



anmausa.org
Association of Nepalese
in Midwest America

President

Mr. Sushil R Sharma

Vice-President

Mr. Bala Ghimire

Vice-President

Mr. Kailash Kayestha

General Secretary

Mr. Bharat Kandel

Joint Secretary

Ms. Buna Dahal

Treasurer

Dr. Bishnu Phuyal

Viewpoint Editor

Mr. Buddha R Maharjan

Executive Members

Mr. Ankur Sharma
Ms. Anita Adhikary
Mr. Balaram Panthi
Dr. Elina Shakya
Dr. Gokarna Aryal
Mr. Manoj Shrestha
Ms. Nita Khatiwada
Mr. Promod Jaisawal
Ms. Ramita B Shrestha
Mr. Sanjay Ghimire
Mr. Suraj Adhikari
Mr. Uday Maharjan

Ex Officio

Mr. Gopendra Bhattarai

ANMA Executive member's face-to-face meeting minutes

Date: November 8th 2014

Start time: 5:00 pm (Central time)

Location: Curryhut, Highland Park, Chicago

Host: Chicagoland Nepali Friendship Society (CNFS) & Mr. Bala Ghimire

Meeting minutes taker: Mr. Bharat Kandel (General Secretary)

(This is the first face-to-face meeting and second meeting of the current executive members called by the General Secretary of ANMA on behalf of the President and conducted by Bharat Kandel and Sushil R Sharma)

ANMA would like to apologise the entire team and the general members present in the meeting for delay in starting the meeting due to unforeseen circumstances. ANMA will put every effort to start the meeting on time in the future. ANMA would like to thank everyone for their patience and staying till the end of the meeting despite their own personal commitments to their families and other personal activities.

ANMA regrets that despite several attempts it was unable to hold a conference call environment in the meeting for several members to join via their phone or computers due to technical difficulties.

The General Secretary, Bharat Kandel, welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested the President to introduce his team members for ANMA 2014-2016. Once the team members were introduced, introduction of the all other present members were completed.

Introduction of the members was followed by welcome speech from Mr. Bala Ghimire, Vice-President of ANMA and the host of the meeting, which was followed by a welcome speech from Benimadhav Kandel, the President of CNFS (Chicagoland Nepali Friendship Society). Mr. Benimadhav Kandel informed the general public the past, present and the future programs of CNFS.

Executive member Mrs. Anita Adhikary, thanked CNFS and Mr. Bala Ghimire for hosting the meeting. She went on to thank Curryhut restaurant for tasty food and providing the location for the meeting.

Mr. Sharma, the president of ANMA starting his opening remarks by providing a short history of ANMA followed by thanking his team for joining ANMA. He reminded



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everyone to help and preserve the goal of ANMA and come up with new ideas and plan to expand ANMA presence to the Midwest region.

Dr. Gaury Adhikary and Sharda Thapa were called upon by the General Secretary to pass the thank you motion to the former president and executive committee. Mr. Adhikary and Mr. Thapa thanked the former president Mr. Gopendra Bhattarai and the team for their hard work and dedication to ANMA.

President Sharma propose several ideas to reshape and reorganize ANMA for the future. The **Life member campaign**, proposed by the president was unanimously passed by the members present in the meeting. While the **Board of Trustee** idea was extensively discussed by the team and the general audience, it was decided by the overwhelm majority, that the current executive body should formulate a complete plan and any decision by the team on this matter will be accepted to all.

After much discussion a team was formulated to work on amending current bylaws of ANMA. The team includes Mr. Sharda Thapa, Mr. Balaram Panthi, and Mr. Mukesh Singh.

The General Secretary called Mr. Sanajay Ghimire, an executive member, to update on ANMA website and IT related enquiries. Mr. Ghimire informed the members that a team of three members comprising Mr. Ankur Sharama, Mr. Suraj Adhakari, and himself have been tasked to work on ANMA website and all IT related issues. He updated the team about the current plan, progress and future objectives of the team. He provided a glimpse of future website and talked about information that may be included in the site.

