

TAMA Executive Board Committee Tele meeting
04/11/2018, 9:00 pm to 10:30 pm

EC Members:	In Attendance	Non-Attendees with- out Notification:	Non-Attendees with Notification:
Manoj Tatikonda	Yes		
Venky Gadde	Yes		
Bharath Maddineni	Yes		
Innaiah Yenumala			Yes
Rajesh Tadikamalla	Yes		
Bharath Avireneni	Yes		
Ramesh Vennelakanti	Yes		
Sravani Rachakulla	Yes		
Nagesh Doddaka	Yes		
Ravi Kalli	Yes		
Bilhan Alapati	Yes		
Prasad Kunderu	Yes		
Sairam Karumanchi	Yes		

Board Members:

Devanand Kondur, Vinay Maddineni, Subbarao Maddali, Rajasekhar Chunduri, Harsha Yerneni

Meeting Minutes Summary:

Agenda:

- Feedback on Ugadi Event
- Update on Chess Tournament

Notes:

Feedback:

09:11 PM: Rajesh Tadikamalla

- Everything went well from Cultural Side, we were at the venue by 5:00 PM, and started the event by 5:10. We did local programs until 8:30-9:00 followed by programs by professional singers. wrapped up the event around 10:20-10:35.
- We have less crowd compared to last year, we can discuss further in the call regarding the reasons.

09:13 PM: Prasad Kunderu

- One of my friend's family were offended by the way the plates were removed from the children during banthi bhojanalu. They have reached out to President via WhatsApp and Media Secretary. Parents want to raise a complaint via official process. Media secretary guided them to the website for further actions, Apologies were offered by team and president.
Conclusion: Vinay advised the president should apologize on part of TAMA, even though Mahesh has performed in the best interest of TAMA, the incident should have been handled in a better way. We will learn from this incident and decide how we can handle the situation of accommodating children during banthi bhojanalu in coming years.

09:23 PM: Ramesh Vennelakanti

- Everyone has their own tasks and worked as a team. In the same way we work together during initial setup and at the end I think we need more participation from EC team at the time of venue setup apart from volunteers.
Bilhan: Everyone from EC was already assigned with their respective tasks.
Rajesh: Next time it might be better to make use of adhoc committees and form own committees involving volunteers from outside in the line of food committee.
- We should have invited well known singers.
Rajesh- Two well-known singers have been approached, but they were double booked and revealed their inability to come to our function in the last minute. So, we have to find quick replacements within our budget limits.

Conclusion: Better planning should have been done while talking with the singers, getting better singers at a higher cost would definitely help driving more participation from audience thereby negating the cost impact. This is a debatable topic.

- Booths for Sponsors, Booth owners are coming to the venue by 12:30 to occupy prime spots leaving no space for Sponsors. Vinay had to accommodate his booth space to one of the sponsors.

Conclusion: Next time we need to restrict the number of booths based on availability of space, We should reach out to sponsors about setting up a booth well in advance so that we can plan in a better way. Booth allocation should be done based on certain rules and by TAMA to avoid / minimize such complaints.

09:34 PM: Ravi Kalli

- School location might be issue for less attendance of people, any location around Cumming would have drawn more number of people.

Conclusion: Schools won't allocate venues for Diwali until the opening of school year in August, we will try to reach out to the school as early as possible and will try to have a better school in terms of location.

Bilhan Alapati: we would have had more visitors if we have organized the event before other orgs.

Rajesh: They wait until we announce our date and accordingly would try to organize before our event. we can't help in this case.

Manoj: It's been a problem, they do not have a location constraint, we can also organize the event on a day of our choice if we plan to conduct the event at a similar venue.

Conclusion: We should try our best to conduct event on the weekend of the festival or immediate weekend before other organization(s) would conduct their events . This way People will be interested to be present at our event.

Decoration: Venky: Not all decoration items were used, and the decoration was very simple. Nagesh will let the team know about his feedback next week.

09:40 PM: Bharath Maddineni

- Bharath gave feedback on the following:
 - a) TAMA name should come first whenever we advertise our events in any form (NL headings, FB Headings, Email headers) . Sponsors name should only succeed TAMA and would never come first.

- b) Even though the singers are confirmed three weeks in advance we had the initial version of Robo call recording just before the day of the event. Since am busy doing other works for the event (Loading things on to U-Haul truck at storage) I was not able to provide a timely feedback.
- c) When feedback was provided by the team, The feedback should be taken in a positive manner.

Manoj: The topic about TAMA's interest vs Sponsors interest was already discussed and there is nothing left to discuss.

Bharath A, Bharath M, Bilhan, Manoj were trying say something... Requests from the team to speak one by one.

09:45 – Manoj: If you keep talking without stopping, we all will drop from the call.

Bilhan: As a president how can you say that....

Barath: Everyone is speaking of Program not being success, the program would have been success if more interest and time was dedicated towards the success of the program.

Rajesh: Can you provide an example.

Barath: We already discussed earlier Do not want to further elaborate on same topic, I still stand by my feedback.

