



# मराठी असोसिएशन सिडनी इन्कॉर्पोरेटेड

Marathi Association Sydney Inc, Sydney

ABN 28 532 272 853

## MASI AGM - 03rd February 2024

### Minutes of Meeting

Meeting date/time	: 03rd February 2024, @ 15:37
Meeting Venue	: Glenfield Community Centre
MASI EC Attendees	: President - Mr Shridhar Bhagwat Vice President - Mrs Nilima Berde Secretary - Mr Sanjivan Deshpande Treasurer - Mrs Vinaya Pasarnikar Deputy Secretary/communication manager- Mrs Radhika Mogarkar Executive Members: Mrs Kalyani Kulkarni & Mrs Apoorva Athawale
MASI EC Apology	: None
Public Officer	: Mandar Marathe
Minute Takers	: Bhushan Mahajan and Chinmay Abhyankar
Returning Officer	: Mandar Marathe

- Meeting started by MASi president Shridhar Bhagwat.
- Welcome by Sanjeevan Deshpande.
- **Housekeeping** and general rules by Neelima Berde.
- Nomination of **minute takers**  
Chinmay Abhyankar, Bhushan Mahajan  
Proposed & seconded by: Nitin Chaudhari, Saiprasad Kulkarni
- Appointment of **returning officer**  
Mandar Marathe  
Proposed & seconded by: Sandeep Nijampurkar, Bhushan Karandikar
- Quorum established and agreed to proceed with the meeting.

**Milind Kulkarni (MK):** Started meeting with a question on the role of Returning officer and does he understand MASi constitution?

**MK:** Enquired if everyone present for AGM are MASi members? How to identify a person voting at AGM is a MASi member. He also expressed concerns that his request for membership list was not addressed properly.

**Shridhar Bhagwat (SB):** Confirmed that all attending were members and a QR code registration was requested at the meeting plus RSVP for the meeting required people to indicate whether they were members.

**Dilip Kanitkar (DK):** Called out, some members are unable to attend as they couldn't provide timely RSVP.



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**Sunil Salunke (SS):** mentioned that RSVP for AGM is unconstitutional, and members can attend even at the last minute. Chairman explained that RSVP helps them organise the meeting better. Moving forward Chairman agreed that from next year MASI should not ask for RSVP for AGM and members can attend even at last moment. This was agreed by full quorum.

**Swati Bhagwat:** Informed, RSVP is required to manage admin tasks for meeting, such as snacks, safety, Insurance, and hall capacity etc.

**Radhika Mogarkar (RM):** Constitution suggests maintaining member's register, however current list is maintained online. While collecting members information, consents weren't taken, hence there may be concerns in sharing their PII data. Eventually specific data was shared.

**Sandeep Nizampurkar (SN):** Raised concern last year, Rajesh Naik was refused entry as he couldn't prove his membership. While he is a life member. This is hurting the members, and they are deciding not to attend any future MASI events.

**SB:** Responded, the register of members is being maintained by each EC. Rajesh became Life Member in 2012, however this entry is missing from the register and hence the issue.

**Anand Tamboli:** Raised concern over quality of the register and questioned names of the deceased members. This raised an emotional outburst and members were unhappy due to such call-out.

**Sadanand K:** Suggested to drop membership and member's list discussion and proceed.

**Neelima Berde (NB):** Mentioned, it is key to validate membership of attendees, in case there's a need for voting. 90% of EC's efforts are wasted in responding to non-productive queries. Only 10% efforts are utilised in organising events. Members must understand that EC are just volunteers. EC consulted PO on providing the member's list and shared the best info possible within the constraints. It was decided to be discussed in the AGM and accordingly the new EC team can handle the sharing of Member's Register.

**SB:** (Meeting chairman) asked if it can be put to vote whether this 2024 AGM can go ahead considering last year's events after the AGM where some members submitted a petition to make the 2023 AGM null and void.