An executive member and Viewpoint Editor, Mr. Buddha R Maharjan informed the members the progress report on the magazine. The magazine is scheduled to be released by the end of November.

Mr. President then informed everyone about the formation of different committee. Each committee is tasked with different aspect of ANMA objectives. The purposed list of members for each teams is attached with this meeting minutes. After collecting views and listening to the comments and suggestions from the floor the president informed everyone that he will review and finalize the committees in the near future.

Various ANMA supported projects and their updates were provided by the members as below:

Medi-Plus project at Balaju – Mr. Sushil Sharma



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ANMA booklet distribution project – Mrs. Anita Adhikary

Blind leading blind-Nepal Project – Ms. Buna Dahal

Radio Mala project- Mr. Gopendra Bhattraai

Miscellaneous projects – Mr. Gopendra Bhattarai

The General Secretary invited Ms. Buna Dahal, an executive member, to talk about a future project that ANMA has shown interest to support. After a short introduction of **Special School for Disabled and Rehabilitation Center (SSDRC)** and a video about the project, ANMA members decided to raise fund for the project as well as advertise the project throughout the ANMA region. At the end of the meeting a fund of \$1125.00 was raised and handed over to the President Sharma. This fund will be officially handed over to SSDRC team through one of our ANMA member, who travels to Nepal in the near future.

General Secretary invited former registrar founder of Kathmandu, Dr. Sita Ram Adhikary, to talk about Higher Education infrastructure and environment in Nepal.

President Sharma brought up an idea of **Midwest community outreach program** to connect with various organization and its members in ANMA region. Several members provided their ideas, suggestion and comments regarding this initiative. Discussion also revolved around organizing one day events at various communities. The current team will take on collected information and formulate a plan in its future meeting.

Mr. President proposed an idea about setting up an **Emergency fund for ANMA** to use at an emergency. After a heated discussion within members and former presidents, it was decided that ANMA should not have more than \$10,000 in this fund. While several options regarding the collection of this fund was discussed, it was left for the current executive members to come up with a plan for future meeting.

Former President Mr. Gopendra Bhattarai was called upon to review 10th Annual Joint Convention (33rd ANMA convention) Denver, Colorado. Mr. Bhattarai, thanked ANMA committee, Core Committee of the convention, Convention Chair Mr. Sharad Aachrya, Core member Mr. Narayan Shrestha along with all committee chairs and the entire team of about 117 members (Convention Committee members). He shared his experience and the process along with a few pointers to the new executive members.

ANMA treasurer Mr. Bishnu Phuyal provided the financial detail of the 10th Annual Joint convention to the public. He informed that while the detail profit/loss account presented during the meeting represents current financial picture from the convention, ANMA is yet to raise most of the pledged amount from the members. The meeting decided that



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an executive member Ms. Anita Adhikary along with other members of the team will help Mr. Phuyal on this matter.

President Sharma, congratulated **ANMA Hero Of The Year** Dr. Gauri Adhikary on behalf of the current executive team. The president proposed and it was unanimously passed that the ANMA will honor Joint Convention Chair Mr. Sharad Acharya and Co chair Mr. Narayan Shrestha from Colorado. President Sharma thanked all the team members from the Joint Convention for their dedicated work to host a successful convention.

Mr. Bharat Kandel, a Convention Core Committee member, presented his review of the Joint Convention, Denver Colorado, with highlights of attractive and unattractive programs as well as presented his view on some of the lesson learned from the convention.

