

INTERNATIONAL 'WE SERVE' FOUNDATION, INC.

Foundation Board Meeting – Minutes Jul. 9, 2016

1. Chair Mr. V Venugopal called the Board meeting to order at 2.03 PM
2. Vinodh Venugopal, Nirmala Desai, Usha Chandra, Mani Narayanasamy and M S Viji participated. Prof. D. Sudharshan, and Prof. Seetha Subramanian were not able to attend. Dr. Sibhu Saha could not attend as well.
3. Minutes of the last Board Meeting (Apr. 9, 2016) – were reviewed, proposed to be accepted and approved as presented without any change.
4. Financial status Update – up to Jul. 6, 2016 – by M S Viji were presented and explained since the last one in Apr. 2016. Most of the funds budgeted for several projects need not go through IWSF as these will be handled by the respective organization taking primary responsibility. The Financial data as presented were approved and accepted by the Board.

5. Active Missions & Projects Update – by M S Viji – was presented in a ppt format.

a) Igniting Minds Mission – progress

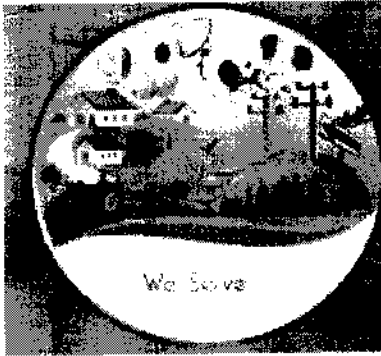
- ◆ E-Learning Smart Classrooms – update $(10 + 50 + 24 + 134 + 113 + 50 = 381)$ shall be set up over the next several months in collaboration with Rotary Clubs, AKVIM, Manubika, and other entities such as Tamil Sangam of Missouri, etc. that sponsor some of these projects.
- ◆ Free Public Libraries in India – update $9 \times 40'$ FCL & > 500 Rotary Clubs are actively participating. Several more Rotary Clubs are eager to receive the books and will continue this worthwhile project to set up 120,000 FPL over the next several years.
- ◆ Visiting Educators Project update – 16 to date $> 5,500$ students is again a major success and many more are willing to take part. With the help of the local Rotary Clubs in India, this will be expanded to many parts of India during 2016.

b) Solar Power Mission:

- 24 Schools solar lighting - Rotary Dist 6740 & 3212 partnership – update: 12 schools in Rameswaram are now enjoying uninterrupted power and 12 more are waiting to get their solar power supply, once the Phase 2 grant application is submitted and approved.
- Phase 1 Grant \$ 71,575 – completed well in time and is a resounding success – as explained by Rtn. Jeanne Clark who had come to Rameswaram to verify the installation and their usefulness in all the schools.
- June 24, 2016 Phase 1 Grand Inauguration event update – Jeane and Kenneth described the event and the way it was focused on the students – with emphasis on future technologies. The entire audience had a great time with a lot of student participation.
- Solar Lights for 4 Fishing Villages, AP – 13,760 + population are now operational, making a definite change in their lives.
- Solar Lights for 104+ homes – Fishing Village - 4 street LED lights were installed on July 5, 2016 and have been very well received by the residents of that housing complex.

c) Empower East Africa: No new activity to report. Need funds to continue the renovation work.

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d) **Uttarakhand Empowerment:** Rural Medical Clinics and Tele-Medicine help being discussed

e) **Fire Disaster in Nagaram, AP** – report and efforts to help 130+ affected Children – free tuition & supper – funds needed to continue. Will try to secure more funds as this is certainly very effective with the dedicated role of the AP Neil Armstrong Team Organisation based in that area.

f) **Planned Activities**

- ✓ Flood Relief in 4 districts – 50 FPL & 10 ESC approved shall be installed before July 27, 2016. Will provide feedback to the Board after these are in use for a few weeks.
- ✓ TOTAL LITERACY Collaboration with Rotary India (50 + 24 + 134 + 113, etc.) - expected to expand rapidly to all of India, once the 10 ESC in flood hit areas and 50 more in TN, Pondy and Kerala are in place within the next few weeks. About 350 shall cover over 400,000 poor students and adults.
- ✓ Solar Power Supply – Phase 2 (35 kva) + 24 ESC - to send in the Grant request – with the help of RC Lexington and the International Services Committee. If the grant is approved by end of Sep. the entire project would be completed before the end of Dec. 2016. May plan a grand celebration at that time.
- ✓ 1st Anniversary Memorial – Invitation to Mr. V. Ponraj as the Chief Guest – based on approval of visa by the US Consulate. Will finalize the program after consulting with Mr. Ponraj and help with the entire trip plans.
- ✓ Visit RC in USA & India to promote collaboration – along with Jeanne Clark and raise funds for Phase 2.
- ✓ Dispatch 3 more 40' FCL books to Flood Relief Program – seek funds – to cover the FCL freight cost – from many organizations and individuals.

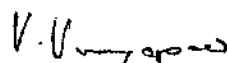
7. **2016 meetings plan:** Saturday – starting at 2.00 PM Sat. Oct. 8, 2016

8. Any other items Board decides to discuss – No other items were brought up for discussion., The Chair thanked Rtn. Jeanne Clark and Mr. Kenneth Clark for accepting our invitation to attend today's Board meeting as our special guests and providing their perspective of the India trip as well as their plans to promote Phase 2. The Chair also thanked the RC Lexington and the Dist 6740 for their historic support of the Solar Power Supply to benefit the children of Rameswaram for the next 20 + years. The Chair thanked the RC Lexington and other 41 RC in Dist 6740 for taking up the Phase 2 and wished it all success as well.


9. Adjournment by the Chair – with no other business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3.22 PM.

Presented by: M S Viji, President - to be presented at the next Board meeting for review and approval.

Changes: [] No change; approved as presented. [] Following changes were made-

Signature of Chair: 
Mr. Vinodh Venugopal

Date: Oct. 22, 2016


10/22/16