

# Minutes of AGM Meeting

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Minutes of the **89<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body meeting** of the Members of the Kanara Catholic Association held at 11.00 am on **Sunday, December 20, 2020**, at the Ground Hall at the KCA premises in Bandra ( W ), Mumbai.

The AGM began with an opening prayer led by Ms Clara Menezes, Hon. Treasurer of the Kanara Catholic Association. Around 30 members were present at 11.00 a.m., which was the required quorum to start the AGM proceedings.

Thereafter, Mr. Eric D'Sa, President of Kanara Catholic Association, welcomed all the members present.

Merwyn D'Souza, Hon. Secretary of Kanara Catholic Association, who after ascertaining that the required quorum was met, for the conduct of the AGM, introduced the members of the Managing Council and read out the Notice and Agenda for the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body Meeting. All attending members were provided with a copy of the Annual Report together with the Agenda. A total of 39 members were in attendance at the AGM.

**The Agenda of the meeting was then taken up.**

## **Agenda Item 1**

**To confirm the minutes of the Annual General Body Meeting held on September 22, 2019.**

The Chairman informed the General Body, that as per the Rules & Regulations of the KCA, the Minutes were approved by the Managing Council and then circulated to all those Members, who had attended the General Body meeting of September 22, 2019.

Objections to the circulated minutes were to be sent in within the stipulated time of 14 days. The KCA Administrative Office did not receive any objections to the Minutes and as such, the Chairman proposed that the Minutes of the Annual General Body Meeting of September 22, 2019, be adopted and approved by the General Body.

The following resolution was read out & put up on the projector, and approved by the members present.

**Resolved that the house adopts and confirms the Minutes of the Annual General Body Meeting held on September 22, 2019.**

The resolution was proposed by : George Dass (D-1) and seconded by : Lancy D'Souza (D-22)

**For : Unanimously Approved                      Against : Nil                      Abstained : Nil**

## Agenda Item 2

### To consider and adopt the Report of the President , the Auditors Report and the Statement of Accounts for the Financial Year ended March 31, 2020.

The Chairman informed the General Body, that the Financial Statements and Statement of Accounts, were reviewed and scrutinized by the the Legal & Finance Sub-Committee, prior to them being reviewed and audited by M/s Gonsalves and Associates, the Statutory Auditor of Kanara Catholic Association.

The Chairman further stated, that no letters or queries on the Annual Accounts Report of 2019-2020, had been received within the time frame stipulated, as per KCA Rules & Regulations. In the interest of transparency, he requested Clara Menezes (Hon. Treasurer) and Sunil Lobo (Managing Council Member) to brief the General Body, about the Financial Statements and Statement of Accounts for the Financial Year 2019-2020. He also requested them to respond to any questions put forth by the Members of the General Body, pertaining to the Annual Report of 2019-2020.

The Chairman then proposed that the Financial Statements and Statement of Accounts for the Financial Year 2019-2020, be adopted and considered by the General Body.

**Resolved that the house considers and adopts the report of the President, the Auditor's Report and the Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended March 31, 2020.**

The resolution was proposed by : Wilfred Rodrigues (R-28) and seconded by : Bennett Buthello (B-25)

**For : Unanimously Approved**

**Against : Nil**

**Abstained : Nil**

## Agenda Item 3

### To appoint a Statutory Auditor for the Financial Year ended March 31, 2021 and fix their remuneration.

The Hon Treasurer, Mrs Clara Menezes pointed out that our auditors, M/s Gonsalves & Associates, have been auditing the accounts of the KCA since 2009 and had offered themselves for reappointment.

Clara Menezes, Hon. Treasurer, further stated that the Managing Council recommends to the General Body, to appoint M/s Gonsalves & Associates, as Statutory Auditors for the next financial year as well, i.e. Financial Year ending March 31, 2021.

The following resolution was read out & put up on the projector, and approved by the members present.

**Resolved that M/s Gonsalves & Associates, Chartered Accountants, be and are hereby appointed as the Statutory Auditors of the Kanara Catholic Association for the Financial Year ending March 31, 2021, at a remuneration to be determined by the Managing Council**

The resolution was proposed by : Loy Menezes (M-50) and seconded by : Freddy Castelino (C-58)

**For : Unanimously Approved**

**Against : Nil**

**Abstained : Nil**

## Agenda Item 4

### To consider and adopt the few changes in the Rules and Regulations of the Association.

The Chairman invited the attention of the General Body to refer to Annexure 1 – Proposed Amendment to Rules and Regulations of Kanara Catholic Association, forming part of the Annual Report of 2019-2020, pertaining to the recommendations put forth, for changes in Rules and Regulations of Kanara Catholic Association.

