



Telugu Association of North Texas (TANTEX)

<http://www.tantex.org>

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President

Dr. Narasimha Reddy Urimindi
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President-Elect

Subramanyam Jonnalagadda

Vice-President

Krishna Reddy Uppalapati

Secretary

Mahesh Aditya Adibhatla

Joint-Secretary

Chinasatyam Veernapu

Treasurer

Krishnaveni Seelam

Joint-Treasurer

Venu Pavuluri

Immediate Past President

Vijaymohan Kakarla

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Chandrasekhar Kaja
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Krishna Reddy Koduru
Lakshmi Paleti
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Raghu Gajjala
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Sri Lakshmi Mandiga
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Board of Trustees

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Ramana Puttur
Ramakrishna Reddy
Rodda
Srinivas Bavireddy
Srinivas Reddy
urram
Sugan Chagarlamudi -
Co-Chair
Syama Rumala

TANTEX- Annual Meeting of the General Body called for by the Governing Board -2015

Date: Friday, October 16, 2015
Time: 6:00 PM, (Registration started @5:00 PM)
Venue: Hilltop Indian Cuisine
8350 N. MacArthur Blvd., Irving, TX 75063

Meeting Minutes Recorded by: Mahesh Aditya Adibhatla -Secretary

Presiding Officer: Dr. Narasimha Reddy Urimindi, President

BoT Chair: Ajay Reddy, Chair, Board of Trustees

Attendees: Total of 75 in attendance as per the verification and confirmation from Ajay Govada, Chair, Membership & Registration.

Beginning from 6.00 PM, attendees count was obtained from Membership Chair, for every 15 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 Dr. Narasimha Reddy Urimindi at 6.30 PM.

AGENDA:

1. Welcome by Secretary
2. Review and Approval of previous General Body Meeting Minutes
3. President's Report
4. TANTEX Building proposal
5. Secretary's Report
6. Treasurer's Report (un-audited)
7. Vote of Thanks by BoT Chair
8. Open items with the Approval of the Chair

Welcome by Secretary: Mahesh Aditya Adibhatla, 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 point 2, as required quorum was not present. Secretary then welcomed President to chair and preside over the meeting. President requested the treasurer to go through the financials for TANTEX.

Treasurer Report: Krishnaveni Reddy Seelam, Treasurer provided an update on various types of TANTEX accounts and the specific process followed for transactions of revenue and expenses. She further explained the various programs undertaken by TANTEX during 2015 and the financial transactions related to them. Treasurer further briefed various types of event expenses that TANTEX incurred throughout the year.

Treasurer Krishnaveni Reddy Seelam summarized a record revenue of over \$295,000 up until the meeting day, thanks to the generosity of the sponsors. The members in attendance congratulated the Treasurer for a historic year with highest revenue ever for the 29 year old TANTEX organization.

- Member MVL Prasad Garu inquired about the plan/savings for coming years as we only have a positive of \$2000 in our accounts currently.

Treasurer/Chair explained that we have pending dues to be collected from Swarabhishekam and Annual Sponsors. If we collect all the dues will be in good shape and will def. work towards saving funds for upcoming years.

Secretary Report: Mahesh Aditya Adibhatla, Secretary went through the various activities undertaken by TANTEX in 2015.

