



THE GLOBAL OGB ASSOCIATION (GO)

Held on Saturday, 19 June 2021 at 11.30 am (IST)

Virtual Meeting held via Zoom Meeting

PRESENT : GO Management Committee

Anirban Bhattacharyya	Chair	Mumbai – India	11.30 am
Alfred Khan	Treasurer	Kolkata-India	11.30 am
Pauline Singh	Member	Delhi – India	11.30 am
Sushil Marda	Member	Kalimpong – India	11.30 am
Danny Khawas	Member	Delhi – India	11.30 am
Babita Chakraborty	New Members	Delhi – India	11.30 am
Tenzing Norzang	Member	Minnesota, USA	12.00 midnight
Garth Mitchell	Member	Dubai - UAE	10.00 am
Roy Sankhasubha	Member	Abu Dhabi - UAE	10.00 am
George Borthwick	Member	New Zealand	5.00 pm
Dawn Van Steensel	Minute Secretary	Sydney Australia	3.00 pm

APOLOGIES :

Bernard Trench Lyngdoh	Member	Shillong – India
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A quorum was available, and the meeting commenced at 11.30 am IST.

The meeting paused for a Minutes Silence in memory of the recent passing of GO Executive Member, Thuten Kesang, and also a long-standing supporter of the Global OGB Association, Jasmohan Singh. Their dedication, contribution and support of GO was remembered and acknowledged.

ITEM NO. 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The GO Management Team noted and received the Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 13 March 2021.

Action Dawn to forward Minutes to Ken and request that they be posted on the GO Website.

ITEM NO. 3 MATTERS ARISING – Action Items

The Matters Arising document was received and items updated. Items were updated and others marked as Closed.

Matters for actions and noting :

- **NGO Registration – June 2021** – Noted that Danny, Babita and Pauline met with the Registrar in New Delhi on 19 March 2021 and finalized the NGO Registration and Trust Deeds formally signed.
- Pleasing to note that GO is now a registered non-Government/non-profitable Group registered in India.



- **Roof Restoration** – painting the roof of the School buildings has commenced. Photographs of the Home Science block roof have been received.
However, it has since been reported by the Principal at a meeting of the BOM, that further work has been halted as the timbers in the rafters are in a weak condition. It was agreed that some major repair work would need to be carried out to the roof rafters prior to continuing with the painting.
Noted, additional funds would be sourced for this rebuild work by the BOM.
- **‘Guidelines for Visitors’ to the DGH Campus** – the Guidelines was presented to the BOM at a meeting in early June and formally accepted as a procedural document that aligns with the BOM’s Safeguarding Policy. Matter Closed.
- **Winter 2021/2022 Cottage Renovations** - After further consideration and recognizing the uncertainty caused by the Covid travel restrictions, it was agreed that only one Cottage be scheduled for renovation at this time. If possible, Heathland would be renovated in Winter 2021/2022. Final decision will be made later in 2021 - should Covid travel restrictions be lifted.

ITEM NO. 4 GO/IC BLUE-PRINT for DGH

March 2021

Noted the report was finalized and agreed to by all ICs/GO and submitted to the Chair (BOM) on 4 February 2021.

Understand that the BOM have agreed to hold a special strategic meeting to review and consider the goals and objectives, outlined in the document.

Action

June 2021

It was proposed that a meeting with the BOM be requested, to review the document with them and align the progress made to date e.g., underway/finalised/on hold/not viable

ITEM NO. 5 APPOINTMENT OF GO EXECUTIVE MEMBER

Tenzing Norsang has agreed to take on the responsibility of the **Membership Secretary** and the **Communications Officer**. Responsibilities previously held by the late, Thuten Kesang.

In his capacity in the above two roles – Tenzing was welcomed as a member of the GO Executive Committee.

ITEM NO. 6.0 2021 – GO ELECTIONS

The term of the following 2 GO Management Committee Members, expire in September 2021.

- Anirban Bhattacharyya - Currently holding the position of Chair
- Alfred Khan – Currently holding the position of Treasurer

Including the above 2 positions, there are 2 additional Member positions vacant on the Committee.



Therefore, it was resolved that Expressions of Interest (IOE) be called to fill the 4 vacant positions on the Committee.

- The Committee approved the Election Notice - to be advertised on the GO website and on social media.
- Any Global OGB Association registered Member is eligible to be nominated.
- Nominations close on Sunday, 15 August 2021.
- Both Anirban and Alfred, expressed their interest to be nominated and be re-elected on to the Committee.

Action :

- Dawn to forward copy of the Notice to Ken Hammond for loading on the GO Website
- Anirban to promote on FB social media

ITEM NO.7.0 FINANCIALS

a. Balance Sheet as at 1 June 2021 –

A	GO Funds in India	Cottage Renovations	Ind.Rs.13,20,287
B	Funds held at DGH	Cottage Renovations	Ind.Rs. 3,76,221
C	Funds held at DGH	Cottage Guttering work	Ind.Rs. 3,76,221
D	GO Funds in India	General GO Projects	Ind.Rs. 2,67,156
E	GO Funds in Australia	General GO Projects	Aus\$1,500
F	GO Funds in Australia	Classroom Renovations	Aus\$ 900
G	Accumulated Funds	Classroom Renovations	Nil

b. **NOTE**

Following discussion, it was agreed funds be reallocated as follows :

- Category A – Ind.115,000 to Category G
- Category D - Ind.Rs.1,67,156 to Category G
- Category E – Aus\$1,500 to Category F

Adjustments will be reflected in the July 2021 Balance Sheet.

