

AID Conference 2004

Minutes for Session Named AID GBM

Date: 05.30.04

Time From: 11:30 AM

To: 12:30 PM

Minutes Taken By: Anitha Sampath

Number of attendees: 20

Audio/Visual Component?

Speaker/Panelist Names:

1. Om Damani
2. Sudhakar

What they are speaking about:

AID financial report, updates of work done from last conference. Project reports, Admin reports, facts about AID. This was followed by an open discussion –“Your voice counts”.

Main Presentation:

Main Agenda was presented. 2003-2004 funds update.

Quick overview of funds AID has successfully raised. Accounts for 2003 are still not completed. The figure for 2002 is \$4480378. This includes money from all events and concerts. The good news has been a steady increase in activities done by us over years.

Audit report: Document has been uploaded on web. Information on support, expenses and funds raised are available on the treasury website. Treasurers of chapters can access it. This includes project expenses, Jeevan Sathis, Orissa relief, Gujrat relief, awareness expenses and admin expenses. The funds raised include contributions, special events, interest from bank balance and miscellaneous.

Financial report of 2003-2004:

Has the money raised in 2003-2004. A comparison with previous years was presented. Project expenses and other expenses were also presented.

Project Analysis: Each EB member gives an update:

How do we want to move forward, by focusing on improving quality of projects we do.

Issue wise distribution of projects was presented. Health care along with literacy are the biggest involvement of AID. We have very less involvement in people rights, alternative energy and anti corruption.

Geographical distribution: TN is the highest, followed by Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Gujrat. There is lot of skew in the distribution of projects. We have to try improving our efforts in areas where we do not have a presence.

Fund Raising and Management Updates:

Every year we try to come up with a small challenge for chapter. This year it is for every volunteer. Jeevan Sathis form the heart and soul of our work in India. We have not had any specific activities to show our support. Every AID volunteer comes up with one dime a day at least, comes out to \$36 per year and with 500 volunteers we should be able to raise \$18000. If that is done Dr. Bhagat will give \$6000 of his funds. And that will make it a good cushion for Jeevan Sathis. It was announced that AID has a corpus fund. We are thinking of investing money from corpus funds. We have been too conservative about investing money.

Admin/Treasury Coordination:

Two coordinators, one for admin and one for treasury. Vision is to get work done better and more easily than we get from Indian Govt.!! Check deposit has got better. Still, checks don't get mailed promptly. CC deduction has not happened for 6 months. Receipts haven't been sent out on time. We should send the receipts to donors regularly. Root cause is bad network of part time volunteers. When the task is split, it gets complex. How can it be better the next time? Without someone being directly responsible, commitment levels go down. Find a replacement for yourself, if you are not able to do the job. Admin treasury responsibility was displayed. It was realized that we are not keeping track of all that needs to be done on the long list of jobs of admin treasury. Hopefully a better system will develop.

Your Voice and Action Counts:

New position to streamline and coordinate Activism and media outreach of AID. Agenda of group is to approach activism in a disciplined manner. To bring people working on different activism related movements together and work on the common action plan. We will try on 5 core issues:

Long term activism, Narmada, Bhopal, communalism and women related issues. Bring the groups together and have a common strategy.

Develop web based activism resources. Another team should function on media relations and outreach. Closer work with projects team and cells is necessary.

Executive Board:

All the challenges in functioning of AID were brought up. Recognition was given to contributions from past members.

Anjali Sridhar announced about the new publications and outreach coordinator. Any one interested in writing please contact her.

Priya Ranjan the chapters and volunteer coordinator:

Legal Status of AID: AID Inc.

Use the new tax id number.

Question/Answer Session:

Q- Ownership seems to be the biggest question. How to get a check and send it to the central point?

A- Decentralization is the way to go. Zonal treasurer are important. Most chapters don't have a treasurer for half the year. Each chapter and volunteer should be responsible. Every one should take responsibility.

Mailing of checks from chapters will be made easier by self addresses envelopes. Usually it is easier to send off all that you have in one batch.

Additional Notes/ Observations: