

Indian Women's Association, Singapore

Minutes – 18th AGM

The IWA 18th AGM was held on Wednesday 18th March 2015 at the Rang Mahal Restaurant , Pan Pacific Hotel, Singapore.

The AGM commenced at 10.30am .

MCs for the AGM Manjula Bains and Preeti Dubey , welcomed the Invited including Her Excellency Mrs Vijay Thakur Singh , Indian High Commissioner , VIPs, IWA members and Committee ..

The Motion was presided by the two Secretaries Manjula Bains and Perna Rajpal.

Invited Guests Present at the 18th AGM:

- **GOH - Her Excellency Mrs Vijay Thakur Singh , Indian High Commissioner.**
- IWA Auditor Shashikala Devi ,from Sashikala Devi Associates
- Ms Ann Bernal & Mr Esmond Tan from SWAMI Home
- Ms Patricia Loh Soke Yin, Associate Director SMU.
- Ms Priyanka Sharma, Research Librarian at SMU Library
- Mdm Satya Karanth, Business Head ,SONY Entertainment Network
- Mr T Shanmugaratnam-Marketing Director Singapore Press Holdings Ltd,
- Ms Amrita Kaur ,Reporter Tabla
- Mr Gary Seah , from Ministry of Culture Community and Youth
- Mdm Malathi Das , President Singapore Council of Women's Organizations.
- MR K Barathan , CEO,SINDA
- Mr S Devendran , Director SINDA
- Mr Russel Heng, President ,Transient Workers Count 2
- Dr Uma Rajan,Vice Chairman, South Siglap Community Centre, Management Committee and Chairman, Community arts and Culture club ,Joo Chiat.
- Mdm Seema Jain,Grassroot leader , Siglap South Community Center.
- Mr V. P. Jothi , First Vice President Indian Association.

The 18th AGM comprised 7 sections:

1. Welcoming IWA members & Guests ; Address by Her Excellency Mrs Vijay Thakur Singh , Indian High Commissioner.
2. Presentation of Accounts 2014-2015 by Treasurer
3. Proposals for the Year 2015-2016 by Secretary

4. Presentation of Secretary's Reports- ICare & Interest Groups ; Special Events in 2014-2015. 5. Speech by outgoing President 2014-2015 & acknowledgement of Committee members.
6. Quiz
7. Announcement of President 2015-2016 & Appointment of Committee 2015-2016.
8. Lunch

1. Welcome Address:

- A vocal recital by IWA Music Club Chair Raji Vishwanathan presented the Ganesh Vandana & Swagatam
- IWA member **Dhanashree** presented a Kathak Classical Dance recital.
- The Patron of the Indian Women's Association , Her Excellency Mrs Vijay Thakur Singh , Indian High Commissioner addressed IWA members.
- A cheque of 1500sgd presented to Mr Russel Heng from TWCT by Vijji Ramki from the IWA Migrant Workers team.

2. Presentation of Accounts for 2014-2015

Accounts presented for adoption by IWA Treasurer Preeti Dubey .

Highlights include :

- Allocation of 5000 SGD towards SG 50 Celebration & Events . This was proposed by : **Gowri Aiyer** ; And seconded by : **Piu Lahiri**.
 - Total No of members 2014 - 238
 - Total Income 159,839
 - Total expenditure - 123,252
 - Net income - 36,587
- Details of Financial Accounts sent via email to all members 15 days prior to AGM.
- IWA Auditor Shashikala Devi addressed IWA about her long association with IWA.
- Auditor Shashikala Devi was felicitated by Piu Lahiri .

3. Proposals for the year 2014 :

- a) Sashi Kala Devi Associates to be re-appointed as IWA Auditors 2015-2016.
- b) Regarding Community Clubs – SWAMI HOME to be allocated S\$ 2000 annually at the beginning of the year.
- c) Allocation of Budget of 5000 SGD to be set aside for SG 50 for Integration Events Team.– Proposed by Gowri Iyer . .

d) SMU Vidya Scholarship Fund – 5000SGD allocated for the year 2015 to be used from existing funds.

e) An amount of 2000 SGD each was set aside in the year 2012 for AWWA(Asian Women's Welfare Association) and Jurong Kids project Fund. It was proposed to make the funds available under Jurong Kids Project to be re allocated to BSS for 2015 & the funds available under AWWA to be re allocated to the Migrant Worker Project 2015.

