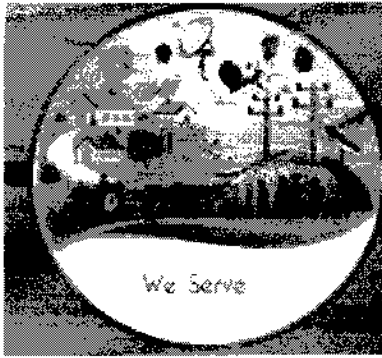


# INTERNATIONAL 'WE SERVE' FOUNDATION, INC.

## Foundation Board Meeting – Minutes Oct. 22, 2016

1. 2.00 PM - Chair Mr. V. Venugopal called the Board meeting to order. Chair, Venugopal, Dr. Nima Desai, Dr. Sibhu Saha, Prof. Seetha Subramanian, Prof. D. Sudharshan, Mr. Mani Narayanasamy (via Skype) and Dr M S Viji attended. Mrs. Usha Chandra was excused (unavoidable emergency). There was adequate quorum to conduct the Board meeting.
2. Minutes of the last Board Meeting held on Jul. 9, 2016 were submitted for review and approval. There were no changes and the Minutes were proposed, seconded and approved unanimously as submitted.
3. Financial status Update – Oct. 20, 2016 – presented by M. S. Viji was reviewed in detail, including Phase 2 funding, distribution and budget estimates. Clarified the itemized expenses and if RI grant gets approved, adequate funding will be available to complete Phase 2. Would need to reach out to generous donors to carry out many of the Missions and Projects that are operational and being planned.
4. Active Missions & Projects Update – was presented in detail by M S Viji, MD
  - a) **Igniting Minds Mission – progress**
    - ◆ Free Public Libraries in India – update 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> FCL to leave by Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> and mid-November 2016. Funds (\$ 9,000/FCL) are needed to cover the freight.
    - ◆ E-Learning Smart Classrooms – update (17 + 26 + 60 + 70 + 100+ = 273 estimate) was discussed in detail to help with the Global Partnership of Rotary Clubs in India and abroad; seek the RI Global Matching Grant to set up 70 to 100 ESC / RI District.
    - ◆ Visiting Educators Project update – UK Educator and others shall inform a month or two before they travel to India. Based on the travel itinerary, visits to local schools and colleges to interact with the teachers and students shall be arranged through the local charitable organizations collaborating with IWSF.
    - ◆ 'Space Tech – India' Contest and Update was presented, including the 10 teams chosen to be trained by experts to design and develop the AK-EDU-SAT-001. When sufficient funds are available, this shall be launched – estimated time – Dec 2018.
  - b) **Solar Power Mission:**
    - Phase 2 solar power - Rotary Dist. 6740 & 3212 partnership – update will facilitate completing the Solar Power Supply for the remaining 12 public schools in Rameswaram. The installation of Smart Classrooms will ensure the solar power helps promote education using modern technology and access the vast online resources.
    - Solar Lights for Refugee Camp – 600 families (500 adults + 450 children) planned if sufficient funds can be generated from generous donors.
  - c) **Disaster Relief Mission:**

**Flood Disaster Relief – TN** FPL + ESC set up in flood affected schools – 22 are to be set up during Oct. 2016. Many more will be planned when funds become available.



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**Fire Disaster in Nagaram, AP** – report and efforts to help. Need funds to continue free tuition + healthy supper for 130 affected children.

**d) Health and Sanitation Mission:**

**[i] Tele-Med Collaboration:** Mori Village, AP Rural Clinic – IMIB – provided details and about 8 doctors are volunteering through the efforts of IWSF.

**[ii] Bio-toilet Facilities:** 1,212 Bio-Toilets in Rameswaram Island will be cost effective, once the land is approved by the City Council. Will need to raise funds to install these facilities soon.

**e) Empower Africa:**

**[i] Kenya** - No new activity. Need funds to continue renovation of rural schools

**[ii] Nigeria:** Interacting with Rotary Clubs – exploring possibilities

**f) Planned Activities** – up to Dec. 31, 2016 – discussed these in detail, above.

- ✓ Oct. 2016: Flood Relief in 4 districts – 17 ESC approved and to be installed during the week of Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ Oct. 2016: Phase 2 Solar Power Supply (35 kva) + 31 ESC – RI Global Grant to be sent in by Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>. Await the decision by Nov. end to complete installation by Feb. end. May plan inauguration in mid-March, 2017.
- ✓ Oct + Nov 2016: Plan to dispatch 2 more 40' FCL donated books to India – need funds to cover freight.
- ✓ Nov. 2016: India Trip TOTAL LITERACY Collaboration with Rotary – the Board wished Dr M S Viji a safe travel – to meet several Rotary Clubs in India in various cities to discuss TOTAL LITERACY initiative.

**7. 2016 meetings plan:** Saturday, 2.00 PM Sat. Dec. 17, 2016 – Dr. Sudharshan advised to hold the next meeting by early January 2017, after the December Holidays. Dr. Desai plans to be out of the country in Dec. 2016 and be back by Mid-January.

8. No other items came up for the Board to discuss.

9. The Chair thanked Dr. Sudharshan for the donation of the 11 Kits worth about US \$ 1,000 – to be donated to various schools. He thanked the Board of Trustees for their continued support, attendance and very useful ideas. With no other business to come before the Board, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 3.34 PM.

Prepared by: M S Viji, MD to the Jan. 21, 2017 Board. Accepted as presented [✓] with noted changes [ ]

Chair, IWSF Board: *V. Venugopal*

Date: Jan. 21, 2017

VINDHA VENUGOPAL

*M S Viji*  
1/21/17