

AASAN Minutes
Denver 4-11-2011

The meeting was attended by:

Ashwini Sharan: President
Praveen Mummaneni: Treasurer
Ketan Bulsara: Member-at-large
Girish Hiremath: Member-at-large
Jogi Pattisapu: Past President
Sripathi Holla: Senior Member
Raj Narayan: Senior Member
Arnold Menezes: Past President
Laligam Shekhar: Senior Member
Raj Murali, Senior Member
Vedantam Rajshekhar, NSI Secretary, Vellore, India
Christopher Getch, President, CNS
David Adelson, Past President, CNS
Srinivas Prasad, Philadelphia, PA
Sujit Gupta, Houston, TX
Samir Sheth, Boston, MA
Other attendees

Ashwini Sharan: opened meeting/welcomed attendees. Stated that AASAN is now more than a social organization, it is taking on a more academic role. We have more than 108 neurosurgery residents of South Asian origin in US neurosurgery programs. We had more than 70 US-based neurosurgeons attend the meeting in Jaipur, India. Thanked corporate sponsors, Integra/MASEP/Codman/Infini. He stated that as a result of corporate sponsorship, AASAN will be restarting the Ambassadorship program. In addition, he stated that there was a need to increase membership in the organization from around 120 to 450 (the number of South Asian neurosurgeons in this country).

Ketan Bulsara: stated that one of the goals of the organization was to promote international education. He described the AASAN Ambassadorship program, and its role in acting as an exchange program between Indian neurosurgeons and US-based neurosurgeons. Thanked Stryker representatives—in the first such endeavour, \$15,000 would be given for an ambassador to spend 4-6 weeks in India at a neurosurgical center of excellence. Application forms will be posted on the website with a due date of July 1st, 2011.

Praveen Mummaneni: Gave the treasurer's report.

Jogi Pattisapu: thanked AANS/CNS for helping AASAN in promoting exchange between Indian and American neurosurgeons. He stated the focus now should be on giving back to the parent organization as well as to give back internationally.

Ashwini Sharan: Introduced Chris Getch (President, CNS);

Chris Getch: mentioned that SANS would be provided free of cost to all neurosurgery residents in India. He stated that he was honored and humbled at the meeting in Jaipur, and mentioned that it was an outstanding meeting as were the associated cultural events. He hoped that such meetings would lead to more collaborative events.

David Adelson: echoed sentiments of Dr. Getch, thanked AASAN for its support.

An introduction of all attendees present then ensued. Notably:

Laligam Shekhar stated that AASAN could act as a bridge to other international society meetings.

Vedantam Rajshekhar: Invited all to attend the next NSI meeting, which will be held in Bangalore during December of 2011. He thanked CNS and AASAN for all of their support to Indian neurosurgery.

Girish Hiremath: introduced newsletter, and need for topics for the newsletter. He stated that the website's information is current with latest newsletters/minutes posted. There was a need for a professional website designer to refurbish the current site.

Meeting adjourned... Dinner with attendees at India House Restaurant