



India Association of Minnesota:
Association Records

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5-5-1990

→ 1. Each org to write about ourselves -

2. News corner -

3. Publish list of other organizers ~~to~~ in their

4. Ram will - post

5. Book by Ved Vyas - Punjabai

6. Resource list - on religion

basics

advanced

7. Lit youth going to different C.

→ 8. youth day - each association to bring to
India Club News Letter.

9. Do Roti De cente

9.

when

what

where

→ 26th of May ←

10. Little brother - Jodan -

11. East Meets West.

Religion

Ch. 6

Govt

May 5 & May 12 - 8-9 PM -

June 16 - Sun 8-9 PM -

Live DS

12. Volunteer appreciation May 19th -

\$20K

13. Use of Iyetha - Aghram - Community event free.
June 30th - graduation - dinner dance - youth talent - entertainment 6-10 PM -

July 23 - 27 - Iyetha Camp / canoe - Virek.

NEXT MEETING

DATE & TIME: Saturday, May 5, 1990 at 9:30 AM to Noon
LOCATION : Room 307, Coffman Union, U of M Campus, Minneapolis
AGENDA : Various Task Group Reports & Plan of Action

MINUTES OF MEETING

INDIAN COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS - PRESIDENTS/REPRESENTATIVES

DATE: Saturday, March 3, 1990 at Hindu Mandir - 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM
ATTENDING: See the enclosed list.

- A. On behalf of India Club, Ram Gada welcomed all the participants and thanked all the organizations for the support in activities carried out jointly during 1989. He explained the role of India Club as a community liaison to facilitate and to focus on the issues where all organizations can work together.
- B. Each participant explained about his/her organization mission and shared information about its current and future activities.
- C. A suggestion was made to publish each organization detail in the Newsletter.

ACTION REQUIRED: Each organization will furnish a written statement about itself stating its goals/activities, meeting dates, etc. to India Club which will include it with its organization directory. This information may also be included with "India Resource Guide" published by India Club. Each member shall revise the data when the officer directory is revised.

D. COMMUNITY EVENT CALENDAR

1. Ram reported that the last year's arrangement has not worked very well. Nobody (few exceptions) informed about the upcoming events to India Club which has agreed to be a coordinator.
2. General consensus was that we should try harder for better communication.
3. Dipankar Dasgupta (India Club) provided information in joining with Twin Cities Computer Network (TCCN) for the community calendar. It is free. It only requires telephone modem and computer access. Each member organization representative should join by signing up. Dipankar will update the information received from each organization on his computer mail box in a proper format for every organization to use. Please call him on how to sign up.

→ Dipankar Dasgupta TCCN2519 (O) 785-4328, (H) 935-5347

TCCN Access Instructions

ACCESS NUMBER: 349-6200

LOG ON : TCCN (CAPS)

PASSWORD : GUEST (CAPS)

4. Updated community calendar can also be posted every week at the locations where regular gatherings take place: Hindu Mandir, India Institute, SILC, etc.

*we should
collect*

E. YOUTH ACTIVITIES

1. Godan Nambudiripad informed that Punita Rawal (India Club) has scheduled a brain storming session with youths (age 15-19 years) at St. Paul Student Center on Saturday, March 31, 1990 from 12 noon to 5 PM.
2. Purpose of the meeting is to discuss issues youth and cultural activities interest among youth.
3. Each member was requested to encourage youth from their organizations to attend.
4. Contact Punita Rawal, 894-4254.

F. ADULT/YOUTH TASK COMMITTEE

1. After long interesting discussions, consensus was to form a task group to review concerns by adults related to youth issues and activities. Adults may also need some education and direction on bi-cultural living in this country.
2. This task group will work closely with the youth group headed by Punita Rawal. Geetha Sivasailam agreed to act as a coordinator between these two groups. She will attend March 31, 1990 youth meeting.

3. TASK GROUP MEMBERS

- | | |
|------------------------|----------|
| - Dr. Gundu Rao, Chair | 835-9725 |
| - Smarjit Mitra | 457-2107 |
| - Dr. Dash | 888-9644 |
| - Chandramohan Meka | 378-2349 |
| - Punita Rawal | 894-4254 |
| - Dr. Paul Singh | 483-6383 |
| - Geetha Sivasailam | 894-0060 |

G. COMMUNITY ACTION TASK GROUP

1. Godan Nambudiripad, past year chair, reported on the successful "DIWALI FEAST SHARING" which was held last year on November 18, 1989 at Senior's Place, Northeast Minneapolis.
2. Many community members and organizations contributed generously. The total amount collected was \$2555. The surplus of \$1211 (after expenses) will be used for this year's activities.
3. Community volunteers including many youths participated in the events from grocery buying, cooking and serving to collecting funds.
4. Godan Nambudiripad and all volunteers were congratulated for the job well done.