Rajesh: Don't pass generic statements, I can also pass generic statements (This happened, they did not work hard, you did not motivate, your whole gang came to the event, but never bought tickets).

Conclusion: As an executive members and office bearers of TAMA, Team should always put TAMA s interests before sponsors interests (Placing TAMA name before Sponsors name during advertising) , Robo calls should be done well in advance so that we can get timely feedback . Office bearers of TAMA are expected to follow etiquette during conversations.

09:46 PM: Sravani Rachakula

If we have bought well known singers, there would have been better participation. I have received good feedback regarding food.

09:48 PM: Sairam Karumanchi

- Robot message should have been scheduled earlier rather than the morning of Saturday. Team should work out on correct dates.

Manoj: We went by protocol as we do every time.

Conclusion: Team needs to come together and decide better times to schedule Robot calls.

- Chocolates were distributed by George (Booth owner), wrappers were all around the auditorium and took most of the time in cleaning the premises.

Conclusion: we will restrict booth owners from distributing edibles, we should try to procure our own security rather than depending on the security provided by the school.

- Sahiti sadassu was successfully conducted with 16 participants and 10 more participants joining in the later part.

Consensus: In future we should not combine any literary event with main events unless the events are being performed on stage. With the same effort we could have the event more successfully if the event was done as a separate event.

09:55 PM: Bilhan Alapati

- Manabadi is impacting us a lot, we have been volunteers but even after repeated requests we were not able to change the classes. Shall we escalate this non-cooperation, what can we do ?

Rajesh: This has happened last year too.

Manoj: This it self is a big topic and would be discussed in a separate call.

Rajesh: From next year we should come to an understanding before the start of calendar year and come to an amicable solution with Manabadi team.

- Advertised rates vs Actual rates, The Onsite ticket price was advertised ad 18\$ per ticket, we only charged 15\$ at the event and this has been done without notifying EC. This practice will discourage people from buying tickets Online.

Vinay: Decision was taken because the number of tickets sold were less, irrespective of whoever took the decision this was done based on a situation. In this scenario TAMA was losing money so the price was reduced.

Bilhan: It would be a disaster if everyone takes their own decision, it would have been better if the decision communicated to the group.

Prasad: Decision was taken for the benefit of TAMA, we can disregard.

Bharath M: we should have enforced what was discussed and decided earlier, it not nice on part of registration committee to take the decision.

Rajasekhar Chunduru: Registration committee never took the decision; however, discussion did take place and I raised my objection. Bharath has a valid point and we should consider it.

- Pizzas: We ordered 150 pizzas and have 85 pizzas left, can we correct next time and make sure we do not over order pizzas.

Venky Gadde: The calculation of pizzas was done based on the assumption of 4 pises of pizza will be served per ticket. The assumption was made based on previous experiences and after talking to multiple people. We have been very strict and only handed over two Pises most of the time this may have been one of the reason for many pizzas being left. The crowd was less than expected and this is another reason that contributed.

10:05 PM: Subbarao Maddali

- The event was successful, Since we are charging tickets people expect us to bring well known artists / singers. At least we should try to bring artists like imitation Raju who would entertain the audience.

10:10 PM: Vinay Maddineni

- Please call me if you need my help rather than messaging me, I won't often check my messages. I would call back if I was not able to pick the call.
- We should reach out target audience more efficiently. (ex: No event flier was posted at the clinic).
- More number of exclusive NL should have been sent with the right subject and title.
- Robot calls were being discussed a day before the event, this has been happening consistently and is not a good practice.

10:13 PM: Subbarao Maddali

- Coverage of the event by Praveen Thoram of TV5 is not up to the standard. It appeared to be more of a personal coverage rather than coverage of the actual event. Any such acts aimed at benefitting personally should be discouraged and the persons should not be entertained.

10:27 PM: Rajasekhar Chunduri:

- As others mentioned except the crowd being less rest of the event was organized successfully.

10:17 PM:

Updates Regarding Chess Event:

- Till now there are 42 registrations, we are anticipating walk-ins.
- Since we are anticipating walk-ins, we need to make sure we have enough laptops and a printer to accommodate walk-ins.
- Trophies were ordered and will be delivered on 04/13 Friday.
- Chess boards are with Bharath A, Team will collect them from him. Organizer is providing us with remaining boards. So, decided not to order new boards.
- Event will be started Intime.
- Exclusive news letter needs to be sent on Thursday and Friday. Regular newsletter should be postponed to Saturday if possible.

Towards the end of the call there was a discussion regarding readiness of Photographs, The vendor was not notified about placing TAMA logo on the photographs in advance and the same has resulted in a delay.

Things to do Next week:

- Financials will be discussed next week, when treasurer was in the call.
- Since Financials will be discussed next week, it would be a combined call involving EC and board.
- Feedback from other team members that are not offered an opportunity including president will be taken next week.
- Team requested to know how many tickets were purchased by members of EC and Board. The same will be provided by the treasurer.
- Team will discuss on Maatlata event.

Meeting minutes by – Bilhan Alapati, Education Secretary on behalf of Bharath Maddineni, General Secretary