- Membership status: TANTEX currently has 1037 life members of which 1037 are eligible to vote. The last member joined after the cut-off date of July 31st, 2015 and is subject to membership verification.
- Annual Members: There are 156 annual members joined in the year of 2015.
e-News metrics: Went through the metrics of total emails of life members vs. percentage of members opening the emails. This year we see interest in viewing eNews by members and viewing rate increased by 2% compared to previous years. President also added, As per Stats, for any Non-Profit Organization if members viewing eNews are 15-18% then its good sign for Organization.
- Key Activities: For the benefit of the life members, the secretary went through the signature and innovative programs undertaken by TANTEX. To name few, We Conducted signature events like Swaramanjari we started it as special event this year, it's to bring out talent in local singers. Swarabhishekam is also one of the signature event conducted in our town with an audience of 4500 members.
- Community Outreach programs: Health Seminars, Entrepreneur Seminars, Scholarship programs, Backpack programs were some of the examples used during presentation.
- Supported programs: Supported programs with various Non-Profit organizations, national, local in the fields of cultural, social and community related.
 - MVL Garu asked why we see less # in membership after 2012?
 - President Dr. Narasimha Reddy Urimindi explained as we are conducting lot of events in town. We need to work on that, we will do that. Also added that few people are complaining of \$200 being too high for life membership. After our GOB meeting we thought if we can provide a discount from Jan-April every year. We need to work on that. That is one way we are thinking how to bring more members here.
 - Secretary Mahesh Adibhatla expressed, that similar discussions have come up in Governing Board Meetings, while the members suggested the proposal of doing a membership drive.

President Report: Dr. Narasimha Reddy Urimindi started his presentation by recalling the key initiatives of 2015 published in the January edition of "Telugu Velugu" magazine under the code name "pragathi pathamIO padi sutraalu (ప్రగతి పథంలో పది సూత్రాలు). He gave a brief summary of each of the key events along with the metrics associated with them as outlined below.

1. Facelift to the Program structure: The new initiative brought a record 2000 attendees to Ugaadi

"Quality of the event should reflect in the experience of attendees from start to finish" was the key theme behind this initiative. Numerous changes were made to the program structure, such as, sandwiching the social hour between the local talent and external talent, early request of cultural entries, cultural item quality checks prior to the event to elevate the overall experience of the attendees.

2. Provide new stages for the adult singers: The birth of SWARAMANJARI

"Take your singing from good to great" was the key theme behind this initiative to engage and provide stage for over 100 adult singers based in the DFW area. President recalled the grand success of the "Vasantha Gaana Sourabham" and 'Vesavi Vennela" programs geared for youth and children and reiterated the need for stages for adult singers. With an initial list of 70 singers and a final qualified list of 25 singers participated in a 5-round series of intense competition. Quality and the desire to sing improved significantly for Singers. Two experienced local judges complimented with an accomplished external judge in each round. Top winner to be awarded with GOLD MEDAL sponsored by Tanmay Jewelers

3. Develop and Launch the TANTEX Mobile APP – All set to launch @Deepaavali

"Deliver key information related to TANTEX events and programs to members in real time" was the key theme behind this initiative. Smart Phone users spent 89% of their mobile media time using mobile apps (Infographic). Glamantech is chosen among a half dozen vendors who showed enthusiasm to help develop. Prototype is available and TANTEX team input is being incorporated. Version #1 of TANTEX Mobile APP will be ready to be launched on Deepaavali Stage on 11/14/2015

4. Bring the Telugu Community together – 4000 Telugu people with support from 16 Organizations

"Improve friendship to realize the power of the united Telugu community" was the theme behind this initiative.

SWARABHISHEKAM is an example of how TEANTEX team worked together to bring 16 organizations and 4000 Telugu people under the same umbrella. Each of the 16 organizations came forward and supported financially in some form or the other

5. Unconventional Approach to fundraising –Generated a historic of \$295,000 as of this Meeting.

Being a non-profit organization, TANTEX requires a steady stream of financial resources to deliver programs to our diverse member base. It's going to be harder to sustain with traditional funding. In 2015 the new "Diamond Sponsorship @\$10,000) was introduced with 3 sponsors (Dr. Prem Reddy, NATA and Ajay Reddy). Reached out to many individuals and other corporate/IT business organizations (as opposed to traditional restaurant or cash based ones). As a result the sponsors poured in, close to 25 for Ugadi, and about 70 for Swarabhishekam as examples. Diversity and variety of sponsors is worth noting.

6. Women Empowerment- Variety of sports brought 150 women together:

We have to agree that 2015 is the year of 'Women Sports'. Volleyball, Tennikoit, Badminton, Table Tennis were conducted. Brought over 150 women sport enthusiasts onto TANTEX sports. Overwhelming response and enthusiasm to participate in TANTEX sports based on the feedback from the women.

