, Treasurer provided an update on various types of TANTEX accounts and the specific process followed for transactions of revenue and expenses. He further explained the various programs undertaken by TANTEX during 2014 and the financial transactions related to them. Treasurer further briefed various types of event expenses that TANTEX incurred throughout the year.

Secretary report: Krishna Reddy Uppalapati, Secretary went through the various activities undertaken by TANTEX in 2014.

- Membership status: TANTEX currently has 1012 life members of which 1011 are eligible to vote. The last member joined after the cut-off date of July 31st, 2014 and is subject to membership verification.
- Annual Members: There are 156 annual members joined in the year of 2014.
- e-News metrics: Went through the metrics of total emails of life members vs. percentage of members opening the emails.
- Key Activities: For the benefit of the life members, the secretary went through the signature and innovative programs undertaken by TANTEX.
- Community Outreach programs: Health Seminars, Real-Estate Seminars, Entrepreneur Seminars, Legal Seminars, Scholarship programs, Back pack programs were some of the examples used during presentation.

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- Supported programs: Supported programs with various Non-Profit organizations, national, local in the fields of cultural, social and community related.

With the permission of Chair, the floor was open to receive the questions from members. Here is the summary of questions received / opinions expressed.

Attendance at TANTEX programs annually:

Member at Large enquired how many people attending TANTEX programs annually and how many people serving the organizations as volunteers.

- Chair indicated programs such as NNTV was a stupendous success despite showing negative financials. He reminded the life members that there has been an increase of Private programs in town which in turn is leading to poor attendance to TANTEX programs occasionally.
- BoT chair offered the member to suggest the ways to improve the attendance.

Frequency of TANTEX E-News emails per week:

Member at Large pointed out that Emails should be sent once a week as compared to twice a week as is the case. Also General Body agenda emails should be succinctly presented for the life members and suggested there is no need for discouragement.

- Chair recalled the long hours being put by the GoB to make the General Body meeting a success. However chair expressed the points are well taken about the emails.

Status on proposed amendments for 2013 and 2014 in case of missing quorum:

Member at Large suggested that the proposed amendments for 2013 and 2014 should be sent along with the voting ballots or if it leads to any confusion to the life members they may be sent separately.

- Chair expressed this is an innovative idea and an opinion will be gathered.

Attendance at General Body Meeting:

Member at Large felt people should take moral responsibility to come to general body meeting. He suggested a mix of cultural programs with the general body meeting could perhaps increase the count of life members at the General Body meeting. He appreciated that TANTEX is addressing the General Body members in Telugu being a Telugu organization. He also suggested to take up Membership drive during November and December months to attract more life members into the organization.

- Chair thanked the inputs and expressed the intent to take up membership drive.
- Chair addressed that being a life member of TANTEX entails discounted TANTEX programs three magazines in a year which itself is a lot for a local organization.

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Life Membership Fees at TANTEX:

Member at Large appreciated the current team efforts in working for such a reputable organization such as TANTEX. He expressed \$200.00 maybe high for life membership and suggested the GoB can think of incentives such as discount during the membership drive. Other members suggested included membership exchange with national organizations.

- Chair expressed it will be discussed at the next GoB and perhaps take up membership the drive.

Cohesiveness with National and other Non-Profit Organizations:

Member at Large suggested to have a united approach by working with all organizations as TANTEX represents the Telugu community as a whole.

- Chair reiterated TANTEX has been at the forefront by including national and other local organizations in all community related activities.

President Proposal:

Chair then put a proposal on the floor that if in case there is not enough quorum, can the life members provide consent to the GoB to make the necessary decisions internally on the 2013 and 2014 and amendments going forward each year. A brief discussion prevailed:

Members at Large suggested the following:

- 1) As there is no quorum the alternative is to send amendments via mail which is not in the scope of the By-Laws. A special committee needs to be formed with members from community-at-large and few members from GoB.
- 2) Enquired if TANTEX Deepavali on 25th October can be leveraged in discussing the proposed 2013 and 2014 amendments.
- 3) Web can be utilized as Proxy means to provide consent or decline the amendments.
- 4) Suggested to follow the practice typically followed by Home Owners association. If there are no quorum in two consecutive years, the third year will be considered as auto-approval of the proposed amendments.
- 5) Suggested a special referendum in the form of mail be sent to the life members that has amendments alongside election ballot during annual elections. He felt logistically Deepavali is difficult as there is not ample time.
- 6) Suggested without required quorum, no decision can be made and whatever is being discussed is an informal discussion and lacks sanctity.
- 7) Felt referendum via mails is not binding and suggested it should not be encouraged. He further suggested based on By Laws GoB has the authority to call for another GB meeting and the meeting can be Deepavali if required.