The Chairman informed the General Body, that these proposed recommendations, have been thoroughly reviewed and scrutinized by the Legal & Finance Sub-Committee and subsequently approved by the Managing Council, to facilitate better control and smooth functioning of the Association.

The Chairman further informed the General Body, that as per Rule 41, the KCA Rules and Regulations may be amended, repealed, altered, revoked or added to, at any time, by a two-thirds majority of the Members present at a Meeting of the General Body.

Furthermore, as per the Maharashtra Public Trusts Act of 1961, all changes to Rules and Regulations, need to be ratified by the Office of the Charity Commissioner, Mumbai.

#### **Current Rule 1 - MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY & TYPES**

*“Membership shall be open to any person over 18 years of age, of either sex born in North or South Kanara or a dependent of such person, subject to the provisions herein contained.”*

#### Explanation :

The Chairman explained the reason for the proposed Amendment to Rule 1 and the need for the Kanara Catholic Association, to also open its Membership to people who were born in Udupi or whose ascendants were born in Udupi and thus, put forth the proposed Rule 1, for adoption and approval of the General Body.

#### **Proposed amendment to Rule 1**

Membership shall be open to any person over 18 years of age, whose ascendants were born in North Kanara, South Kanara or Udupi, or a dependent of such person, subject to the provisions contained herein.

#### **Resolved that Rule 1 of the KCA Rules and Regulations to be changed to read as follows**

*“Membership shall be open to any person over 18 years of age, who was born or whose ascendants were born in North Kanara, South Kanara or Udupi, or a descendant of such person, subject to the provisions contained herein.”*

The resolution was proposed by : Loy Menezes (M-50) and seconded by : Eric D’Souza (D-70)

**For : Unanimously Approved**

**Against : Nil**

**Abstained : Nil**

## **Current Rule 2 ( b ) - LIFE MEMBER**

**“b) Life Member on payment of membership fee of 10,000/-**

*Provided that:*

- i) All persons eligible for membership as aforesaid in sub-clauses (a) and (b) shall be exempted from payment of annual subscription and shall have all the rights and privileges of an ordinary member,*
- ii) Any member may be admitted to the next higher class of membership on his paying the difference between the membership of the class to which he belongs and the next higher class.*
- iii) Members Children between the ages of 18 and 19 may apply as ordinary members and are eligible to change over to life members between the ages of 21 and 22 by paying only the difference between the life membership fee and what they have paid as ordinary members.”*

### Explanation :

The Chairman explained the reason for the proposed Addition to Rule 2 (b) and brought to the attention of the General Body, that upon the demise of a Life Member, the spouse of the said deceased Life Member, automatically loses the benefits of partaking of the facilities of Kanara Catholic Association.

The Chairman explained, that if the spouse of a deceased Life Member, desires to be a Life Member, the Association must extend the benefit and continuity for doing so, to the spouse, by offering him/her the option of paying only 50% of the Regular Life Membership Fee.

### Questions :

Adrian Correa, Life Member, questioned the need for payment of 50% Life Membership Fee, by the spouse of a deceased Life Member, to become a new Life Member.

The Chairman, highlighted the objects of the Association and pointed out that revenues generated from Membership Fees, Hostel Fees, Hall Charges, etc, are largely used towards meeting the charitable objectives of the Association. Further, he brought to the attention of the General Body, the donations made in Financial Year 2019-2020, by the Association, towards Educational Assistance, Medical Assistance, renovations at “Yuvakalaya”, including recurring repairs and maintenance of the building and premises.

### Resolution :

The Chairman, put forth the proposed addition to Rule 2(b), for adoption and approval of the General Body.

