

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SSKZM OBA AGBM

### HELD OVER ZOOM MEETING APP FROM 1000 H ON 13 DEC 2020

#### 1. SILENT PRAYER

The Annual General Body meeting started with all members observing a minute's silence in memory of departed Alumni, Cadets, and Staff. 123 alumni attended the AGBM.

#### 2 WELCOME ADDRESS BY SECY, SSKZM OBA

Commodore G Prakash, Retired, Gen Secretary, SSKZM OBA welcomed all the members to the meeting. He thanked all attendees for joining the first ever AGBM held over the Zoom App, forced by the extraordinary worldwide Covid 19 pandemic. He informed the audience that since the OBA day of 2019, the EC had had meetings at SSKZM on 31 Aug 19, 07 Dec 19, and 08 Feb 20. However, after that, EC meetings had to be via video conferencing. These were held on 18 Apr 20 and 27 Oct 20.

Thereafter, he thanked Capt Breeze Anthony 1940/ 1989 batch, the former Admin Officer, SSKZM, for his wonderful contribution to the school as well as for his excellent cooperation and coordination with the OBA EC. He also welcomed Lt Col Shelley 2689/ 1996 batch, the new Admin Officer, SSKZM to his job.

In his briefing to the General Body, he stated that other than the normal affairs of the OBA, one new idea that had figured in the activities of the EC were discussions on starting OBA Chapters worldwide, in cities where we have adequate number of old students. However, the disruption caused by Covid 19 did not allow this idea to be pursued further. The Secy also thanked those who contributed to the nomination and finalisation of the OBA Life Time Achievement & Achiever of the Year awards. He also gave an update on the following activities at SSKZM, which happened before Covid restrictions cut in:

(a) Col N J Nair Memorial inter school debate competition was conducted on 25 Nov 19. SSKZM won the first position.

(b) Capt Harshan Memorial inter school basketball tournament was held from 26 to 29 Nov 19. St Thomas Residential School bagged the trophy. SSKZM was the 'runner up' in the tournament.

(c) Cdr Abhilash Tomy, Circumnavigator, addressed the students at SSKZM in Jan 2020.

(d) The NBN memorial Teachers' Enrichment programme, scheduled between 21 Mar and end Apr 20 was cancelled because of Covid 19..

(e) Airborne to Chairborne by Air Cmde Nitin Sathe, translated to Malayalam by Cdr Joji Kunchattil (Roll No 430, 1972), titled *wheelchairil oru vaimanikan*,

scheduled for release during OBA, was released by Dr Shashi Tharoor, Gen Anandakrishnan and Cdr Joji Kunchattil on 05 Dec, on world disability day.

Finally, the Secy OBA informed the audience that since no additional agenda points had been received from anyone, the agenda that had been circulated will be discussed first.

### **3. PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT, SSKZM OBA**

Commander Sam T Samuel, Retired, President, SSKZM OBA welcomed all the attendees of the AGBM and thanked them for making this first ever virtual ABGM a success. Thereafter he acknowledged the excellent performance of Capt Breeze Anthony 1940/ 1989 batch, as Admin Officer, SSKZM, and thanked him for his contribution to SSKZM and for his support for OBA activities. He also welcomed Lt Col Shelley 2689/ 1996 batch, the new Admin Officer, SSKZM to SSKZM. After briefly covering the administrative issues facing SSKM which had found much mention in the press, he directed that the agenda be discussed.

### **4. REPORT ON SSKZM BY ADMIN OFFICER, SSKZM**

Lt Col Shelley, Admin Officer SSKZM, covered the following points:-

(a) Online Classes – By starting online classes in Jun 2020 itself, SSKZM was among the first Sainik Schools to adapt to the changed circumstances and cope with the closure of schools. Through sheer innovation, SSKZM managed to conduct all academic and cocurricular activities through the internet.

(b) Routine at School – The above classes were conducted by the teachers teaching from the school building, on SMART boards, with day scholars physically attending the class, duly observing all Covid protocols.

(c) Training for UPSC Exam - Training for UPSC exam was conducted for the cadets from class 11 & 12, since Feb 20, with Maths being taught by an instructor from outside and with GK, English and Science being taught by SSKZM teachers.

(d) SSB Training - Interactive sessions were conducted for Cadets, with various IOs, TOs & GTOs. Several SSKZM old students have also offered assistance for the latest batch of 12 students preparing in the campus for their interviews.

(e) Repairs to Stupa of Remembrance & Guard Square – SSKZM had sought the assistance of the OBA for funds to carryout repairs to the Stupa of Remembrance & the Guard Square. The funds having been made available by OBA EC (with the caveat that the cost be limited to a maximum of Rs One Lakh), the work was in progress.

(f) PWD Works - Large scale PWD repair Works are in progress in the Administrative and Academic blocks. However, the Works were facing delays due to govt commitments for elections.

- (g) Administrative Challenges – The Admin Officer stated that discussions were in progress with State Govt authorities.

The President, OBA appreciated the efforts of the school, especially the speed with which they adapted to the new circumstances and ensured the conduct of academic and co-curricular activities.

#### 5. REPORT ON ACTIVITIES BY PREVIOUS SILVER JUBILEE BATCH (1995)

Mr Rajkumar, Vice President OBA (2569/ 1995) shared with the audience, the disappointment of the 1995 batch in missing out the opportunity to conduct OBA day 2020. This was especially so, because they had put in a lot of effort and had planned a grand event, including several path breaking ideas like holding the AGBM outside the school, so as to ensure maximum participation. This would have also maximised the time available at SSKZM during the OBA day, for interaction with the Cadets and Staff, and for reliving memories, both, important aims of the OBA day. Mr Rajkumar also stated that the 1995 batch, with a heavy heart, had decided not to organise the OBA Reunion in 2021 along with the 1996 batch, and had decided to pass on the opportunity to next batch (1996). As for their activities, the 1995 batch had gifted a chapati making machine to SSKZM on the previous OBA day. Guruvandanam program, which had been launched in 2020, starting with Cmde APA Robin (Retd), former Principal SSKZM, had been put on hold indefinitely, and the batch hopes to complete this as and when the situation improves. They are also considering a batch get-together and a dinner program for the general employees of the school, at a later date and has requested the assistance of the OBA EC for conducting some component of their batch get together ,at SSKZM as and when the situation permits.

#### 6. UPDATE ON OBA SSKZM WEBSITE & DIRECTORY

Wg Cdr TR Padmaraj brought out that the OBA Website ([www.sskzmoba.org](http://www.sskzmoba.org)) that was launched in 2014 is fully functional. The new look website has entire information about the association and about the alma mater that an alumnus expects from it. The website also covers all relevant information that an OB looks up for. The site has 42 dashboards covering the entire spectrum of our association. Retro updates are being done in a phased manner.

Wg Cdr Padmaraj, while covering the salient aspects of the website, also brought out the following:

- (a) The web has all dynamic data such as life member list (under updating), list of contributors to the OBA and to SSKZM, reunion reports, OBA EC members list and all award winners.
- (b) Annual maintenance (periodic renewal) of the web is being looked after by Sri Prabhasudan (3577/04).

He also covered the following procedure, to login to the web:

The following steps are to be followed by **first time users**. Visit website [sskzmoba.org](http://sskzmoba.org)

1. Click login
2. Click forgot password
3. Message will appear 'your 6-digit OTP' has been sent to your registered email xxx@com.
4. Please login with OTP, change password as per you desire.
5. If the email shown is incorrect, please mail to Wg Cdr Padmaraj, who will amend your desired email.
6. Repeat steps 1-4 above again. Edit your profile in case you haven't.

### **The OBA Directory**

The Vth edition of the OBA Directory (OBA GJ Directory) would be launched during the next reunion at SSKZM. The new Directory covers Roll Nos 1 to 6146

### **7. REPORT FROM TREASURER**

Mr Santhosh Kumar J, Treasurer OBA (2226/ 1991) presented the Annual Audited Financial Statements, the Income and Expenses Statement, the Receipts and Payments Statement and the Balance Sheet for the Financial Year ended on 31st March 2020. Then the approval of the same was proposed by Mr Sasikumar (551/ 1974) and was seconded by Air Cmde BS Krishna Kumar (Retd), 1076/ 1981 and all the financial statements were adopted and approved by the members unanimously.