All the above proposals were made and voted for ; and approved by a show of hands.

4. Presentation of Reports - Secretary 2014-2015.

Secretaries **Manjula Bains** and **Prerna Rajpal** presented reports about ICare groups, Interest Groups , Special Events ,Membership Privileges & Media Report ;for the year 2014-2015 . The presentation was accompanied by Visuals made available by Media team .

Reports Included :

- **I Care**

- BSS
- SWAMI Home
- Migrant Workers
- SMU Vidya Scholarship
- Goonj Benefit

- **IConnect**

To mark the occasion of **SG50** as part of the Community Engagement Programme the IWA along with other local organizations in Singapore participated in the Chingay Parade 2015. A Tree of Hope made of recyclable materials , made by IWA Community was presented with the IWA Logo painted on it.

Interest Groups:

- Book Club
- Writing Enthusiasts Club
- Entrepreneur Club
- Kids Venture
- Go Green
- Fitness
- Gourmet Goddess
- Scrabble & Mahjong
- Music
- Adda

- **Special Events :**

- New Members Lunch
- Bazaar , May 2014
- Bazaar, October 2014
- An evening with motivational speaker Mr Shiv Khera, Jan 2015
- Toastmasters Speaking Workshop, Feb 2015
- Holi , Feb 2015 - Guest of Honour Mr Charles Chong , MP JOO CHIAT constituency
- IWA Committee Couples Dinner , March 2015

- **Membership Privileges.**
- **Media Report**

5. Speech by Outgoing President 2014-2015

- Speech by outgoing IWA President 2014-2015 **Piu Lahiri** .

***Piu lahiri**, ‘.....I want to share how deeply touched I am to have received so much love and respect from every member of the IWA family. Many of you have become close personal friends. As an empty nester, my two years at the helm of IWA have not only helped me survive, they have helped me grow wings, and given me the confidence and courage to soar and discover and tap into hidden potentials and talents within myself that even I didn’t know I possessed. We leave the new committee with a strong platform to support their new endeavors. I wish the incoming President and her team all the best and am certain they will keep the IWA banner flying high and scale even newer heights. But for a moment I’ll sit back and rejoice and think about wonderful these two years have been.’*

- Committee Members were invited on stage ,acknowledged and presented with a token gift.

6. Quiz

- Based on the IWA Activities video , 12 questions were asked.
- Gifts were sponsored by Seema Gupta & IWA Music Club
- **Dr Uma Rajan** was invited to conduct the 2 Lucky Draws. Hampers worth 500 SGD sponsored by our newest addition to Membership Privileges - Decleor Paris Institute Spa

7. Announcement of President 2015-2016 & Appointment of Committee 2015-2016.

- It was highlighted that for the first time , Nomination forms for Presidential Candidate 2015 were sent out to each current member for their consideration.

- Based on the results of the mailed in nominations, Piu Lahiri announced the name of Indian Women's Association ,President 2015-2016 , Sukanya Pushkarna.
- Sukanya Pushkarna took over as IWA President 2015-2016 . In her acceptance speech she presented her Vision for IWA in the Year 2015-2016 & her vision for SG 50.

IWA Core Committee:

Sukanya Pushkarna as IWA President presided the meeting, proposed and invited members to the committee for the year 2015-2016.

Sukanya Pushkarna ,” *My vision includes making IWA a place where every member feels welcome, fulfilled in the activities she participates in, doing meaningful community service while also having a whole lot of fun. My team and I have exciting plans to make this a reality and we hope we will have your cooperation. We will also work on streamlining some of our administrative processes, to ensure a more professional running of the organization.*

To mark SG 50 we will be working closely with the People's Association, and the CC's. Please join us in these activities as we explore sides of Mr. Lee Kuan Yew's Singapore that you may have never seen! Warm wishes to all .”