### **Proposed Addition to Rule 2 ( b ) - Life member:**

**Spouse of a deceased Life member can become life member by paying 50% of the life membership fees, subject to the provisions herein contained.**

**Resolved that the addition to Rules 2 (b) of the KCA Rules and Regulations, be accepted and to read as follows :**

**b) Life Member on payment of membership fee of 10,000/-**

*Provided that:*

- i) All persons eligible for membership as aforesaid in sub-clauses (a) and (b) shall be exempted from payment of annual subscription and shall have all the rights and privileges of an ordinary member,*
- ii) Any member may be admitted to the next higher class of membership on his paying the difference between the membership of the class to which he belongs and the next higher class.*

iii) Members Children between the ages of 18 and 19 may apply as ordinary members and are eligible to change over to life members between the ages of 21 and 22 by paying only the difference between the life membership fee and what they have paid as ordinary members

*“iv) Spouse of a deceased Life member can become life member by paying 50% of the life membership fees, subject to the provisions herein contained.”*

The resolution was proposed by : Loy Menezes (M-50) and seconded by : Adrian Correa (C-56)

**For : Unanimously Approved                      Against : Nil                      Abstained : Nil**

### **Current Rule 8( b) - MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION**

*“The office bearers, consisting of the President, Sr Vice President, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer shall be directly elected by the General Body of the Association at the Annual General Body meeting.”*

#### **Explanation :**

The Chairman explained the reason for the proposed Addition to Rule 8 (b) and brought to the attention of the General Body, the administrative challenges encountered by the Office Bearers and/or Managing Council, in the event of prolonged inability or unavailability of either the Hon. Secretary and/or the Hon. Treasurer, to carry out their functions or responsibilities and its possible impact on the day-to-day operations and administration of the Kanara Catholic Association. However, the Chairman pointed out that this proposed addition to Rule 8 (b), does not intend to absolve the Hon. Secretary or the Hon. Treasurer of their responsibilities towards Kanara Catholic Association.

#### **Resolution :**

The Chairman, put forth the proposed addition to Rule 8 (b), for adoption and approval of the General Body.

#### **Proposed Addition to Rule 8 ( b) -**

*“If for any reason the Hon. Secretary / Hon. Treasurer, is / are unavailable or unable to function , their duties shall be carried out by one or more office bearers, as determined by the Managing Council.”*

**Resolved that the addition to Rule 8 (b) of the KCA Rules and Regulations, be accepted and to read as follows :**

*“The office bearers, consisting of the President, Sr Vice President, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer shall be directly elected by the General Body of the Association at the Annual General Body meeting”.*

*“If for any reason the Hon. Secretary / Hon. Treasurer, is / are unavailable or unable to function , their duties shall be carried out by one or more office bearers, as determined by the Managing Council.”*

The resolution was proposed by : Neville Mascarenhas (M-20) and seconded by : Lancy D’Souza (D-22)

**For : Unanimously Approved                      Against : Nil                      Abstained : Nil**

## **Current Rule 8 ( d ) - MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION**

*“The elected office bearers shall be assisted by not less than 5 and not more than 9 co-opted members. The period of office of the co-opted members shall be coterminous with the tenure of office of the elected office bearers*

*After each Annual General Meeting, one third of the total number of co-opted members of the Council, or if their number is not a multiple of 3, then the number nearest to one third, shall retired by rotation, as decided by the Council. Those retiring members will be eligible for co-option after a break of one year during the tenure of the 3 year term of office of the elected office bearers.”*

### Explanation :

The Chairman explained the reason for the proposed deletion and addition to Rule 8 (d) and the need to co-opt members into the Managing Council, who have spent time working with the Sub-Committees, whereby they would have gained experience and understanding of the administration and operations of The Kanara Catholic Association. Thus, when they get co-opted into the Managing Council, they could then leverage that experience to better manage the operations of the Kanara Catholic Association.

Furthermore, the Chairman reiterated the need to limit members of the same immediate family, from being members of the Managing Council, at the same time, so as to allow for widespread, independent and transparent functioning of the operations at the Kanara Catholic Association.

### Resolution :

The Chairman, put forth the proposed deletion and addition to Rule 8 (d), for adoption and approval of the General Body.

### **Proposed deletion of existing paragraph 2 of Rule 8( d ) -**

**After each Annual General Meeting, one third of the total number of co-opted members of the Council, or if their number is not a multiple of 3, then the number nearest to one third, shall retired by rotation, as decided by the Council. Those retiring members will be eligible for co-option after a break of one year during the tenure of the 3 year term of office of the elected office bearers**

### **Proposed Addition to Rule 8 (d ) -**

Preference will be given to members who have served earlier in the sub -committees. No two members from the same immediate family can be members of the Council at the same time, as determined by the Office bearers.

