

AKKA Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date:	June 14, 2007 (Thursday)	
Time:	9: 00 pm – 10: 30 pm	
Location:	Conference Call	
Attendees: (total 26)	Mr. Amarnath Gowda Mr. Shantharaju Kempaiah Mrs. Nagamani Viswanath Mr. Ramesh Gowda Mrs. Vasanthi Gowda Mr. Ben Kantharaju Dr. H.N. Viswamithra Dr. Kudur Murali Mr. Prabhu Dev Mr. Ravi Dankanikote Mr. Dayashankar Adappa Mr. Srinath Bhalte Dr. Shekar Sastry Mr. Harish Hiremath	Mrs. Vanitha Harish Mr. M.Krishnamurthy Mr. Madhu Rangaiah Dr. Pabhakara Rao Mr. Ramesh Muniswamy Mr. Shamaiah Setty Mr. V.Nanjundaram Mr. Keerthi Pandit Mrs. Geetha Srinivas Mr. Swamy Narayana Mr. Suresh Ramachandran Mr. Mahesh Srinivas
Guests:	None	

Agenda:

1. Welcome
2. Ratification to April 19th BOD Meeting Minutes
3. AKKA WKC 2008 Updates & Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
4. AKKA WKC 2006 Accounts
5. Trustees Appointment
6. Miscellaneous Items
 - a. AKKA Calendars Distribution
 - b. Committee Chairs Meeting
 - c. Help your native place initiative by Shivamurthy Keelara – Udaya TV
 - d. AKKA Youth Day
 - e. AKKA Publication

1. Welcome:

The meeting started with a prayer from Dr. Kudur Murali, a prayer of Harmony.

Ramesh emphasized **Souhardathe - Harmony**– the fundamental theme he has adopted during his term and said it has been working very well so far and he wants to keep it that way.

2. Ratification to April 19th Meeting Minutes

Vasanthi Gowda has brought to our attention that 3 minor changes to be made to the meeting minutes of the April 19-2007 BOD meeting.

Ratification 1: Item #1, Bullet #3, on Page 1:

Please **add that this ratification was required since there was no quorum in the BOD meeting held on February 1 2007** where in this issue was discussed and passed as you had mentioned in the meeting on April 19th 2007.

Ratification 2: Item # 3, Bullet 3 on Page 4:

Changing "**Convention Committee**" to "**AKKA WKC 2008 Conference Selection Committee**". Due to there was some confusion what the Convention Committee means – if it's an AKKA committee or an VKK committee

Ratification 3: Item # 2, Bullet # 9 on Page 2:

We wrote in the April 19th meeting minutes:

Dr. Renuka Ramappa was not even eligible to contest in this election as she served EC position 3 consecutive terms – this is according to Seetha Ramaiah

We are changing it to:

Please check with the AKKA Board for directions on this issue before finalizing the nominations/candidates and going ahead with the elections if Dr. Renuka Ramappa is a candidate for any of the ten positions.

The Board ratified these changes and they have been incorporated in the April 19, 2007 meeting minutes as indicated in Red color in that minutes.

3. AKKA WKC 2008 Updates & Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

AKAK WKC 2008 Update:

- Vasanthi Gowda updated the Board the following on the preparations of the AKKA WKC 2008 event.
- Conference Committees are being formed
- Rosemont Convention Center (RCC) contract has been signed
- They have appointed following people for the Conference executive positions:
 - Vijaya Bhat – Secretary
 - Kajekar Ramachandra - Treasurer
 - Renu Nagarju – Jt. Secretary
 - Shrishail Virupannavar – Jt. Treasurer
- She requested AKKA EC and BOD to participate in WKC-2008 committees and involve actively.

3. AKKA WKC 2008 Updates & Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (Cont'd)

MOU – Memorandum of Understanding between AKKA & VKK

Ramesh mentioned that a draft MOU has been developed using the previous AKKA WKC-2006 MOU. Based on learning experiences from previous WKC's, we have added few things to the MOU in the best interest of AKKA organization.

Ramesh requested the Board members to review the draft MOU and make any recommendations and send it to him by Sunday, the June 17 2007 He specifically requested to pat attention to Items: #15, #22, #23, #25 and #26

Once we incorporate all the changes received, we will send it to the Conveners for their review and approval.

4. AKKA WKC 2006 Accounts:

As we all know, AKKA WKC 2006 event was a huge success program-wise, monetary-wise. The conference has given a big boost to both AKKA and Kaveri organizations. Once again, AKKA wants to thank the Conveners Ravi Dankanikote, Suresh Ramachandran, Treasurer Harish Hiremath and of course all the Kaveri Committee members and AKKA Directors including previous AKKA Executive Committee under the presidency of Dr. Kudur Murali.