Following announcements were made:

- Garima Lalwani was proposed for Vice President by Sukanya Pushkarna and seconded by Piu Lahiri
- Sudeepta Dasgupta was proposed for Vice President by Sukanya Pushkarna and seconded by Chandan Lehal.
- Manjula Bains was proposed Secretary by Sukanya Pushkarna and seconded by Nirupa Vasudev
- Prerna Rajpal was proposed Honorary Secretary by Manjula Bains seconded by Preeti Dubey
- Vasanthi Ravi was proposed Treasurer by Preeti Dubey and seconded by Manjula Bains
- Anu Shroff was proposed Assistant Treasurer by Raji Vishwanathan and seconded by Neeta Mirchandani
- Proposals for Advisory Committee Members By Sukanya Pushkarna –Rashmi Gogna seconded by Manjula Bains, Nirupa Vasudev seconded by Sudeepta Das Gupta, Gowri Aiyer seconded by Preeti Dubey.
- Bhavani Bannerjee & Abha Kaul were proposed for Legal Chair by Sukanya Pushkarna and seconded by Piu Lahiri.

IWA Care :

- BSS: Mehak Krishnamani , Anshoo Berry

- Swami Home : Manjula Bains
- Migrant Workers : Piu Lahiri
- SMU Vidya Scholarship : Srividya Maliwal, Subina Khaneja

IWA Connect:

- IWA Bazaar Raji Vishwanathan
- Events Chair- Neeta Mirchandani
- Membership : Gauri Savadi ,Abhinika Mittra
- Membership Privileges : Archana Tapadia
- Media Director : Kavita Daga
- Media Sales : Seema Gupta
- Website Admin: Sudepta Dasgupta
- E News Letter : Pooja Meshram,
- Dhvani Magazine : Piu Lahiri
- Iconic Chair Events :Sharmila Arora

IWA Clubs:

- ADDA Club –Nirupa Vasudev
- Book Club – Lakshmi Padmanabhan
- Writing Enthusiasts Club–Vidhya Nair , Shilpa Dixit Thapliyal
- Entrepreneur Club – Preeti Dubey
- Music Cub – Chandan Lehal
- Mahjong & Scrabble Club – Beena Joseph, Shubha Honawar
- Gourmet Goddess Club – Nimisha Kesarwani, Latha Vinod, Neena Mittal
- Fitness Club –Padmaja Balaji
- Go-Green & Sustainable Art Club– Prerna Rajpal ,Chaya Banga
- Other Events – Gauri Savadi, Abhinika Mittra

IWA Integration :

- Piu Lahiri
- Vidhya Nair
- Sukanya Pushkarna

Announcements :

- **World Water Day** - IWA to be participating in the ‘Walk for Water in celebration of Singapore World Water Day 2015 .’; on Saturday 21st March 2015 .

The 18th IWA AGM was Co-ordinated by the Office of the IWA Secretary. We express our Sincere thanks to:

- **MC** – Preeti Dubey & Manjula Bains
- **AGM**- Manjula Bains & Prerna Rajpal
- **Venue Sourcing**- Neeta Mirchandani
- **Door Gifts Sourcing** – Kavita Daga
- **Committee Gift Sourcing** –Neeta Mirchandani
- **Lucky Draw Gift Sourcing** - Archana Tapadia
- **Gifts for Quiz**- Seema Gupta, IWA Music Team
- **Registration Desk & Membership Management** – Vasanthi Ravi, Archana Tapadia, Abhinika Mittra, Mehak Krishnamani & Gauri Savadi
- **Welcome Team** –Gowri Aiyer , Nirupa Vasudev Padmaja Balaji ,Neeta Mirchandani
- **Media** –Kavita Daga ,Sudeepta DasGupta, Pooja Meshram, Seema Gupta
- **Gift Management** –Neeta Mirchandani & Nirupa Vasudev
- **Mike Management** – Abhinika Mitra, Sudeepta Dasgupta.
- **Hospitality** –Vidhya Nair, Neelam Lara, Vijji Ramki, Latha Vnod, Neena Mittal, Neeta Mirchandani and Nirupa Vasudev,
- **Photographs**-.Seema Gupta.

A Show of hands by all members indicated approval .

AGM was declared closed at 2 pm.

IWA Secretary

Manjula Bains

Prerna Rajpal