Family means grandparents, parents, husband, wife, brothers, sisters and children

**Resolved that the changes to Rules 8 (d ) of the KCA Rules and Regulations, be accepted and to read as follows :**

*“The elected office bearers shall be assisted by not less than 5 and not more than 9 co-opted members. The period of office of the co-opted members shall be coterminous with the tenure of office of the elected office bearers.”*

*“Preference will be given to members who have served earlier in the sub -committees. No two members from the same immediate family can be members of the Council at the same time, as determined by the Office bearers.*”

*Family means grandparents, parents, husband, wife, brothers, sisters and children.”*

The resolution was proposed by : Oliver Pinto (P-48) and seconded by : Freddy Castelino (C-58)

**For : Unanimously Approved                      Against : Nil                      Abstained : Nil**

#### **Current Rule 11 ( d ) - POWERS & RESTRICTIONS OF THE COUNCIL**

*“The sub-Committee shall consist of not less than 5 members namely President or Sr. Vice President, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and two members of the General Body.”*

##### Explanation :

The Chairman explained the reason for the proposed deletion of Rule 11 (d) and its restructuring and addition under Rule 23, which talks about the composition of the Sub-Committees, to allow for easier and better compartmentalisation, interpretation and reading of the KCA Rules & Regulations.

##### Resolution :

The Chairman, put forth the proposed deletion and addition of Rule 11 (d), for adoption and approval of the General Body.

##### **Proposed deletion of existing Rule 11 ( d )**

*The sub-Committee shall consist of not less than 5 members namely President or Sr. Vice President, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and two members of the General Body*

#### **Resolved that Rule 11 (d) of the KCA Rules and Regulations to be deleted**

The resolution was proposed by : George Dass (D-1) and seconded by : Bennett Buthello (B-25)

**For : Unanimously Approved                      Against : Nil                      Abstained : Nil**

#### **Current Rule 12 ( a ) - FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICE BEARERS- PRESIDENT**

*“The President shall be the Chairman at the Annual General Body Meeting and all the General Body Meetings and also all the Council meetings of the Association.”*

##### Explanation :

The Chairman explained the reason for the proposed addition to Rule 12 (a) and the need to limit the consecutive terms of Office, held by the President, with the object of aligning with the best practices prevalent across governance in similar associations, both nationally and internationally.

Furthermore, the Chairman also pointed out, that in the best interests of the administration and operations of the Kanara Catholic Association, only a Member who has served for at least one year in the

Managing Council, shall be eligible to put forward his/her nomination, for election to the Office of the President of Kanara Catholic Association, all subject to being elected by the General Body.

Resolution :

The Chairman, put forth the proposed addition to Rule 12 (a), for adoption and approval of the General Body.

**Proposed Addition to Rule 12 ( a ) -**

The President can be elected for a maximum two consecutive full terms of 3 years each. Thereafter there shall be a cooling off period of at least one term. Only a member who has served in the M.C. for at least a period of 1 year is eligible to be elected to be the President.

**Resolved that the addition to Rule 12 (a) of the KCA Rules and Regulations, be accepted and to read as follows :**

*“The President shall be the Chairman at the Annual General Body Meeting and all the General Body Meetings and also all the Council meetings of the Association.*

*The President can be elected for a maximum two consecutive full terms of 3 years each. Thereafter there shall be a cooling off period of atleast one term. Only a member who has served in the Managing Council for at least a period of 1 year is eligible to be elected to be the President.”*

The resolution was proposed by : Loy Menezes (M-50) and seconded by : Neville Mascarenhas (M-20)

**For : Unanimously Approved**

**Against : Nil**

**Abstained : Nil**

**Current Rule 13- GENERAL BODY MEETINGS**

*“Fourteen clear days notice shall be given for General Body Meetings. The notice, in writing, shall be given to every member at the address registered in the books under certificate of posting. Non receipt of the notice by any member shall not invalidate the proceedings of or any resolution passed at any such meeting.”*

Explanation :

The Chairman explained the reason for the proposed addition to Rule 13 and the need to adopt modern methods of communications, i.e. electronic media, besides postal service, to allow the Managing Council to connect, communicate and update Members about the current affairs, activities, developments and other relevant news of the Kanara Catholic Association.

Resolution :

The Chairman, put forth the proposed addition to Rule 13, for adoption and approval of the General Body.

**Proposed Addition to Rule 13**

The notices could also be sent to members by electronic media such as email, who have opted for the same.