ITEM NO. 8 ADOPT A CLASSROOM - Project

a. The Project has been launched on the GO Website and on FB social media.

- The focus will be the Junior and Middle School classrooms (Classes 3 to 8).
- Total 12 classrooms will need to be modernized and upgraded.
- It was proposed to replace the existing desks with contemporary multi-purpose desks and replace the old blackboards with modern whiteboards.
- As an additional resource - we also hope to provide a couple of data-projectors and, if possible, upgrade the storage facility in each Classroom.
- Included in the refurbishment will be replacing old electrical wiring; improved lighting and connections; painting and repair

- b.
- Noted - The first funds towards this Project has already been received.
 - In addition, Lorraine Dickinson had previously sent some funds to be allocated to the SMH Hospital. However, Lorraine has now asked that these funds be redirected to the Adopt a Classroom project – as noted in Item 7(b) Category A, above.



c. The initial estimated cost for material/furniture per Classroom is :

- Desk: Rs. 4,000/- each x 40 per class: Rs.1,60,000
- Whiteboard: Rs. 8,000/-
- Cupboard: Rs. 7,000/-
- Electrical re-vamp: Rs.25,000/-
- Painting and renovation: Rs.25,000/-

The estimated cost for each Classroom to be upgraded will be about Rs.2,25,000 (Two Lakhs Twenty-Five Thousand).

Noted some flexibility for contingencies are included in this costing.

Action :

Sushil / Alfred /
Anirban/ Pauline

- a) Sushil to get firm pricing/delivery from Suppliers
- b) Anirban to approach the BOM to get approval for the Workshop carpenters/electricians etc. to perform the work of replacing electrical wiring; refurbishing wood flooring and windows as required; repairs/restoring timber desks etc.
- c) It was proposed that a suitable person will be required to supervise the day-to-day work with the assistance of a qualified Electrician and a qualified Carpenter to upskill the Workshop employees, as required.
- d) Pauline indicated that she was available to supervise the work during September/October 2021. However, recommended that another person be identified that could continue to oversee the work, on her departure.
- e) Anticipated that the project work commence prior to end 2021 and completed by March 2022.
- f) Anirban to send a copy of the Flyer to the other ICs for their information

ITEM NO. 9.0 VISITORS CENTRE - DGH

The Meeting discussed a proposal to open a Visitors Centre in DGH to raise revenue for DGH through applying an Entry Fee for Visitors onto the compound. There is evidence that tour-companies are currently charging tourists into Kalimpong a fee for tours around DGH in buses and jeeps without any permission. It was noted that none of this revenue was flowing up to DGH.

As a first port-of-call, an entry-location/building would be required, for anyone entering DGH as a visitor to be registered and get a guided tour of DGH.

Anirban outlined the scope of the proposal to the Committee.

The proposal would be presented to the BOM to get their in-principle approval to the proposed Visitors Centre.

If approval is received, a full investigation and formal in-depth proposal will be submitted to the BOM for consideration.

A suggestion was mad to approach Andrew Yule organization in Kolkata to assess their interest in sponsoring the Visitors Centers, as Yule House was originally built by the Yule Family support and donation.

Anirban/Pauline/
Alfred/Sushil/
Dawn

To meet with the BOM on 24 June 2021 as scheduled and seek in-principle approval to further investigate.



In the absence of the GO NGO Trustees being able to meet in person, for their first formal meeting – Danny advised that he has submitted an application for a PAN Card (Personal Account Number) for GO. As soon as this Card is received, GO will be entitled to open a Bank Account in GO's Name as a group.

Authorised Signatories – Criteria and Use

Following discussion, it was agreed that :

- Chair/Treasurer/BOM Rep./Babita be the authorised signatories i.e., Anirban/Alfred/Pauline/Babita)
- All transactions will be conducted online – with Maximum limit of Rs.50,000 per single transactions/ per single Signature/ per day
- Any on-line payments over Rs.50,000 +Rs.1 would require 2 Signatures for each online transaction.
- Noted that the **State Bank of India** is the preferred Bank for GO – due to easy access.

Mentoring – School Leavers

- Noted there are 3 school leavers interested in discussion career opportunities/mentoring through GO representatives
- Pauline/Babita to make contact with these children
- It was agreed that GO would continue to support all children as a GO organization
- However, the UK extended sponsored kids could be assisted by individual OGBs as they wish e.g., Northern Grahamites Association or other OGBs
- It was proposed that Peter Baker/Melroy Sharpe/Ajit Biswas be contacted to seek their interest in assisting with the extended sponsored children also.
- Anirban will remain the first contact point

Greenhouse – Development

The BOM has approached GO to identify any venture to develop/resurrect the Greenhouse into a viable business proposition.

Action

Sushil undertook to review this subject on behalf of the BOM/GO and submit an initial proposal to the BOM with viable options and business partners available.

Meeting Frequency

Addendum

Following the meeting, the GO Executive Committee was concerned at the large number of items being presented at each meeting and the time required to consider them fully. Therefore, it was recommended and agreed that the GO Committee should be meet bi-monthly commencing August 2021.

Action :

Next Meeting – 21 August 2021 - Time TBA

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.00 IST