

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING OF THE NAVY FOUNDATION
PUNE CHAPTER HELD AT COMPOSITE OFFICERS MESS, CAMP, PUNE
AT 1900 HRS. ON SUNDAY 19 MAY 2024**

1. The Annual General Body meeting of the Navy Foundation Pune Chapter was held at 1900 hrs. on Sunday 19 May 2024 at COM, Camp, Pune and was attended by 146 people including **82** members (including 03 Veer Naris) and **64** spouses who had accompanied the Veterans. While the members deliberated the agenda points the spouses were entertained with **Musical Tambola** at the first floor of the Golf Hut conduct by **The Smiling Souls**, an organization based at Mumbai looking after the well-being of Veterans above 55 years of age,. It was heartening to see the large attendance including number of Octogenarians, despite the inclement weather.

2. Adequate Hard copies of Quarter Deck 2023 were made available to Veterans and Veer Naaris at the venue. A stall was set up by Rama Rao, ex PO from Bangalore for Naval Souvenirs, that as always was a crowd puller. On completion of the AGM the members enjoyed Cocktails and dinner. The arrangements made and delicacies served were appreciated by the Veterans and Veer Naris. The evening also witnessed a Cake cutting by Dr Ravinder Kalra, spouse of Surg V Adm Ravi Kalra who coincidentally celebrated her birthday on the same day. On this occasion, a warm farewell was given by the NFPC to the Commandant NDA, V Adm Ajay Kochhar AVSM NM and Mrs Reyman Kochhar.

3. At the outset the meeting began with observing a two-minute silence as a mark of respect to the Members/ Spouses who had left us for heavenly abode since the last AGM. The following Veterans/ spouses were remembered and paid homage: -

- (a) Mrs Nivedita, spouse of Cdr SK Joshi.
- (b) Mrs Madhu, spouse of Cdr PB Das NM (G).
- (c) Mrs Bhagyashree, spouse of Cdr MG Salodkar.
- (d) Mrs Nalini Kaith, spouse of Capt S Kaith
- (e) Cmde SG Patankar.
- (f) Capt Ranjit Chaudhary VSM NM.
- (g) Cdr VS Pandit.
- (h) Cdr KB Patankar.
- (j) Cdr Uday K Shahane.
- (k) Cdr Anil Prabhakar Koshti.
- (l) Cdr Sameer Oak.

4. **Presidents Opening Address.** The proceedings were started by VAdm Jaywant Korde, President NFPC delivering his opening address. He welcomed all members present at the AGM and expressed his happiness on Veterans, Veer Naaris and spouses turning up in large numbers despite the inclement weather. While praising the good work done by the previous Management Committee, he stressed on the need to adopt a holistic approach to create a closely knit and engaging community in order to achieve the bonding amongst the Veteran Community. Points highlighted by the President, in brief, were as follows: -

- (a) **Introduction of Birthday/ Anniversary Greetings.** He acknowledged this initiative of the previous Secretary, Capt Keshav Tripathi and requested him to continue

doing this wonderful duty of spreading happiness amongst the members by the Greetings. The Greetings has created an invisible bonding and bonhomie amongst all members and has been appreciated by majority of the members and spouses.

(b) **Maintenance of NFPC Website.** He also acknowledged the yeoman contributions of Rear Admiral Ravindra Nadkarni and his extraneous efforts in maintaining and keeping the NFPC website current. He further brought out that lot many informative messages are being placed on the Broadcast and website of NFPC for information of the members. He also stated that efforts were on to be more proactive on the NFPC broadcast. Members were requested to login to the website regularly to benefit from the information being posted on it.

(c) **Attendance at Last Rites.** He further stated that at least one member of the MC attends the last rites of Veterans/ Spouses and lays a wreath on behalf of all NFPC members. He further stated that in case of Veterans in addition wreaths are also laid on behalf of C-in-C West and CNS. Recently a system has been institutionalized in that CO INS Shivaji will send an officer with two sailors to lay the wreaths on behalf of CNS and C-in-C West if time permitting

(d) **Institution of Annual Cash Awards.** President informed the members that an MoU has been signed with Sea scouts and Guides to promote maritime consciousness among the young generation. In recognition of the efforts of the Sea scouts and guides, Cash awards have been instituted for the Best Boy cadet and Best Girl Cadet from Sea scouts and Guides.

(e) **Interaction with IMF.** The President appreciated and brought out the active contribution of Cmde PK Malhotra on behalf of IMF in river and coastal cleanship drive. He further brought out that NFPC has instituted cash awards to the Best School and Best individual for Coastal and River cleanship.

(f) **Conduct of 4th Adm Nadkarni Memorial Lecture.** He briefly touched upon the ex CNS Adm R Harikumar delivering the 4th Adm Nadkarni Memorial Lecture on the topic “**Future Proofing of the Indian Navy**”. He urged the members to give inputs and suggestions alongwith their proposals for topics for the lecture in future.

(g) **Interaction with GOC-in-C Southern Command.** He highlighted that series of interaction were held with the Lt Gen Ajay Kumar Singh, Army Commander Southern Army Command, who has graciously resolved the issues taken up with him. Some of the important issues with long-term implications with positive outcome were highlighted and are listed below: -

(i) **RSI Membership.** Naval Veterans were not getting RSI Membership after retirement on settling down in Pune. Membership for the RSI has since been opened to Naval veterans and there is no waiting list as on date.

(ii) **Sothern Star Golf Course Membership** He brought out that recently additional quota was released for Navy and Airforce veterans for Golf membership.

(ii) **Assured Dignified Last Rites**. HQ Southern Command had shared the details for circulation amongst the Veteran Community on the facilities created at reasonable rates for assured dignified last rites for Veterans and Spouses. The President read out the facilities provided by the Army at Muktidham Crematorium in Camp area. The details have been put up on the broadcast and the same will be provided on the website too.

(iii) **Status of Provision of Land by Army**. The President stated that the Army Commander has given assurance to him that all efforts are in place to provide land to NFPC for setting up Naval ESM Facilities like Holiday home, including Naval Museum dedicated to building of modern navy from the times of Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. The Indian Navy has no visibility at Pune, the district place of the birth of father of the Indian Navy Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj who proudly established the might of the Maratha sea power. He further brought out that ex-CNS Adm R Harikumar had written a DO letter to the COAS strongly recommending the case.

(h) **Felicitation of Octogenarians**. The President brought out that with immediate effect from this AGM, it has been decided to honor Octogenarians in true Puneri style during the AGM. The following Octogenarians were honored in true Puneri style thereafter: -

- (i) V Adm Leslie Alexander Lowe, Retd
- (ii) Cmde Bipin Bhagwat, Retd
- (iii) Cmde NW Joshi, Retd

(j) **Planning of International and Domestic Tours**. On popular demand from the members, the President stated that it is planned to conduct International and Domestic Tours which will be deliberated as a point of agenda.

(k) **Volunteers for Secretary NFPC and Area Coordinators**. The President expressed his concern that none of the members are coming forward to assume the responsibilities of Secretary NFPC and Area Coordinators. He brought out that Cmde Sridar Ramaswamy on joining the NFPC was willing to take on the responsibility of Secretary NFPC. Further he sought volunteers for Area coordinators and members volunteered at the AGM for assumption of this responsibility too.

(k) **State of Funds at NFPC**. On behalf of Treasurer Capt Rajib Bhattacharjee, who was indisposed, he stated that the Balance sheet has been uploaded on the website and elaborated that the state of funds at NFPC was healthy.

5. **Secretary's Address**. The Secretary Cmde Sridar Ramaswamy read out the Secretary's report highlighting the events held since last AGM. It was brought out that since

the last AGM held on 30 Apr 23, there was an addition of 44 new members to make the Foundation strength 543 including Veer Naaris, 14 Nonagenarians and 33 Octogenarians. Members cooperation was sought for updating of the master list. The activities held since last AGM were highlighted as below: -

- (a) **SGM – 24 Aug 23**. An SGM was held on 24 Aug 23 to discuss and ratify the working rules of NFPC. On this occasion, the then FOC-in-C West V Adm Dinesh Tripathi AVSM NM was also given a warm welcome and thereafter he interacted with the Veterans.
- (b) **Celebration of Navy Day 2023**. Members of NFPC celebrated Navy Day on 04 Dec 23 by hoisting the National Flag on the revered mast of Sinhagad Fort at Pune. More than 80 Veterans including family members participated. Sumptuous breakfast was served on completion.
- (c) **Reception in honour of Cmde (Dr) A Paulraj AVSM VSM**. A cocktails and dinner were hosted to felicitate the father of the indigenous APSOH Sonar, Cmde Arogyaswami Paulraj AVSM VSM Retd, Professor Emeritus Stanford University USA and his wife Mrs. Nirmal Paulraj on 05 th December 2023.
- (d) **Navy Day Lunch at NDA**. The Commandant NDA V Adm Ajay Kochhar AVSM NM hosted the NFPC members and spouses at Lunch alongside the beautiful location of Peacock bay at Khadkwasala lake on 30 Dec 23, commemorating the Navy Day celebrations.\
- (e) **4th Adm Nadkarni Memorial Lecture**. The NFPC conducted the 4th Adm Nadkarni Memorial Lecture on 17 Jan 24 at Gen Bipin Rawat auditorium, RSAMI, Pune. This year the then CNS Adm R Harikumar PVSM AVSM VSM ADC delivered the lecture on the topic "**Future Proofing of the Indian Navy**". A large gathering of over 320 people comprising of Veterans from the three services, Members from affiliated organisations like Centre for Advanced Strategic Studies and IMF, reps of the Corporate and Industry, Students from DY Patil University and senior cadets of the Sea Scouts and Guides attended the lecture.
- (f) **Musical Evening 2024**. A Musical evening with Cocktails and Dinner was held at COM Lawns on Sunday 28 Apr at 1930 hrs. The event was a huge success and was conducted by the inhouse talent of NFPC members and spouses.

6. Thereafter the points of agenda were deliberated. The first point being approval of report and MoMs of previous AGM, SGM. They were duly approved by the AGM.

Proposed by. Cmde PK Malhotra Seconded by. Cdr MS Sethi

7. The Balance Sheet was approved by the AGM without any objections.

Proposed by. Cmde PK Malhotra Seconded by. R Adm Amit Vikram

8. The election of Cmde Sridar Ramaswamy as Secretary NFPC was also approved with overwhelming enthusiasm by AGM.

Proposed by. V Adm DM Deshpande

Seconded by. R Adm Amit Vikram

9. Appointment of CA. It was decided that Shri Chinmay Karande from M/s Godbole and Sons be given a tenure for another year as no objections were raised.

Proposed by. R Adm CS Patham

Seconded by. Cmde N Kapur

10. **Area Coordinators.** The AGM discusswed the extent of Areas as proposed by MC and the same was retified by AGM accepting that this can get refined in due course. As highlighted in Presidents Opening Address, members were urged to volunteer as Area Coordinators as a PoC for Veterans residing in that area of Pune. The following were the volunteers for the various areas: -

- (a) **North Pune/ Viman Nagar, Koregaon Park, Kalyani Nagar, Wagholi.**
R Adm Ravindra Nadkarni
- (b) **South Pune/ Wakad, Hinjewadi, Baner beyond Bangalore highway.**
Cdr BK Chabbra
- (c) **Central Pune/ Shivaji Nagar, Deccan,**
Capt Vinayak Gijare
- (d) **West Pune Aundh, Bawdhan, PCMC**
Capt PS Mane
- (d) **NIBM Road, Undri and Camp.**
Cdr BB Mishra
- (e) **East Pune/ Hadapsar, Magarpetta, Satara Road.** Capt Keshav Tripathi

11. **Tours by NFPC.** R Adm CS Patham recommended that tours as well as treks and hikes may also be organized. He was ready to undertake a trek to Everest Base camp or a tour to South Africa, The General Body accepted the proposal in principle and President stated that the same will be attempted after inhouse deliberations and a suitable activity will be organised.

Proposed by. R Adm CS Patham

Seconded by. Cmde N Kapur

12. **Registration for Handshake.** The President requested all members to subscribe to the Naval HQ initiative Handshake on priority. One of the members intimated that he had subscribed but did not find any matter worthwhile in it. He requested MC to take up issue with NHQ. President requested the officer to give a brief to take up matter with PDESA.

13. **Amendment to Working Rules.** It was brought out that the vide NHQ policy issued in Jul 2023 any Veteran, irrespective of date of retirement, need not pay for joining a Navy

Foundation Chapter any longer. On applying for membership, NHQ/ DESA will pay the Rs. 2000 to the concerned Navy Foundation Chapter. The AGM accordingly approved the amendment to Working rule as proposed.

Proposed by. Cdr RW Pathak

Seconded by. Cdr MS Sethi

14. The President opened the house for any other points.

15. The members requested for an editable soft copy of Family Log book to be made available on the Broadcast for members to utilize the same. Secretary NFPC was requested to obtain the same and upload on the NFPC Broadcast.

Action. Secretary NFPC

16. **Closing the AGM.** There being no other points the President closed the proceedings wishing all the Members the very best in the year ahead.

17. **Vote of Thanks.** Cmde PK Malhotra, the previous President proposed a Vote of Thanks wherein he wrongly created an impression stating that he had received a cheque of Rs One Lakh from WNC for the event. It is hereby clarified that this **amount was received directly in our account in the last month** from WNC Amenities fund **in pursuance of our correspondence** for the expenditure incurred during welcome lunch for C-in-C West **on 24 Aug 2023**. Erroneously the letter of HQWNC seeking the receipt was posted to the address of the ex-President Cmde PK Malhotra, who, without consulting MC, mistakenly presumed that the amount has been received for the conduct of the AGM.

18. These Minutes have the approval of President NFPC.

Sd/xxx

29 May 2024
Pune

(Cmde Sridar Ramaswamy)
Hon Secy, NFPC

Circulation. _ PDESA, HQWNC/CSO (P&A), Cd Welfare Officer, CRSO and by e-mail to all the members.