**Resolved that the addition to Rule 13 of the KCA Rules and Regulations, be accepted and to read as follows :**



*“Fourteen clear days notice shall be given for General Body Meetings. The notice, in writing, shall be given to every member at the address registered in the books under certificate of posting. Non receipt of the notice by any member shall not invalidate the proceedings of or any resolution passed at any such meeting. The notices could also be sent to members by electronic media such as email, who have opted for the same will not get physical copies.”*

The resolution was proposed by : Freddy Castelino (C-58) and seconded by : Adrian Correa (C-56)

**For : Unanimously Approved                      Against : Nil                      Abstained : Nil**

#### **Current Rule 15 ( d ) - QUORUM**

*“The quorum for a meeting of the Council shall be 6 of which at least 3 shall be office bearers.”*

#### **Explanation :**

The Chairman explained the reason for the proposed amendment to Rule 15 (d), including challenges, cancellations of Managing Council Meetings, etc., which hampers effective and timely making of corroborative decisions, to effectively manage the operations of Kanara Catholic Association.

#### **Questions :**

Adrian Correa, Life Member, questioned the proposed quorum, stating that decisions and governance in any association, must be made in the presence of a majority of Office Bearers, to allow for effective ‘checks and balances’, to monitor effective decision making and its execution.

Sunil Lobo, Managing Council Member, mentioned that the Office Bearers do not unilaterally or collectively take or make decisions, but a consensus on all decision making, is taken from all co-opted Members and vetoed, if need be, by the majority of the Members of the Managing Council.

#### **Resolution :**

The Chairman, put forth the proposed amendment to Rule 15 (d), for adoption and approval of the General Body.

#### **Proposed Amendment to Rule 15 ( d )**

*The quorum for a meeting of the Council shall be 5 of which at least 2 shall be office bearers.*

**Resolved that Rule 15 (d) of the KCA Rules and Regulations, to be changed and to read as follows :**

*“The quorum for a meeting of the Council, should be minimum 50% of the Managing Council Members, of which at least 2 shall be office bearers.”*

The resolution was proposed by : Lancy D’Souza (D-22) and seconded by : Adrian Correa (C-56)

**For : Unanimously Approved                      Against : Nil                      Abstained : Nil**

### **Current Rule 19, paragraph 3 -FINANCIAL MATTERS**

*“Receipts for sums less than Rs 50,000/- may be signed by the staff of the Association, expressly authorized by the Managing Council for such purpose.”*

#### Explanation :

The Chairman explained the reason for the proposed amendment to Rule 19 and the need to empower the Staff of the Association, in particular the Office Manager, with flexibility to execute such financial transactions, under the authorization and ambit of the Managing Council and to facilitate efficient and timely administration of financial business for Kanara Catholic Association.

#### Resolution :

The Chairman, put forth the proposed amendment to Rule 19, for adoption and approval of the General Body.

### **Proposed Amendment to Rule 19, paragraph 3**

**Receipts for sums less than Rs. 50,000/- shall be signed by the staff of the Association, expressly authorised by the Managing Council and one of the office bearers.**

**Resolved that Rule 19, paragraph 3 of the KCA Rules and Regulations, to be changed and to read as follows :**

***“Receipts for sums less than Rs. 50,000/- shall be signed by the staff of the Association, expressly authorised by the Managing Council and one of the office bearers.”***

The resolution was proposed by : Loy Menezes (M-50) and seconded by : George Dass (D-1)

**For : Unanimously Approved**

**Against : Nil**

**Abstained : Nil**

### **Current Rule 23 - SUB-COMMITTEES**

*“The Council shall have the power to appoint one or more Sub-Committees for the purpose of carrying on the activities of the Association and to delegate any of the powers given in these Rules and Regulations to the Sub-Committee who shall, in the functions entrusted to them, conform in all respects to the instructions given to them or Bye-laws framed by the Council.*

*Every such Sub-Committee shall elect its own Chairman and Secretary unless otherwise provided in these Rules and Regulations.*

*Accounts of money transactions and reports on the working of each Sub-Committee shall be submitted to the Council at such intervals as the Council may direct.”*

#### Explanation :

The Chairman explained the reason for the proposed addition to Rule 23, to allow for frequent interaction and meetings of Sub-Committees, without necessarily having to be dependant on the availability of the President, Senior Vice President, Hon. Secretary or Hon. Treasurer, to further the Aims and Objectives of the Sub-Committees. This again, exemplifies the vision of the Managing Council, in helping build leaders within Sub-Committees and who can then move forward to more meaningful roles and responsibilities within the KCA framework. Furthermore, the Chairman also reiterated that all decisions proposed by the Sub-Committees, are tabled for review and approval of the Managing Council.