A revised life member count was taken at 5.55 PM. It was then determined that the count stands at 75, which allows 2013 and 2014 amendments be presented on floor.

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Review and Approval of 2012 Meeting Minutes:

- Ramakrishna Nune proposed the 2012 GB meeting be approved. Rao Kalvala seconded the proposal. The meeting minutes were then approved unanimously.

Review and Approval of 2013 Meeting Minutes:

- Krishna Bapatla moved the motion for 2012 GB meeting minutes to be approved. Rao Kalvala proposed the 2013 GB meeting minutes be approved. Sugan Chagarlamudi seconded the proposal. The meeting minutes were then approved unanimously.

Review and Approval of 2013 Amendments to TANTEX By-Laws 2009:

- Vijaymohan Kakarla proposed the motion for 2013 amendments on articles 1, 2, and 3. Ajay Govada seconded.

Members at Large opined the following:

- 1) There is no necessity to increase the BoT count from 5 to 7 members.
- 2) The measure should be proportionate to the life membership count and not by simply increasing the count.
- 3) The increase is justified from 5 to 7. He however felt the category needs to be identified for ex: whether the increase of 2 members should be from past GoB or life members
- 4) Should the amendment be tabled it should be ratified as of 2014 and not 2013.
- 5) Agreed to the increase from 5 to 7.
- 6) Chair suggested that the article 1 of 2013 amendments should reflect updated numbers of 1011 life members instead of 980 under justification section.

- Articles 1, 2, 3 were presented on the floor:

Result

Yes: 37

No: 7

Motion passed.

- KC Chekuri proposed justification to the amendment to read article 5 to be read as "Applicable and Consistent" with the constitution. Ramakrishna Nune seconded.
- Vijaymohan Kakarla proposed the motion for 2013 amendments on articles 4 and 5. Shashi Kanaparthi seconded.

- Articles 4 and 5 were presented on the floor:

Result

Yes: 31

No: 0

Motion passed.

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- Sudhakar Kothamasu proposed Amendment to the amendment for article 6. Ajay Govada seconded.
 It should be read as *"First time contesting EC members should have volunteered atleast 1 year in any TANTEX nominated committees in the past"*. This will be effective 2015 Election.

- Articles 4 and 5 were presented on the floor:

Result

Yes: 33

No: 0

Motion passed.

Review and Approval of 2014 Amendments to TANTEX By-Laws 2009:

Members at Large commented as follows:

- 1) The validation process maybe cumbersome and may not be complete for 2014 elections. He proposed the electronic voting can be considered an option for 2015 elections.
- 2) There is no clarity for the article 1 (electronic voting).
- 3) The electronic voting may leverage members joining from outside of DFW. He felt there should be only mail-in ballot which restricts ballots being mailed within DFW.
- 4) A thorough and detailed study should be done before agreeing to the option of electronic voting.
- 5) This is only an option and a thorough study will be done leveraging opinions from the community once the motion is passed.
- 6) There are technological challenges such as hacking of emails and may not be a feasible idea to undertake electronic voting.

- Articles 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 were presented on the floor:

Result

Yes: 5

No: 13

Motion defeated.

TANTEX Building proposal:

- President went through the TANTEX building proposal with the life members.
- Ramakrishna Nune suggested to go through logistics. He suggested to look at the feasibility of revenue versus expenses each year.
- Dr. Sridhar Reddy Korsapati suggested that it is a tough task to generate funds for the building.
- Dr. Narsimha Reddy Urimindi suggested that buying a land it will immensely improve the land value which in turn will leverage the buying capacity.
- Subbu Jonnalagadda suggested that land prices is growing in DFW and is a viable option for buying the land.

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Vote of Thanks:

- Board of Trustee Chair Murthy Mulukutla thanked the life members, the governing board members for the countless number of hours put in for the General Body meeting preparation, the St. Mary's Orthodox Church for providing the venue for the meeting, Vindu and SareGaMa for providing tea and snacks for the meeting, media TV9 and Bombay Photography for covering the event.

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 7.40 PM.