5. Rajani Patankar agreed to chair this committee for this year. Rajani will report the activities planned at the next meeting.
6. Discussion was held on to collect clothing and send to "Share & Care" a non-profit organization in New Jersey. They send the material to the needy in India. It may be a good idea to form a local chapter.
7. NURSING HOME VOLUNTEERS: In each suburb, liaison can be developed with local nursing homes or hospitals to provide volunteering services by our youth/adult.

8. MEMBERS OF TASK GROUP

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| - Rajani Patankar, Chair | 420-7667 |
| - Govind Shah | 786-5097 |
| - Ram Iyer | 781-0114 |
| - Shrin Murthy | 941-9539 |
| - Shirin Freistedt | 941-0731 |
| - Sudhansu Mishra | 631-9579 |
| - Geeta Ashram Member | Contact Ravi Jain |
| - Hindu Mandir Member | Contact Raj Kant |
| - Rao Kilaparti | 439-4852 |

H. NEWSLETTER TASK GROUP

1. Ram Gada reported the progress made on this issue i.e. a single community-wide newsletter. Many difficulties were perceived even though the end result would be the most desirable.
2. Committee was formed to rethink the matter and report at the next meeting.

3. COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| - Vijay Balakrishnan, India Club | 934-1795 |
| - Surendra Sharma, Hindu Mandir | |
| - Rajat Kumar, Geeta Ashram | 888-2879 |
| - Ram Iyer, Music Society | 781-0114 |
| - Preeti Mathur, SILC | 483-0793 |
| - Geetha Sivasailam, Indo-American | 894-0060 |
| - Ram Gada, Coordinator | 636-1075 |

I. COMMUNITY DATA BASE

1. Each member organization to furnish their membership list to Raj Ramaswamy (894-9785) to compile a common data base.
2. Thanks to those who already have furnished.

J. PUBLIC IMAGE - TASK GROUP

1. Godan proposed that community establish an annual award of scholarship to the person who can contribute to improve public image of Indian culture in form of research writing, thesis or book, etc. at the University.
2. PUBLIC SPEAKER BUREAU: India Club has furnished speakers to various schools. Those who would like to participate please contact Ella Baldwin at 927-7546 for future.
3. It would be great if this group can prepare base resource material on various subjects for the speakers, so that they do not have to spend their valuable time. Resource material can be in form of audio, video, slides, written briefs. Typical guidelines of the presentation can be prepared. List of things to take for demonstration may become very useful.

4. TASK GROUP MEMBERS

- Godan Nambudiripad
- Ella Baldwin
- Dr. Gundu Rao

Please call Godan if you are interested in developing this resource material.

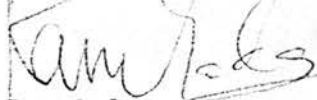
K. SILK - 10th Anniversary Celebration

1. Punjabhat Patel briefed on upcoming celebration of the SILC's 10 years in the community. SILC has contributed tremendously in increasing Indian languages and cultural awareness in the Indian Community and the Community at large.
2. He requested support from each organization member for the SILC Souvenir Issue and annual program in May, 1990.

L. INDIA LITERACY PROJECT 1990

1. Dr. Shankran Menon briefed on this project and asked for the community support. Information for the project was distributed. This is a great opportunity for every youth and adult to get involved.
2. It was decided that each organization will invite Dr. Menon to talk to their group at the upcoming events and appeal directly for their contribution and support.

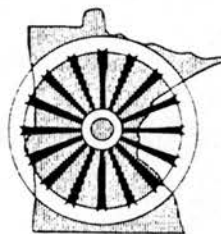
Respectfully submitted,



Ram Gada
Community Liaison Committee
India Club

MARCH 3, 1990 MEETING ATTENDANCE - INDIAN COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

1.	K.P.S. Menon		379-1886
2.	Geetha Sivasailam	Indo-American Assoc.	894-0060
3.	Ram Iyer	Indian Music Society	781-0114
4.	Ravinda K. Jain	Geeta Ashram	429-8679
5.	Gundu Rao	Kannada Koota	835-9725
6.	Chandra Mohan Meka	Telugu (MITA)	378-2349
7.	Rao Kilaparti	Telugu (MITA)	439-4852
8.	Krishnan A.R.	Tamil Association	631-8222
9.	Smarjit Mitra	Bengali Community	457-2107
10.	Raj Kant	Hindu Society of MN	934-8073
11.	Dr. S.K. Dash	Orissa Society of MN	888-9644
12.	Dr. Paul Singh	Sikh Society of MN	483-6383
13.	Punjabhat Patel	SILC	786-7252
14.	Pranab Lahiri		432-8829
15.	Godan Nambudiripad	India Club	894-8945
16.	Ram Gada	India Club Liaison Comm.	636-1075
17.	Rajani Patankar	Marthi Association	420-7667
18.	Govind Shah	Gujarait Samaj	786-5097
19.	Dipankar Dasgupta		935-5347