Resolution :

The Chairman, put forth the proposed addition to Rule 23, for adoption and approval of the General Body.

**Proposed Addition of new paragraph to Rule 23**

The sub-Committee shall consist of not less than 3 members among whom there will be at least one Managing Council member. The office bearers can attend any of the sub-committee meetings.

**Resolved that the addition to Rule 23 of the KCA Rules and Regulations, be accepted and to read as follows :**

*“The Council shall have the power to appoint one or more Sub-Committees for the purpose of carrying on the activities of the Association and to delegate any of the powers given in these Rules and Regulations to the Sub-Committee who shall, in the functions entrusted to them, conform in all respects to the instructions given to them or Bye-laws framed by the Council.*

*Every such Sub-Committee shall elect its own Chairman and Secretary unless otherwise provided in these Rules and Regulations.*

*Accounts of money transactions and reports on the working of each Sub-Committee shall be submitted to the Council at such intervals as the Council may direct*

*The sub-Committee shall consist of not less than 3 members among whom there will be at least one Managing Council member. The office bearers can attend any of the sub-committee meetings but with no voting rights.”*

The resolution was proposed by : Adrian Correa (C-56) and seconded by : Loy Menezes (M-50)

**For : Unanimously Approved**

**Against : Nil**

**Abstained : Nil**

**Current Rule 28 – NOTICES**

*“A notice of the Association shall be deemed to have been served on a member if delivered personally or posted to his registered address or by notification in a local paper.”*

Explanation :

The Chairman explained the reason for the proposed addition to Rule 28 and the need to adopt modern methods of communications, i.e. electronic media, besides postal service, to allow the KCA Administration Office to dispatch Notices to Members of Kanara Catholic Association.

Resolution :

The Chairman, put forth the proposed addition to Rule 28, for adoption and approval of the General Body.

**Proposed Addition to Rule 28**

or sent by email to the members registered email address.

**Resolved that the addition to Rule 28 of the KCA Rules and Regulations, be accepted and to read as follows :**

*“A notice of the Association shall be deemed to have been served on a member if delivered personally or posted to his registered address or by notification in a local paper or sent by email to the members registered email address.”*

The resolution was proposed by : Oliver Pinto (P-48) and seconded by : Lancy D’Souza (D-22)

**For : Unanimously Approved                      Against : Nil                      Abstained : Nil**

### **Current Rule 29 - LEGAL AGREEMENTS**

*“All deeds, agreements & other documents shall be signed on behalf of the Association or the Council by the President, the Hon. Secretary, and one other member of the Council appointed for the purpose.”*

**Explanation :**

The Chairman explained the reason for the proposed amendment to Rule 29 and brought to the attention of the General Body, the administrative challenges encountered, in the event of prolonged inability or unavailability of either the President and the Hon. Secretary, in executing legal agreements on behalf of the Council or the Association. Hence it would be advisable to have any one Office Bearer, together with any one member, dealing with the said project, to also sign and act as witness, of the document.

**Resolution :**

The Chairman, put forth the proposed amendment to Rule 29, for adoption and approval of the General Body.

### **Proposed Amendment to Rule 29**

*All deeds, agreements & other documents shall be signed on behalf of the Association or the Council by any one Office Bearer and one other member of the Council appointed for the purpose.*

**Resolved that Rule 29 of the KCA Rules and Regulations, to be changed and to read as follows :**

*“All deeds, agreements & other documents shall be signed on behalf of the Association or the Council by any one Office Bearer and one other member of the Council appointed for the purpose, who would be a witness.”*

The resolution was proposed by : Eric D’Souza (D-70) and seconded by : Neville Mascarenhas (M-20)

**For : Unanimously Approved                      Against : Nil                      Abstained : Nil**

### **Current Rule 35 - DECISIONS AT MEETINGS**

*“All decisions at Council meetings shall be decided by majority vote.”*

#### Explanation :

The Chairman explained the reason for the proposed amendment to Rule 35 and brought to the attention of the General Body that honest and sincere efforts are made every time for collaborative decision making in the Managing Council but could be deadlocked, if there are members to veto any issue. Hence, in such cases, the presiding officer to be allowed the decisive vote, to avoid any such deadlock.

There was quite a discussion on this issue, especially between Adrian Correa, Life Member and the Managing Council, regarding the pertinence of having a deciding vote. It was finally decided to vote on the matter.

#### Resolution :

The Chairman, after the vote, put forth the proposed amendment to Rule 35, for adoption and approval of the General Body.

