



INTERNATIONAL 'WE SERVE' FOUNDATION, INC.

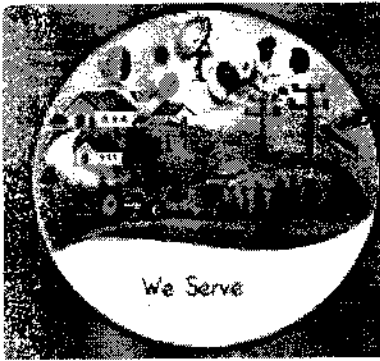
Foundation Board Meeting – Minutes Saturday, May. 6, 2017

1. **2.07 PM** - Chair Mr. V. Venugopal called the Board meeting to order. Chair, Venugopal, Prof. Seetha Subramanian, Dr. Sibhu Saha, Mrs. Usha Chandra (via Skype), Mr. Mani Narayanasamy, and M. S. Viji attended. Dr. Nirmla Desai and Prof. Sudharshan were excused and had given their proxy to the Board Chair. There was adequate quorum to conduct the Board meeting. Mr. Rohit Patel and Dr. Ila Patel, invited guests attended the Board meeting and participated in the discussions. The Board Chair expressed sincere appreciation for their support and participation in IWSF missions & projects.

2. **Minutes of the last Board Meeting** held on Jan. 22, 2017 were submitted for review and approval. There were no changes. The Minutes as submitted were proposed, seconded and approved unanimously.

3. **Financial status Update** – Jan. 1 to May. 5, 2017 was presented in detail and accepted as presented. IWSF receives substantial number of requests for projects and that changes the budget estimate. Budget for each active project and those yet to be activated were presented in slides relating to that project. AK-EDUSAT Budget \$ 960,000; Solar projects to be activated \$ 365,000+; Schools infra-structure projects \$ 250,000; Four research projects in healthcare seek \$ 1.2 mill. Education research \$ 180,000, etc. IWSF by itself is NOT expected to come up with all the funds. IWSF works with many entities (such as Rotary Clubs, private foundations, Trusts, etc.) to raise some of the funds and shared fund raising often multiplies the donations. It is well accepted by the Project partners. Funds need not be routed through IWSF every time; quite practical in foreign countries; local donors directly interact with the local non-profit and they receive feedback as well.

4. **Missions & Projects Update** – presented in detail by M S Viji, MD
 - [a] Active projects in several locations were highlighted; some info is repetitive due to their ongoing nature.
 - [b] **Network:** IWSF believes in inclusiveness, collaboration, coordination and collective efforts to address many pressing needs of the less fortunate. Takes some time and effort to do due diligence to bring on board local non-profits to delegate project responsibilities for implementation and long term support.
 - [c] **SMART CLASSROOMS (ESC):** 54 ESC are operational and 48 more will be installed under Phase 2 Solar Rameswaram project. Hundreds of ESC in many parts of India are being planned in collaboration with many interested entities – such as V Govindarajan Memorial Trust, Rotary Clubs in Gujarat, Karnataka, AP, Telangana, TN, Pondy, Maharashtra, etc. Many Rotary Clubs in USA, Canada & India are participating.
 - [d] **FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES (FPL):** 13 x 40' FCL have been already dispatched. 14th is getting ready in Detroit to dispatch before June 10th. 359,830 + books with a conservative value exceeding \$ 1.75 mill shall benefit 750,000 + deserving children and adults via 798 + FPL set up in collaboration with over 1,570 Rotary Clubs and other non-profits in India. Volunteers in USA and India help in many ways for this project.



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[e] **SOLAR POWER Projects:** Details of the Phase 2 Solar Power Supply to 26 public schools in the island of Rameswaram, 48 ESC were presented. Several requests for solar projects – were presented as well.

[f] **VISITING SCHOLARS SEMINARS:** This is well received and will be continued for many years.

[g] **Voluntary Tele-Med Free Consultations:** MORI Village Rural Clinic in AP and collaboration with IM-1B are ongoing. AP Chief Minister Mr. Chandrababu Naidu recently visited this rural clinic.

[h] **Basic Amenities:** Several projects seek funds and support from IWSF for (i) safe, clean water – with Borewells, (ii) Reverse Osmosis systems, (iii) Rain Water Harvesting (iv) desks, benches, (v) Bio-toilet facilities, (vi) sports facilities, (vii) Tricycles & Prosthesis, (viii) Women empowerment programs, (ix) solar lighting, (x) disaster recovery and long term relief measures, etc. Based on available funding, these shall be taken up.

[i] **RESEARCH Projects:** IWSF has met with the leaders in UK and Univ of Columbia to set up bilateral collaboration for healthcare research projects in India. Expecting these to become active in due course.

[j] **IWSF upcoming events:** June 15 & 16, 2017 - Five (so far confirmed) Rotarians from India to visit Lexington, KY right after the Atlanta RIF Centennial Celebrations (June 10-14). RC Lexington shall co-host the Reception on June 15th evening; Lexington Rodeo on June 16th evening. Requested the help of the Board members during that time to host / help transport visiting guests while in town.

- (i) Phase 2 Solar power inauguration is planned for early Sep. 2017 in Rameswaram. Details shall be sent when ready. (ii) Planning to invite Mr. V. Ponraj for a fund-raising event for IWSF around Oct. 15, 2017 and celebrate the birthday of H. E. Dr. Abdul Kalam.
- (ii) Global Lex has plans to do INDIAN ARTS program in Nov – Dec 2017. CEO Isabel Taylor as asked IWSF to support and help this event.
- (iii) I have accepted invitation to interact with the Youth Camp participants in Baroda by mid Jan. 2018.

[k] **Changing CHARITY landscape:** Many countries are very strict about foreign flow of funds for charitable causes and mandate strict reporting measures. IWSF collaborates with those in full compliance.

5. **Adjournment:** The Chair, Mr. Vinodh Venugopal thanked those attending the Board meeting. As there was no other topic for discussion, adjourned the meeting at 3.25 PM.

6. **Next Board Meeting:** Saturday, 2.00 PM Sat. Aug. 12, 2017 at 895 Edgewater Drive, Lexington, KY

Presented at the Aug. 12, 2017 Board meeting for review and acceptance.

Accepted as submitted Accepted with noted changes

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Chair, IWSF Board of Trustees
Vinodh Venugopal

Aug. 12, 2017