**Sunil Salunke (SS):** Petition was sent to EC, as few people raised concern via email that there were many nominations and still EC committee was formed without elections.

**SB:** AGM unanimously agreed that present members with valid nomination can form the EC.

**DK:** PO should ensure that in such situation elections are held.

**SS:** Motions must be circulated prior to AGM for members to go through.



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- ❖ *There was chaos within the meeting, over sharing members list and Motion prior to AGM, as there could be sensitive information in both. Shridhar Bhagwat requested everyone if this meeting wasn't complying, this can be cancelled, and another meeting can be organised where motions will be shared prior with every MASI member.*

**Satish Mane (SM):** Mentioned, members list shouldn't be shared and can be kept at one (MASI office) location for viewing purposes. This was agreed by other present members.

- ❖ *Voting was held whether the meeting should continue or postpone at a later stage by fulfilling any shortcomings. Everyone, voted to proceed with meeting except 3 votes (Vaibhav Limaye, Anand Tamboli, and Sohun Wagle)*

**SS:** Due to sensitive info, only high-level info on motion must be shared with members, can avoid sharing if the information in the motion is illegal or derogatory.

- ❖ *Post some cross-discussions, Sunil requested to share motion 'As Is' to all RSVPed members.*

**Mandar Marathe (PO):** Public Officer will do initial scanning of the motion before sharing with members.

**SS:** Last minute motion should also be published by the EC.

**Sulabha Dandekar:** Suggested keeping the printout at the AGM for the members who haven't RSVPed but attending the AGM.

- ❖ **Motion was raised** – SB summarised – Send received motions to ALL MASI members and keep printouts at AGM for members who haven't RSVPed. Motions received within the cut-off date will be shared/ printed.  
**Proposed and seconded by:** Sunil Salunke and Lalita Kanitkar.

**Meeting agenda was presented and accepted by majority of members.**

- ❖ *As per AGM agenda, MASI EC-23 presented AGM-22 MoM's for AGM's approval/confirmation.*

**Sharad Kanitkar (SK):** Not agreeing with the AGM-22 MoM, as he wasn't allowed to present his motion.

**SB:** Couldn't take that motion in the AGM, however as discussed in the AGM, this was later taken up by both MASI and Akashwani EC in a separate meeting.

**Saiprasad:** Proposed to have a SGM to discuss Sharad Kanitkar's motion.

**NB:** Explained that after last year's AGM, a special meeting was held between Akashwani Sydney (Henceforth called AS) and the MASI committee and many more items were discussed in addition to what was in Sharad Kanitkar's motion.



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**Sanjay Lele:** I was raising this in AGM-22 to let Sharad present his motion but wasn't allowed.

**Dr Sawrikar:** Stated that in late 1998 Akashwani was autonomous - but he did not have the documents to present.

**Sharad Kanitkar:** Confirmed he too was unaware of such a document - this was specifically mentioned by him when he presented his old motion.

**SN:** MASI insists on making Panel operators and Presenters to be MASI members, however they are committing much more than becoming members.

❖ **Voting was held to re-present last year's motion.** (ref: Sharad Kanitkar will be allowed to present his last year's motion at AGM2024)

**Resolution Passed: In favour – 27, Against- 23.**

**Vinit Pasarnikar:** All meetings that happened on this motion in the past will be considered NULL and Void.

**Nitin Chaudhari:** How many listeners are there for Akashwani and is it worth the amount of money spent on it?

**SB:** Yearly update (*Ahwaal*) may be skipped as the meeting is getting extended.

**SK:** presented his motion from last year.

(Note: all points discussed below will be null and void as a decision was made that from 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024, MASI and AS will be separate entities with separate ABN, bank accounts and their own constitution. Points have been noted below to have a record of all issues discussed at the meeting)

❖ **Voting was held, whether Akashwani (AS) is Affiliate or Associate of MASI.**

It was decided Akashwani is **Affiliate** of MASI, and the Associate received just 19 votes.

This decision will need an update in the constitution.

**SM:** Akashwani is using MASI's ABN and hence the constitution must clearly articulate that any breach even if at Akashwani, MASI will be held responsible. AS's letter head uses MASI's ABN.

**Bhushan Karandikar:** Would Akashwani manage their finances separately?

It was decided that Akashwani will NOT fall under the category of Sub-Committee.

**Rasik Kulkarni:** Thanked SK for his dedication to AS and for managing the accounts for close to 25 years.

**SK:** AS present all expenses prior to planning of any program.

It was decided that MASI EC members should always be part of AS meetings and EC.

**SB:** As MASI EC, I proposed myself to be included, but was never involved or invited to any meetings/discussions.

**RM:** The studio contract should be signed on whose name.



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It was decided that,

- The studio contracts must be signed by AS as “AS on behalf of MASI”.
- AS will not have a separate ABN.
- MASI and AS presidents to co-ordinate in case of any discrepancies.
- AS presenters and panel operators aren't MASI members but AS will actively promote MASI membership.

**RM:** MASI enforces all sub-committee members and participants to become members.

**Kalyani Kulkarni:** How the Panel operators and participants are covered for health and safety purposes, if they aren't members.

**SK:** Confirmed, Studio insurance covers Panel operators and participants.

**RM:** MASI EC had asked for Studio agreement -so that the studio public liability insurance will cover AS panel operators and presenters. This is requested since last 4 years.

**SB** summarised: We agree MASI is a family, and we are agreeing people to be part of family without being members.

**Deepak Avasare:** If panel operators are so dedicated, how difficult is it for them to become a MASI member?

**Tanuja Barbhai:** Sammelan doesn't enforce participants to be members.

**Preeti Kotwal (PK):** Tickets must capture disclaimer that non-members will not be insured at any event.

**Vaibhav Limaye:** Prior to any programs, panel operators and participants must send a consent agreeing, AS and/or MASI aren't responsible for any mishaps.

**Alka Deshpande:** Participants aren't informed of the emergency and fire exists prior to the program at the studio. This could be risky at the time of emergency.

**PK:** MASI EC can contact me for guidance in drafting a policy and procedure document that will be applicable to MASI and AS.

**RM:** AS EC agree to promote MASI events during the Sunday program as well as across all their social platforms. This will be a reciprocal agreement between MASI and AS.

**Dr. Sawrikar:** Create a Policy and procedure document between AS and MASI capturing all issues.

**SB:** AS programs beyond \$10K must be informed to MASI EC and Sr. Finance Committee.

**SB:** If the AS program goes negative, who bears the financial loss? As it will reflect on MASI's account. If all the above points need customisation for providing AS an independent status to operate under MASI, wouldn't it be better for AS to be a separate association to avoid complications.



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- ❖ **Motion was proposed by SB** – MASI and AS will be two separate associations from 1st July 2024 with separate ABN, AGM, Bank Account and Constitution.

**Resolution Passed: In Favour – 48. Against – 2.**

- AS brand and all funds on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024 sitting under AS within the MASI account will be transferred to new AS accounts. “Akashwani Sydney” will be the name of the separate identity as it is now.
- There will be a MoU between both AS and MASI.

**Shirish Rabade:** Would the membership be transferred from MASI to AS?

## **AGM-22 MoM were Approved.**

Proposed and seconded: Sunil Salunkhe and Sunil Barbhai

## **Motions:**

Motion -2, 3 and 4 were not Presented as they were considered NULL and VOID by the AGM members. Motions aren't shared (till this AGM) with everyone due to sensitive information. Hence these motions aren't described in detail here. However, if required, these motions can be requested by members to current EC-24.