#### **Proposed Amendment to Rule 35**

All decisions at the Managing Council, Office Bearers and Sub- Committee meetings shall be decided by the majority vote. In case the vote is tied, the presiding officer shall cast the deciding vote.

**Resolved that Rule 35 of the KCA Rules and Regulations, to be changed and to read as follows :**

*“All decisions at the Managing Council, Office Bearers and Sub- Committee meetings shall be decided by the majority vote. In case the vote is tied, the presiding officer shall cast the deciding vote.”*

The resolution was proposed by : Eric D’Souza (D-70) and seconded by : Freddy Castelino (C-58)

**For : 27                      Against : 3                      Abstained :**

### **New addition - Rule 42 - GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL**

*“No member of the KCA should approach any authorities, be it civic, police, courts, media, public forum or any government body, with any grievances or complaints or redressal of any issues with the KCA, nor will he act in any manner, which is detrimental to the interests of the KCA.*

*The member should first approach the Managing Council with their grievances / complaints etc, who will look into the matter and strive to resolve the same, after conducting an enquiry.*

*In case any member contravenes the above, the Managing Council is empowered to take disciplinary action on that member, which could also lead to suspension or termination of the membership, as stipulated in clauses 5 and 6 of our KCA Rules and Regulations.*

*The concerned member may then, in writing, request the KCA management, for the matter to be taken up at the next AGM & act as per existing Rules & Regulations.”*

Once again, there was a lot of discussion on this issue, led by George Dass and after much thought and deliberation, it was agreeably redrafted, as given below and put up on the screen, for all to see.

**Resolution :**

The Chairman, after the discussion and redrafting of the Rule 42, put forth the same on the screen, for viewing, adoption and approval of the General Body.

**Resolved that the addition of New Rule 42 to the KCA Rules and Regulations, be accepted and to read as follows :**

*“No member of the KCA should approach any authorities, be it civic, police, courts, media, public forum or any government body, with any grievances or complaints or redressal of any issues with the KCA, nor will he act in any manner, which is detrimental to the interests of the KCA without following escalation rules of the grievance cell.*

*The member should first approach the Managing Council with their grievances / complaints etc, who will look into the matter and strive to resolve the same, after conducting an enquiry.*

*Following steps should be taken by the concerned member.*

- 1) Approach the grievance cell.*
- 2) Approach Managing Council*
- 3) Managing Council to appoint an independent arbitrator who is acceptable to both parties.*

*In case any member contravenes the above, the Managing Council is empowered to take disciplinary action on that member, which could also lead to suspension or termination of the membership, as stipulated in clauses 5 and 6 of our KCA Rules and Regulations.*

*The concerned member may then, in writing, not less than 3 weeks before the next AGM, request the KCA management, for the matter to be taken up at the next AGM and act as per existing Rules & Regulations. The Hon General Secretary shall then place it before the AGM.”*

The resolution was proposed by : Wilfred Rodrigues (R-28) and seconded by : Eric D’Souza (D-70)

**For : Unanimously Approved**

**Against : Nil**

**Abstained : Nil**

## **Agenda Item 5**

**To consider whether a new lift should be installed at Yuvakalaya, upto the terrace.**

The President had advised a year ago at an SGM, the project of air-conditioning the ground floor hall, was cleared and required money sanctioned. There was also an offer to convert the hall into a Table-Tennis Academy of international standards with air-conditioning, by a private party but this has been deferred for now. Whether to go on with such a project, which will bring in regular additional income to KCA, is still being evaluated by the Managing Council.

The President, Eric D'Sa, as fully mentioned in the Agenda Notes, then elaborated on the need of KCA to install a lift, preferably upto the terrace, with a view to better utilization of our air-conditioned halls and for the express benefit of the elderly, who find it difficult to climb up the stairs. This, he felt, would also increase demand for hall usage and which has been a long-pending demand of many Senior Citizens, thereby increasing the hall income of the air-conditioned halls as well.

Maurice Correa, the Projects head, then advised the General Body, that he has made preliminary enquiries of putting up a hydraulic or electrical lift, to go to all floors, upto the terrace. He estimated that the cost of the lift installation, with a capacity to carry at least six people at a time, would be around Rs. 20 lakhs, which after due discussions, was accepted by the Members.

The Managing Council are also simultaneously looking into the possibility of converting the unused dormitory space, into three air-conditioned rooms on the same floor as the hostel rooms and this could easily generate some good income, if well utilized.