President on behalf of the team congratulated the following members for their outstanding achievements as listed below:

Ms. Buna Dahal - College of Dupage "**Highest Alumnae Honor**"

Mrs. Anita Adhikary - Publishing new Children book "**My Daughters are smart**"

Mr. Ramakant Kharel and Mr. Bala Ghimire for successful fund raising event in Chicago for **NRN Building** in Nepal

Mr. Rajendra Khatiwada – **AFNO Interim President**

President Sharma opened the floor for a discussion on Nepal and current Constitution writing process and what ANMA could do. After spending several minutes on discussion it was unanimously passed that ANMA should publish a press release on this matter as soon as possible. Mr Sharada Thapa was tasked with writing a draft of press release. The members also proposed that ANMA should take a lead on communicating with other Nepal related organization in USA and publish a joint press release. President Sharma announced that this matter will be discussed with the executive team and newly proposed Public Relation committee.

The General Secretary Mr. Kandel and the President Sharma started a discussion on ANMA/NASeA Joint convention strategy. Current status of the 11th Joint Convention, as shared by NASeA President Dr. Ramchandra Baral was shared with the attendees. Mr president thanked NASeA president Dr. Ram Chandra Baral and senior VP Mr. Bimal Nepal for providing above mentioned joint convention information and wishing ANMA team for the success of a meeting.



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After providing general summary of the current relationship with NASEA, with respect to Joint Convention the floor was opened to the public to discuss the future strategy of the relationship with NASEA as it relates to the Joint Convention. There was a thorough discussion with respect to advantages and disadvantages of working on the Joint Convention. All former Presidents and vice presidents as well as several general members presented their suggestions and comments. Due to time and several other issues related to past and future conventions, it was decided to continue the discussion in the future meetings of ANMA executive members.

After thanking everyone for attendance and providing their input regarding ANMA and its projects and objectives President Sharma provided his closing remarks.

The General secretary closed the meeting after thanking everyone and especially Mr. Bala Ghimire, Vice-President of ANMA for providing location as well as Curryhut for providing food and drinks for the meeting.

Next face-to-face meeting:

Mr. Mukesh Singh suggested that ANMA conduct its next face-to-face meeting in Ohio. After thanking Mr. Singh for the proposal, the President announced that the date, venue and time of the meeting will be decided after communicating with other executive members in the near future.

Attendees:

- **President: Mr. Sushil Raj Sharma, KY**
- **Vice Presidents:**
 - Mr. Bala Ghimire, IL
 - Mr. Kailash Kayestha, IA
- **General secretary: Mr. Bharat Kandel, MO**
- **Joint Secretary: Ms. Buna Dahal, CO**
- **Treasurer: Dr. Bishnu Phuyal, IL**
- **Viewpoint Editor: Mr. Buddha Ratna Maharjan, KY**
- **Members:**
 - Dr. Elina Shakya, OH
 - Ms. Ramita Bade Shrestha, MI
 - Ms. Nita Khatiwada, KY
 - Mr. Sanjay Ghimire, IA
 - Mr. Uday Maharjan, IL



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- Mr. Suraj Adhikari, OH
- Mr. Ankur Sharma, IL
- Dr. Gokarna Aryal, IN
- Mr. Manoj Shrestha, IL
- Mr. Ankur Sharma
- Anita Adhikary
- **Ex Officio:** Mr. Gopendra Bhattarai (Former President ANMA)
 - Dinesh Koirala (Former President ANMA)
 - Dr. Gaury Adhikary (Former President ANMA)
 - Mukesh Singh (Former President ANMA)
 - Sharada Thapa (Former President ANMA)
 - Rajendra Khatiwada (Former President ANMA)
 - Dr. Soham Khatiwada (Former Vice -President ANMA)
 - Benimadhav Kandel (President CNFS)
 - Sitaram Adhikary
 - Menuka Dahal
 - Indira Koirala
 - Geeta Baskota
 - Ramakant Kharel
 - Karishma Shrestha
 - Shiva Om Bade Shrestha
 - Om P. Dhakal
 - Diwakar Timilsana
 - Narayan Gyawali
 - Kiran Thapa
 - Ishwari Bagale
 - Bhanu B. Ghimire
 - Kashi P Singh
 - Khem Bhandari
 - Jitendra Rana