## **MASI Activities for 2023**

- Akashwani Sydney activities presented by Prajakta Abhyankar.
  - Thanked all panel operators – Amit P, Anand T, Atul J, Girija J, Girish S, Kaushik K, Manas P, Pankaj S, Rahul K, Shrihari, V, Soham W, Suruchi L, and Vinit B.
- Cheers to life (Marathi Natak) presented by Shridhar Bhagwat
  - Enjoyed by over 380 audiences.
- Sakhi ga Sakhi presented by Kalyani Kulkarni.
  - Sold out program, delicious food and entertainment program. Highlight received a \$500 grant.
- Kalidas Jayanti presented by Neelima Berde.
  - Sutra Sanchalan and participation from young community members. Promoting and providing a platform to local talent.
- Diwali Program presented by Apoorva Athavale.
  - Despite the Major cricket match, the program was a sold-out event. Discounted tickets for MASI members and again provided opportunity to local artists.
- Samwadika presented by Shridhar Bhagwat.
  - Lalita Kanitkar & Sandeep Nizampurkar appreciated Samwadika team's efforts and requested to continue.
- MASI overview presented by Shridhar Bhagwat.
- MASI platforms performance, IT infrastructure and digital platform performance presented by Radhika Mogarkar.



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- Members congratulated Radhika for the exceptional work and requested that she continue in this space.

## MASI CONSTITUTION

- MASI constitution review presented by Saiprasad Kulkarni.
- Points
  1. The Constitution will need to be revised due to AS separation.
  2. Proposed upcoming steps for this year.
  3. Members voted thanks for the constitution review team and agreed for the existing team to continue. (Swati B, Nitin C, Saiprasad K, Mandar M and Bhushan M).
  4. Revised constitution will need a SGM for acceptance once suggestion and feedback are incorporated in the current constitution.

**SB:** AGM's minutes to be shared with the Constitution committee for incorporation in the constitution update.

**SK:** We updated the constitution in 2012, will share the template and sample copy.

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND PERFORMANCE

- Financial overview presented by Vinaya Pasarnikar.
- Financial statements presented by Auditor Satish Mane.
- Suggestions:
  - Provide declaration for reimbursement. (SB: Working on this via emails).
  - Grants from Govt. bodies should be shown as separate transactions.
  - Term deposit should be renewed strategically to take advantage of good interest rates.
- **Finance report accepted.**  
Proposed and seconded by: Dilip and Sharad Kanitkar.

## Appointments

- **Public Officer:** Mandar Marathe (Serving terms to be investigated and EOI requested if required)
- **Finance Auditor:** Satish Mane  
Proposed and seconded by: Sharad Kanitkar and Sanjay Lele.
- **Samwadika** committee as per current.  
Proposed and seconded by: Bhushan Karandikar and Raju Lele
- **MASI EC committee for 2023**  
Current EC committee dissolved.  
Proposed and seconded by: Sunil Salunkhe and Sanjay Lele.



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- **MASI Executive Committee** for the year 2024 are as follows:

- President - Mr Nitin Chaudhari
- Vice President – Mr Shreyas Kale
- Secretary - Mrs Swati Bhagwat
- Treasurer – Mr Bhushan Mahajan
- Deputy Secretary – Mr Parag Mhasurkar

This committee was voted in unanimously by members.

- **Marathi Sammelan 2025 committee**

- Shridhar Bhagwat
- Kalyani Kulkarni.
- Neelima Berde.
- Vineet Pasarnikar.
- Radhika Mogarkar.
- Narayan Khare.
- Swati Abhyankar
- Deepali Jamdade
- Rasik Kulkarni.

This committee was voted in unanimously by members.

- **Senior Financial committee**

- Sunil Ranadive
- Vaibhav Limaye
- Sandeep Nijampurkar

This committee was voted in unanimously by members. A motion was passed whereby 2 members of the same family or spouses cannot be a member of MASI EC and financial committee at the same time.

- Vote of thanks  
Meeting chairman: Shridhar Bhagwat
- Meeting concluded with snacks and Tea/Coffee for all present.