The Treasurer further explained that the association had opened Fixed Deposits with State Bank of India, Kuravankonam Branch for all surplus funds and specific deposits for all endowments, as clarified at the previous AGBM and the details of cash balance with the organisation was shared. He explained the Annual Budget for FY 2020-21 was not planned as practically no activity could be taken up during the year due to the Corona Pandemic. The Gen Body also unanimously approved the retention of Mr Sanal Kumar as our Auditor for the year 2020 – 2021.

All relevant documents are attached as Annexures.

### **8. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 50TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 13 JULY 2019.**

Adoption of minutes of the 50th Annual General Meeting held on 13 July 2019 was proposed by Lt Col Korath V Mathew (1099/ 1981) and seconded by Commander Cibin Charley (3239/ 1998).

### **9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF LTA & AOY AWARDS.**

Cdr Sam T Samuel, President OBA announced the winners of the OBA Annual awards, for Lifetime Achievement and Achiever of the Year.

- (a) Late PC Satish Chandran Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award.
- (i) Roll No 413 Maj Gen KS Venugopal, VSM - 1972 Batch
  - (ii) Roll No 500 Alex Pothan - 1973 Batch
  - (iii) Roll No 550 PJ Joseph - 1974 Batch
  - (iv) Roll No 551 CR Sasi Kumar - 1974 Batch
  - (v) Roll No 563 S Rajookrishnan - 1974 Batch
- (b) Late Flying Officer MP Anil Kumar Memorial Achiever of the Year Award
- (i) Roll No 1559 Cmde MP Anil Kumar IN, NM - 1985 Batch
  - (ii) Roll No 2528 Capt K Nirmal Raghu IN, VSM - 1995 Batch
  - (iii) Roll No 3035 Dr Pratheesh PT - 1999 Batch
  - (iv) Roll No 4189 Maj Rahul Balamohan, SM - 2006 Batch
  - (v) Roll No 4396 Capt Unni Mohan - 2011 Batch

The President congratulated the winners and appreciated their contributions to society and to the SSKZM fraternity which would serve as guiding beacons for everyone. He also thanked the subcommittee that did sterling work in examining all the nominations received as well as various batches which made nominations.

#### 10. **EXTENDING THE TENURE OF EC.**

President OBA put forth a proposal for retaining the current OBA EC till the next AGBM, where adequate members can be physically present. Towards this, he explained the practical difficulties involved while conducting the elections as per the existing bye laws, on line. The General Body unanimously accepted the proposal.

11. Salient aspects of the additional points discussed with the permission of the Chair, are enumerated below:-

(a) There was general consensus on the need to install Solar Panels at SSKZM in order to reduce expenditure on Electricity. Towards this, even a PPP model appeared feasible. Mr Seetharaman of 1985 batch, working in KSEB, offered his help for the installation solar panels.

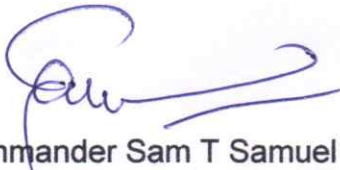
(a) Way head for conducting OBA Reunion Day was discussed, against the unclear prognosis for Covid restrictions in the future. There was even a suggestion to combine 1996 and 1997 batches for the conduct of the next OBA Reunion day. However, there was no consensus for joint sponsorship and it was decided that the 1996 batch would have the privilege of hosting the OBA Reunion day in 2021, subject to the restrictions imposed by Covid 19.

(b) There was a general query about anyone impacted by Covid among the OBA members. President OBA assured the audience that the EC readily helps anyone who asks for help, as and when the requirements come up.

(c) A suggestion was made to SSKZM, through the Admin Officer, that a list of projects the school desires for better functioning be shared with the OBA, so that the list can be circulated among OBs in influential positions, who may be able to provide them with their CSR funds.

(d) President OBA appealed all OBA members to contribute to the Students Scholarship Fund, as there were enough cadets waiting to be beneficiaries of the same.

12. There being no other point, the President thanked everyone who attended and adjourned the meeting.



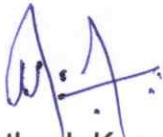
Commander Sam T Samuel (Retd)  
President  
OBA SSKZM

06 Jan 2021



Commodore G Prakash (Retd)  
General Secretary  
OBA SSKZM

05 Jan 2021



Mr Santhosh Kumar J  
Treasurer  
OBA SSKZM

05 Jan 2021