THE INDIA CLUB OF MINNESOTA

MEETING AGENDA

DATE & TIME: 9:30 AM, Saturday, March 3, 1990

LOCATION : Hindu Mandir, Minneapolis

INVITED TO ATTEND: Presidents

Indian Community Organizations - Twin Cities

Members of Task Groups

MEMO BY : Ram Gada, Community Liaison Committee, India Club

AGENDA

9:15 AM CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:35 AM WELCOME

9:40 AM EACH ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE

10:00 AM REPORTS ON 1989 ACTIVITIES

10:15 AM DISCUSSION ISSUES

~~- Local Community Events -~~

~~- Youth Activities -~~

~~- Common Data Base~~

~~- Support Group~~

- Raise Public Image

- Community Calendar

- Newsletter

- Any New Agenda - Lamp

11:30 AM SUMMARY & PLAN OF ACTION

12 Noon ADJOURN

Enclosures: - Exhibit A - Showing Issues Raised at 1989 Meeting of all Organizations.

- Community Organizations and Officers Directory 1990

YOUR HELP IS REQUESTED, Please

1. Plan to attend this meeting with your representatives interested in serving on various task groups or committees.
2. R.S.V.P. to Ram Gada at 636-1075 (H) or 633-5405 (O).
3. Bring a Membership List of your organizations (for common data base).
4. Prepare a list of upcoming events with dates and locations (Community Event Calendar).
5. Call if you have any questions.

Looking forward to see you on March 3, 1990.

EXHIBIT A

I. CULTURAL INTEGRATION WITH COMMUNITY AT LARGE

1. Communicate with Local Community at Large.
2. Assist in Charity and Community Help Programs.
- ③ Participate in Local Events i.e. Food Share, Monetary Contributions, Diwali Outreach, Asia-Pacific Council, telethon, University Education Awareness.
- ④ Our Youth - Heritage Awareness, support of School of India for Languages & Culture (SILC), High School Graduates Recognition and Career Assistance.
5. Adopted Indian Children Cultural Support.
6. Indian Identity.
7. Political Action, Awareness, Education.
- ⑧ Raise Public Image About India & Indian Culture Speakers Bureau, Resource Material, Guide Publication
9. Interact with Other State and National Organizations.
10. Host Family Program
11. Encourage Members to Join Internat'l Organizations like Lions, Rotary Club, etc.

II. CULTURAL INTEGRATION WITHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

1. Arrange Cultural Programs on a Community Basis.
2. Interact with Student Organizations.
3. Host Family Program at Universities.
4. Develop a Community Event Calendar to Avoid Conflicts.
- ⑤ Publish Newsletter - Joint
- ⑥ Develop Common Data Base
- ⑦ Form a Community Support Group for Emergency, Relief, etc.
8. Find Ways to Help India

III. YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- ① Obtain Feedback From Youth
2. Youth Day
3. Youth Camps
4. Provide Incentives for Youth Participation
5. Newsletter
6. Arrange Regular Meetings
- ⑦ Facilitate Youth Entertainment

Number in right margin against each item shows number of votes received from the group when asked to choose the top two priorities.

Circled items in A, B & C Groups were selected as high priority for immediate action.

India Club of Minnesota

P Godan Nambudiripad 894-8945
VP Raj Ramaswami 894-9785
S Rajani Patankar 420-7667
T Jacob Cherucheril 888-3599

Indian Music Society of Minnesota

P Ram Iyar 781-0114
S Viji Keshaviah
S Usha Balakrishnan 934-1795
T Arun Subra
VP Valli Sivasaiem 894-6114

Indo-American Association

P Geetha Sivasaiem 894-6114
VP Ashim Kohli 636-9861
S Vijay Agarwal 331-5013
T Tarun Sethi 340-9937

School of India for Languages & Culture (SILC)

P Punjabhai Patel 786-7252
Principal Aparna Ganguli 483-5438
S K.P. Subrahmanian 739-5557
T Mani Subrahmanian 633-7139

Geeta Ashram / INDIA INSTITUTE / MAHAVIDALAYA

COB Dr. Ved Sharma (507) 387-3992
S Kunal Kamran 645-9827
T Dr. Suresh Ghai 482-9809
Ravi Jain
VIVEK Kamran
Hindu Society of Minnesota 490-1820

COB Dr. Kamal Sahgal 937-9231
P Raj Kant 934-8073
VP Parag Desai 941-9213
S Ajay Rastogi 593-4072
T Bipin Gandhi 631-3162