Studies are also being conducted to put up a solar power installation on the terrace, on a raised level, which will also allow the space below to be used for other purposes, as and when required.

**Resolved that an amount of Rs 20 lakhs be approved towards the lift installation costs.**

The resolution was proposed by : Loy Menezes (M-50) and seconded by : Eric D'Souza (D-70)

**For : Unanimously Approved**

**Against : Nil**

**Abstained : Nil**

## **Agenda Item 6**

[To consider whether we should allow Kanara Kafe to serve Alcohol, after obtaining required license.](#)

The Chairman advised that a number of KCA members, who had visited the Kanara Kafe, were very impressed with the decor and ambience created there. Many were looking forward to some improvement in food quality and service and a variety of good Mangalorean cuisine being served.

However, a good many also remarked on the absence of a liquor bar facility, which generally goes with good food and were keen on the KCA complying with and ensuring that the Kanara Kafe is given the necessary go-ahead in this regard.

KCA, in principle, are not against liquor being served at functions being held in our various halls, as long the required liquor license is properly obtained by the persons, who hire the halls and at the same time, ensure that there is the required control over high-spirited unruly behavior from their guests. Even KCA, whenever it organises its social functions, obtains the requisite liquor license. Considering this, we need the permission of the AGM, to permit the Kanara Kafe to have and run a bar in the premises, to provide liquor to the patrons.

After a considerable debate on moral and social grounds and whether a bar should be allowed to function at the Kanara Kafe, it was decided that the contractor be allowed to run a bar facility, serving Members, families, friends and their guests. It is to be noted that the costs of obtaining the required liquor license, will be entirely borne by the Kanara Kafe management.

**Resolved that Kanara Kafe be permitted to serve alcohol in their premises to all Members and their guests and that the cost of obtaining the license be entirely borne by them.**

The resolution was proposed by : Wilfred Rodrigues (R-28) and seconded by : Loy Menezes (M-50)

**For : Unanimously Approved**

**Against : Nil**

**Abstained : Nil**

## **Agenda Item 7**

[To consider and adopt the KCA Vision and Mission Statements.](#)

The two proposed KCA Vision & Mission Statements are as given under :

### **Option 1**

#### THE KCA VISION STATEMENT

Our Vision is to have

A united, dynamic, compassionate, supportive, generous and progressive community of Kanara Catholics.

#### THE KCA MISSION STATEMENT

It is our mission

To build and support community through social activities, and

To promote the development of our youth in attaining their full potential

### **Option 2**

#### THE KCA VISION STATEMENT

A Kanara Catholic Community which is well-studied, progressive, generous, inclusive and prosperous.

#### THE KCA VISION STATEMENT

##### Style 1)

To create in Greater Mumbai, a well-educated, healthy & robust, charitable and dynamic force of Kanara Catholics, who give more than they receive.

##### Style 2)

To build a well-educated, robust, charitable and dynamic community of Kanara Catholics, who give more than they receive, mould ambitious young thought-leaders and work for the upliftment of a larger people.



The above was made available to all the Members, through the Annual Report Booklet, In Annexure II.

The Chairman advised all the Members, that in keeping with the present trends in the corporate and institution sectors, it was strongly felt, for a few years now, that KCA should also have suitable Vision and Mission Statements, that provide prospective members a perspective on what KCA is all about. Though the Aims and Objectives of the Association, as provided in the Memorandum of Association of KCA, provide a long list of things that the Association is to pursue, there was an additional need for more concise Vision and Mission Statements.

To pursue this goal, the Managing Council had requested Mr. Renton D'Souza and Mrs. Annemarie Rego, to prepare draft statements, for the consideration of the KCA members. Both the draft versions were put up on the screen, with a request that one of them, in principle, be given the go-ahead, so as to enable the Managing Council to produce the Vision and Mission Statements of the KCA, based on that decision.

After some deliberations and discussions, the members decided to go ahead with the draft as prepared by Mrs. Annemarie Rego.

**Resolved that the draft wordings, as produced by Mrs. Annemarie Rego, in principle, be adopted and accepted by the General Body.**

The resolution was proposed by : Anna Correa (C-79) and seconded by : Adrian Vaz (V-24)

**For : Unanimously Accepted**

**Against : Nil**

**Abstained : Nil**

## **Agenda Item 8**

[Any other business which may be brought forward with the permission of the Chair.](#)

There being no other business, the Meeting concluded with a prayer.