



THE GLOBAL OGB ASSOCIATION (GO)

Held on Saturday, 16 September 2023 at 9.30 am IST

Virtual Meeting held via Zoom

PRESNT :

Anirban Bhattacharyya	Chair/NGO Trustee	Mumbai – India	9.30 am
Alfred Khan	Treasurer/NGO Trustee	Siliguri – India	9.30 am
Sushil Marda	Member	Siliguri - India	9.30 am
Nannette Gomez	Member	Kolkata – India	9.30 am
Bernard Trench Lyngdoh	Member	Shillong – India	9.30 am
Tenzing Norzang	Member	Minnesota – USA	11.00 pm
Dawn Van Steensel	Secretary	Sydney – Australia	2.00 pm

Apologies Received :

Garth Mitchell
George Borthwick
Pauline Singh
Babita Chakraborty

Noted 2 of 4 GO NGO Trustees were present.

The meeting was delayed by 30 minutes.

On reaching a quorum, Anirban opened the meeting at 10.00 am IST.

ITEM 1

The GO Management Team noted and received the **Minutes of the Committee** meeting held on 24 June 2023.

ACTION *Noted that the Minutes have been loaded on the GO Website*

ITEM 2 : The **Matters Arising** report was not tabled at this meeting

ITEM 3 : WINTER 2023/24 PROJECT

Pauline will be leading the Winter 2023/24 project.

Volunteers from GO will be present at the School between early December 2023 and early February 2024 to provide general supervision and oversee the work. The actual work will be performed by the Workshop labour force and external specialists, as needed.

Heathland, upgrade the Gymnasium and complete ongoing work at Ahava Guest House is currently scheduled, during this period.

ACTION : *To maintain a consistent arrival of “volunteers” throughout the 2.5-month period, it Pauline/Dawn will be essential to create a visitor schedule.*

ITEM 5 : GO COMMITTEE – 2023/2024

Noted that there were 3 resignations in 2023 i.e. Danny Khawas and Melroy Sharpe (April 2023) and Rashmi Kabra (January 2023).

As per the Terms of the Committee, 5 Committee Members term would have ended in October 2023 i.e. Garth Mitchell, Danny Khawas, Bernard Lyngdoh Trench, Babita Chakravorty, and Dawn Van Steensel.

Considering the resignations during the year, to ensure continuity and maintain the valuable experience they each bring to the work of the GO Committee, it was resolved that Garth, Bernard, Babita, and Dawn be reappointed for another three-year term, without having to seek re-election in 2023.

ACTION *Resolved that the recommendation be received and adopted.*

ITEM 6 : CALLING FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2023

According to the GO Constitution, the call for nominations to join the Committee in 2023 will be published on 16 September 2023 and will close on 30th September 2023. The Notice of this call for nominations will be published on the GO Website and on the GO FB Page.

The filling of available vacancies on the Committee in November 2023, will depend on the number of nominations received and the value the nominees bring to the Committee.

ACTION *Anirban to approve the Notice. Dawn to arrange for the publications by the due date.*

ITEM 7 : JIRC/BOM WORKING GROUP – Update

Dawn presented an update on the collaborative efforts between DGHUK, BOM, and GO in executing the recommendations outlined in the Deloitte Review Report. The initiative commenced in earnest in June 2023. Over a span of 3.5 months, the Core Working Group convened every Tuesday to advance the recommendations. During her presentation, Dawn emphasized accomplishments, areas with potential for improvement, opportunities for enhancement, and challenges encountered.

It was further emphasized that the BOM was very appreciative of GO's involvement in the project. As previously advised Arijit Mallick (Class of '98) and Dawn Van Steensel are representing GO on the Working Group.

As of the reporting date, it was observed that the Working Group had suspended its activities on the project until early November 2023.

ACTION *Submitted for noting only*

ITEM 8 : GO ACCOUNTS - STATUS

The Committee reviewed the GO funds held in India and the UK GO Accounts as at 31 August 2023

FUNDS HELD IN	1 Aug 2023	New Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	Expenditure August 2023	CLOSING BALANCE – 31 August 2023
GO SBI India	Rs.10,80,545	Rs. 1,25,000	Rs. 12,05,545	NIL	Rs. 12,05,545
DGH Account	Rs. 15,68,885			NIL	Rs. 15,68,885
CASH Funds	Rs. 7,75,566			NIL	Rs. 7,75,566
UK GO A/c	£ 17,481			NIL	£ 17,481

Noted, funds have been accrued for:

- completion of Ahava work; WIP
- completion of the Senior Girls Toilets WIP
- repair the 1st Floor balcony floor and railings of the Crozier Club WIP
- contribute towards a Utility Van for the School; NEW
- refurbish 2 Cottages minimum NEW

ACTION : *That the Accounts, as at 31 August 2023, be received and noted.*

ITEM 9 : BIKE RIDE 2022 – Final Accounts

To conclude the financial aspects and wrap up the 2022 Bike Ride project, Tenzing provided a concise update regarding the total funds collected. It was reported that the Riders had raised approximately US\$18,910/-.

As at August 2023, all funds have either been transferred to DGH GO (\$14,910) or are being held in the UK GO Account (\$4947).

The Committee, once again, thanked Tenzing for his innovative idea to raise funds on behalf of GO.

Submitted for noting. **Matter closed**

ITEM 10 : SPONSOR A CHILD PROJECT 2024

The Committee discussed the launch of the “Sponsor a Child” program in India, encompassing Sikkim, Bhutan, and Nepal, to commemorate its 10th Anniversary.

Although the sponsorship program will be administered directly by the Sponsorship Office in India and prospective sponsors, it was highlighted that GO must ensure that the necessary back-office support and documentation are in order.

Noted that Anirban and Dawn have had one meeting with Ian and Angi from the DGHUK Sponsorship office to determine the level of support that GO would receive from their Sponsorship Liaison Officer in DGH. This discussion will resume once the GO documentation is available.

Work in progress

ITEM 11 : 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GLOBAL OGB ASSOCIATION (GO)

Tenzing has accepted the responsibility of spearheading the organisation for a fitting celebration in September 2024 (or date to be agreed) to mark the 10th Anniversary of GO. Anirban's expertise will be used for promotional purposes, while Dawn will manage the necessary documentation and correspondence as needed.

Submitted for notice at this time.

ITEM 12 : 10th ANNIVERSARY PROJECTS

- **Covered Outdoor Area :**

Tenzing inquired about the possibility of allocating the funds generated from the Bike rides toward constructing a roof over the basketball and tennis courts at DGH. This initiative aims to offer extra all-weather protection and create additional outdoor space for gatherings and assemblies during rainy weather.

Sushil committed to engaging in a discussion with the Principal and Headmaster to gauge their interest in GO's proposal regarding this project offer.

- **Bike Ride 2024 - Bhutan to Kalimpong**

To coincide with the 10th Anniversary of GO – another Bike Ride from Bhutan to Kalimpong is being arranged. Dates to be advised.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 11.00 am IST

Next meeting in November 2023 - TBC