Jain Center of Minnesota

P Ram Gada 636-1075
S Kusum Shah 425-0016
T Dhanendra Shah 786-0491

Sikh Society of Minnesota

Dr. Paul Singh 483-6383
Kehar Singh 944-0799
D.J. Sikka 471-8711
Harjit Singh Madan
Bhupender Singh

Bengali Community

Smarjit Mitra 457-2107
Tapan Bhattacharya 829-1746

Gujarati Samaj

P Govind Shah 786-5097
VP Pranjivan Parmar 566-8902
GS Parag Desai 941-9213
T Suresh Shah 452-7353

Kannada Koota

P Shrinivasa Murthy 941-9539
T Usha Kumar 488-3736
S Dattatreya Shetti 591-9858

Malayalee Community

Jacob Cherucheril 888-3599
Godan Nambudiripad 894-8945

Marathi Association

P Rajani Patankar 420-7667
VP Alka Dabde 566-8129
S Rijuta Pathre 738-5901
T Pravin Rangnekar 934-3954

Nritya Jyoti

P Rita Mustafi 537-8291
VP Ranee Ramaswami 894-9785
S Kalyan Mustafi 537-8291
T Raj Ramaswami 894-9785

Orissa Society of Minnesota

P Dr. S.K. Dash 888-9644

Telugu Association

P Sesha Chary 633-4383
VP Veda Vadlamuti 636-1188
T Sarveswara Rao 439-4852

Tamil Association of Minnesota

A.R. Krishnan 631-8222

ISLAMIC Center

United Christian Club

Shirin Fristedt 941-0731

Getting Involved in Civic Actions

By Dr. Joy Cherian

The first and foremost task people face when they migrate to a new country is planning their survival in their newly adopted homeland. Most often this is accomplished through individual and family efforts.

The second task should be to preserve the success of their experience for the benefit of future generations of their own people in the new land.

These efforts will yield far-reaching benefits if they become involved in the political process with a sense of civic responsibility.

To protect and enrich their own lives and to secure rights and privileges for themselves and their heirs, new immigrants should involve themselves in farsighted civic actions. Such actions will eventually have an impact on the programs of government agencies and on the thinking of political leaders.

In other words, an immigrant community should directly or indirectly influence political developments.

Naturally, such political involvement - infused with commitment - will lead the new, emerging community to acquire political clout locally and nationally. This indeed is happening to the Indian community in the United States.

Among ethnic politicians, only those individuals who apply themselves to understanding the psychology and sociology of the aspirations of their own community, will thrive because American politics today is in significant part a process of bargaining among religious and ethnic political leaders.

Hence, it is important to evaluate the current community organizations and politicians and encourage committed, honest and dedicated leaders to emerge from the grass-roots. They will be familiar with the community's dreams and frustrations because of their first-hand knowledge. They will also be able to motivate and guide the community. They will observe, study and evaluate issues affecting it and will articulate their arguments clearly and forcefully before elected and other government officials. And they must show discretion,

persistence, and perseverance in following up such contacts.

True community leaders should sacrifice their egos and reserve the front row for their hardworking and loyal partners. Genuine leaders do not even think of themselves as 'leaders'; they are volunteers for a cause - greater than their own individual interests. Genuine leaders command respect; they don't demand it. An ethnic community leader should stand for the larger interests of the community and of the country beyond the vested interest of a segment of the community.

Newly emerging leaders should be encouraged and recognized by the old guard. The foundation laid by the old guard should provide a forum for new and imaginative leaders to assemble and plan the future.

All the leaders should recognize and respect one another. They should share their knowledge and wisdom and should receive the benefits of each other's experience.

Remember this: the success of a true leader will depend on his or her words and deeds and not on the failures and misdeeds of other leaders and would-be leaders. The community should weed out true and responsible leaders from deceivers and pretenders.

Remember too that visiting artists and assigned diplomats from India will not lead our community. We must find leaders in our own community to guide and motivate us to fight for our goals, and finally to secure our civil rights.

No ethnic community will survive in a foreign land if members of that community become socially inactive and politically apathetic. It is the unavoidable civic responsibility of every one of us to be personally involved in the affairs of our own community and of the society at large.

In light of these observations and comments, let us look back at what happened politically to people of Indian origin who migrated to different parts of the world in the past few centuries. Let us examine what is happening to them and their offspring in those lands. From the lessons of yesterday and from the newly acquired knowledge of today, I hope we acquire wisdom to face the coming days with full commitment both to our ancestry and to our future in our new homeland.

(Joy Cherian is a commissioner at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Washington, D.C. These are excerpts from a speech he gave at the First Global Convention of People of Indian Origin in New York.)