7. Launching of TANTEX SEASON PASS: A family of 4 will save 60% by paying just \$100

Based on the historical data, ticket revenue from TANTEX events supports only 30% of the total expenses. The rest is supported by sponsorships. TANTEX SEASON PASS was launched to increase the revenue by inviting more than 200 families (20% is the breakeven) so that we can generate additional revenue. It is a winning formula for both TANTEX and member families since an average family with 4-members can save 66% on their total expense to TANTEX events.

8. Other Items: Work in Progress

There are few items pending and will divert our attention to connect, communicate and support the community. Connect with University Students and new entrants to DFW area (completed this effort @UTD), Host workshops on Personality Development for Youth, Engage Senior Citizens and design programs to meet their needs, Bring awareness to Emergency Preparedness (CPR session, etc.)

President Dr. Narasimha Reddy Urimindi expressed his sincere appreciation to the current Governing board for their cooperation, sponsors for their generosity, countless volunteers for their selfless service and TANTEX members and alumni for their patronage of the 2015 initiatives.

- Member and Past-President Ramakrishna Lavu asked about the directory with all the details. He requested to include Photo, Phone number, address and any other information applicable.

President informed we will try to address this issue next year, as we will need to get permission from members to include what kind of information.

TANTEX Building Proposal:

- Quorum check at 8:23 PM revealed 75 Life members.
- 2014 Meeting minutes proposed by and seconded by Ramakrishna Nune. Approved 2014 GB meeting minutes at 8:31 PM.
- President started explaining about the Building Proposal. He expressed that the idea was initiated few years ago and explained the building need for our organization covering both pros and cons.
- President said if we can get approval from members we can go forward for Building Proposal. Ramakrishna Nune said we are not seeing Projections for Building proposal. We want to know what is budget and what amount we have and is it possible to raise remaining funds without harming TANTEX funds etc.
- President explained that it is not a feasibility study, we already did couple of times earlier. Now we are looking for approval so that Governing Board and can go diligently looking for a building.
- Ramakrishna Reddy Rodda came forward with a 1 Million approval for Building Fund. He further expressed to divide the project into a phased approach.
- Member and Past-President Sridhar Reddy Korsapati asked what is fall back plan should we be unable to raise enough funds for the building.
- Krishna Reddy Koduru expressed, why don't we raise funds first and go forward for building proposal.
- Subbu Jonnalagadda expressed if we can get the budget approval like in case of Diwali and other events, then it is becomes the stepping stone for searching for the land/building.
- President Dr. Narasimha Reddy Urimindi expressed that it is a pre-requisite to get the approval for Building, then we proceed from there.
- Srinivas Reddy Gurram opined that there is no need to go for building, with the existing amount in hand to try and find land, then proceed for building later. May be try 10-20 acres with 200k. If we show land donors will come forward to donate for building.
- Member Dr. Alla Srinivas Reddy expressed, TANTEX is a vibrant organization, one of biggest local non-profit organization and mentioned we need building. His suggestion was to go easy on the cost of the building and to keep as small as possible.
- President then proposed to keep the motion to vote for the members and the motion was passed unanimously.
- TANTEX General Body approved the need to have its own building and requested the Governing Board to take the following key actions in support of the Building Proposal

Key ACTION ITEMS:

1. Form a TANTEX Building Committee from the pool of TANTEX members with specific expertise in fundraising, construction, real-estate and property management -----by 12/31/2015
2. The Building committee to submit their feasibility study/due diligence report to TANTEX Governing Board by 3/31/2016.

Vote of Thanks:

- Board of Trustee Co-Chair Sujan Chagarlamudi thanked the life members, the governing board members for the countless number of hours put in for the General Body meeting preparation, the Hilltop Indian Cuisine for providing the venue for the meeting, tea, snacks and Dinner for the meeting, media TV9, DesiPlaza, TV5, CVR News and Bombay Photography for covering the event.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 9:30 PM.