

Issue No. 1405

Date: 27 Baishakh 2078 / 10 May 2021

<p><u>Today's Programme:</u> Regular Weekly Meeting</p> <p><u>Forthcoming Programme:</u> 17 May – Talk Programme by Dr. Rinjan Amatya, WWF Canada, on 'Big Cats of Nepal'</p>	<p><u>Congratulatory Events</u></p> <p><u>Birthdays:</u> Rtn. Jeevan K. Shrestha – 6 May Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty – 9 May</p> <p><u>Wedding Anniversaries:</u> Nil</p>
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Minutes of Meeting No. 1753

Date: 20 Baishakh 2078 / 3 May 2021

1. President Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang called the virtual meeting No. 1753, to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for Nepal & world peace, health, and happiness, and specially for good health during the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. The 'House' wished speedy recovery to Rtn. Kamal B. Nyachhyon and Rtn. Pushkar M. Shakya's son who have been sick with COVID-19.
3. The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
4. Pledges of 'Happy News/Sunshine' contribution and to the Operational Fund marked as 'OF':
 - Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan – for 'Happy Birthday' in absentia (ha.ba.).
 - Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha – for 'Happy Birthday' (NRs. 1,000).
 - Rtn. Shanta K. & Nirmala Shrestha – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary', and for being honoured by the local government for his contributions to the development of Bandipur (NRs. 2,000).
 - Rtn. Matsyendra L. Kayastha – for the 'Happy Birthday' of spouse Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha (NRs. 2,000).
 - Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi – for joining the meeting after some time, and for good health of all (NRs. 500).
5. Other Contributions:

Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty confirmed electronic deposit of NRs. 220,000 to the PEEF and KPAD accounts of the RCP, as per pledges announced last week.

Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey suggested to include the contribution pledges to the KPAD Fund also in the regular google sheets circulated by Rtn. Preeti Khemka.
6. Rotary News/Information:
 - President Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang briefed on the following:
 - NRCL meeting held on 28 April 2021 with the planned establishment of an 'Oxygen Bank' by Rotary District (See also Board minutes on next page). Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi represented the RCP on the planning meeting for this today. He mentioned that due to the Government's policy on oxygen bank, it was agreed that Rotary could not be doing this, but instead NRCL was discussing support to five possible projects related to COVID-19 pandemic. Details are being further discussed and the RCP would be willing to support these.
 - Excellent achievements of the DG during the current Rotary Year: 860 new members of which 182 women (Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary added that total new members were 1,150 and this is a net number after deducting the members who left); 19 new clubs, and 24 new Rotaract clubs. Total Rotary members in Nepal has reached 5,805.
 - RNLM workshop held on 2 to 3 May with participation of Rtns. Lalita C. Thapa and Mahendra S. Rawal plus PDG Rtn. Tirtha M. Sakya as the resource person. Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal, coordinator of RNLM/TEACH of the RCP, added that the workshop, with focus on provincial and district officials, was very useful to learn more on TEACH/WINS/Back to School programmes.
 - The District public image and membership seminar was held on 1 May 2021 virtually with a high number of 410 participants.
 - Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht suggested to share information on the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on Rotarians in Nepal on a regular basis.
7. Salutation: By PP Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha - RC of Cakovec, Republic of Croatia; Chartered: 1997; and Members: 31. District: 1913, Clubs: 91 including 2 satellite clubs, and Members: 1855.
8. Before the closure of the meeting by the President, on behalf of the Secretary, Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty announced: total contribution pledges of NRs. 5,500 to the sunshine fund of the RCP and attendance: 26 members & 4 spouses.

Rotary Questions/Answers presented by Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang

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| Q. What is the Rotary designation for the month of May? | A. Youth Service month |
| Q. When and where will the Rotary International Convention in 2023 take place? | A. Melbourne, Australia from 27 to 31 May 2023 |
| Q. What is the TRF contribution goal for District 3292 in the Rotary Year 2020-21? | A. US\$ 1 million |

Summary of Talk Programme by Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi on the current situation of COVID-19 pandemic in Nepal

Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi made a detailed power point presentation on the above subject focussing on its second wave in Nepal. Upon request of members, the very useful presentation has been shared with all by e-mail.

Dr. Regmi explained the nature of Corona virus causing COVID-19 disease and elaborated on the DNA and RNA. He covered Corona virus replication/multiplication; mode of transmission; carriers; vaccine; mutations; the new strain/new variants; and current viral waves in Nepal. He underscored that the new variant transmits fast with more serious consequences. He also suggested many points for the management of COVID-19 that are recognised internationally, including many immunity building measures. He emphasised that the best solution, for the time-being, is to avoid contacts and stay at home.

After a very interesting and useful discussion and Q/A session, President Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang concluded the session thanking Dr. Regmi on behalf of the RCP family for the excellent presentation and responses to the questions raised.

10th Board Meeting of Rotary Year 2020-2021 held on 30 April 2021

Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha presented the minutes/decisions of the 10th Board meeting, hosted jointly by Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa and Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi. The virtual Board meeting was conducted at 5 p.m. on 30 April 2021 with the participation of twelve Board members. The minutes/decisions of the Board below were endorsed/approved by the 'House'.

The minutes/decisions of the 10th Board meeting are as follows:

1. The minutes of the 9th Board Meeting were reviewed with updates of the ongoing projects.
2. The Board endorsed the allocation of NRs. 5,000 for the sponsorship of a District event committed by the President. The international fellowship of Cricket loving Rotarians (IFRC-Nepal) was held at the Tribhuvan University field on 8 April 2021. A certificate of appreciation was awarded to the RCP for being one of the sponsors of the event.
3. The Board endorsed an allocation of up to NRs. 25,000 for the establishment of an oxygen bank for Rotarians affected by COVID-19 sponsored by PDG Rtn. Jaya R.L. Shah. A proposal on this named 'Jeevan ko Astha' was made during the NRCL meeting. The Board nominated Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi to represent the RCP to establish the modalities of its operation including to see if its use could be expanded beyond the Rotarians.
4. While the selection of KEEA awardees and graduate studies awardees have already been completed, it was suggested to postpone the award ceremony due to the new wave of COVID-19 restrictions.
5. The Board also agreed to postpone the Vocational Award ceremony.
6. Update on Italian donation of a container load of disinfectants – the container arrived Calcutta on 17 April already and follow-ups are being made for its onforwarding to Birgunj dry port and to the MoHP in Kathmandu. A handover ceremony is planned upon its arrival.
7. President Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang presented the financial report with details of income and expenditure as of end April 2021 with projection of surplus due to COVID-19, which was noted by the Board.
8. The Board suggested to continue this year's editorial team of the Lalitdhara souvenir for Rotary Year 2021-2022.
9. The Board agreed to retain the current membership fee of NRs. 25,000 per year for the Rotary Year 2021-2022, which will be due by 30 June 2021.
10. It was suggested to update the RCP family on the current situation of COVID-19 pandemic in Nepal. Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi was requested to brief on this subject during the next weekly meeting on Monday.
11. The Board wished a speedy recovery to Rtn. Sita Gurung who had a successful operation recently.
12. In view of the Covid-19 pandemic, there was no post-board fellowship, therefore, hosts Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa and Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi pledged to contribute NRs. 25,000 each to the RCP members' fellowship fund.
13. On behalf of all Board members, Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha gave a 'Vote of Thanks' to Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa and Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi for hosting this virtual Board meeting, and for their contribution pledges towards the RCP members' fellowship fund.