Ramesh requested the Convener Suresh Ramachandran to update the Board on the status of the account of the AKKA WKC 2006.

Suresh briefly mentioned that there would be a surplus money around \$180K left over from the WKC 2006 event and the final audited report will be available shortly.

Ramesh mentioned that the MOU signed between AKKA and Kaveri / Conveners, item # 14 states as follows:

Any funds in excess will be distributed equally between host Kaveri and AKKA.in accordance with AKKA constitution. In case of any deficit, the conveners and AKKA with all the sister organizations will be responsible for raising funds to make up the deficit. On no account a deficit be transferred to Kaveri or AKKA.

Fortunately, As Suresh mentioned we have a huge surplus which nobody expected, although no previous conference had any deficit.

Ramesh mentioned that a senior member of Kaveri Sri. KGV Krishna contacted him to discuss how we are going to distribute the surplus funds despite MOU clearly states equal distribution between AKKA and Kaveri and he proposed the following:

- They will honor the MOU and distribute the excess funds equally
- AKKA will pay the expenses of DVD production & distribution – upto \$20,000
- AKKA will sponsor Natakothsava (or similar annual event) hosted by Kaveri – up to \$10,000

Ramesh asked the Board for their suggestion on how to proceed with this proposal. There were many discussions related to this although there were none against the proposal. The President suggested he will put together a plan around this proposal so that AKKA will get maximum benefits while awarding Kaveri for their hard work in organizing a successful AKKA WKC 2006. He said the plan will be sent to the Board via an e-mail for their approval.

5. Trustees Appointment

The President thanked the following outgoing Trustees for their contributions to AKKA for last 2 years.

- Sri. Keerthi Pandit
- Smt. Pushparani Kumar
- Nagatrhahalli Chnadrashakar – One from Karnataka
- Markandapuram Srinivasa – India (Director of Kannada Culture Govt. of Karnataka)

To replace these outgoing Trustees, he appointed following 3 individuals as Trustees:

- Dr. H.N. Viswamithra from Texas – former AKKA Secretary, a true supporter and believer of AKKA.
- Dr. Chandrashekar Readdy from Las Vegas a long time supporter of AKKA from West
- From Karnataka, Sri. Gurukiran, a very popular film Music Director
- The current Director of Kannada Culture Govt. of Karnataka

With these 4 distinguished individuals, AKKA is honored to have them as Trustees and thanked your accepting to serve as Trustees.

6. Miscellaneous items:

1. AKKA Calendars

- Mailed to 500 members
- Mailed to Kannada Koota Presidents

2. AKKA Committee Chairs Meeting:

- Developing Roles & Responsibilities, recruiting members
- Please contact the respective Committee Chairs on the website to join any of the committees

3. Help your native place Notebook Project:

- Shivamurthy Keelara (also one of the conveners for the WKC 2008) proposed this idea of distributing note books to the poor students of the govt. schools. He

just experimented this project in his native place of Keelara and has become a huge success.

- Udaya TV covered this and AKKA has got good publicity on this.
- So, we want to formalize this initiative through AKKA started by Shivamurthy
- Basically, anyone can sponsor this project through AKKA. AKKA's logo will on the front of the book and names of the donors (or parents) on the back
- More to come on this initiative on the AKKA website.

4. Cloths, Books & Toys Collection Drive:

This is gaining momentum. In fact, other organization is approaching us how we are doing this.

In Michigan alone, we have collected over 100 boxes.

Keerthi Pandit from Abhimana Kannada Sangha – 18 boxes

Srinath Balle – Richmond Kannada Koota – 25 boxes

Vanitha Harish – West Virginia is ready collect, waiting for truck logistics

Dr. Prabhakara Rao from Colorado has plans as well

5. AKKA Youth Day:

Surabhi Pandit, Youth Committee Chair is planning for a youth day to do a community service. – to develop a bonding, and help bigger turnout for the AKKA WKC 2008

6. AKKA publication:

Ramesh mentioned that he has been talking to Newsletter Committee Chair B.V.

Nagaraj of Toronto in bringing a colorful publication for Kannadaigas of North America.

B.V. Nagaraj has a publication called "KannadaAmerica". He is working with him to see how we can publish this magazine under AKKA's name with AKKA's financial support until a subscription base is built and it should be self funded.