

ATPIO Annual Meeting Minutes

**Sunday, January 10, 2010, 5:00-7:00pm
Marriott, Maryland A Room**

Agenda

Agenda Part -1 (5:00-6:00pm)

- Introduction
- Opening remarks and update of 2009 ATPIO activities
- Brief summary of the 2009 Annual Reports
- Committees at the ATPIO Board Meeting
- Summary of the Treasurer's report
- Nominating committee report
- Election of Board Members for 2010-2012 including President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer
- Comments and suggestions
- Recruitment of volunteers for ATPIO committees
- Introduction of guests from India
- AASHTO India tour
- Closing remarks

Agenda Part -2 (5:00-6:00pm)

- *ATPIO Reception and Social Gathering for Members and Non- Members: Networking opportunities with professionals of Indian Origin from USA, India and other Countries around the World*

Meeting Minutes

Introduction

Mr. Arun Shirole commenced the annual meeting with the following key points about ATPIO:

- ATPIO as a non-profit organization,
- Aimed to serve as an umbrella organization assisting and promoting ATPIO in India and US.
- Forum to discuss transportation problems in India
- Mentoring younger professionals in India

Opening Remarks and Quick Review of 2009 ATPIO Activities

Mr. Arun Shirole encouraged all to know more about ATPIO from the website: www.atpio.org. He requested for suggestions and comments about the website. In the opening remarks, Mr. Shirole mentioned about current members and past presidents of ATPIO. He also mentioned about the progress ATPIO has made since it was founded in 2004.

Mr. Shirole moved on to provide a synopsis of the ATPIO activities in 2009. He mentioned about our first webinar on “Promise of Nanotechnology for Transportation Industry”. The webinar proved to a huge success bringing in a good number of attendees. He thanked the presenters, Dr. Surendra Shah, and Dr. Parameeta Mandal for sharing their research findings. Following this, Mr. Shirole mentioned about the proposed ATPIO conference series, with the first one scheduled to be held in Arizona. He encouraged everyone to share topics for future webinars.

Mr. Shirole also mentioned briefly about the recent AASHTO Transportation Systems Delegation to India in November 2009 which was lead by the Executive Director of AASHTO Mr. John Horsley. He also indicated that two of the ATPIO board members Mr. Hardik Shah and Dr. Shashi Nambisan were part of the AASHTO delegation team. He also informed everyone to attend the special session on “Key Findings from a Scan to India” which was sponsored by TRB Committees and ATPIO. The session was scheduled for Tuesday, January 12, 2010 between 1:30pm – 3:15pm in Shoreham Regency Ballroom.

Mr. Shirole asked Mr. Hardik Shah to provide a brief summary on the 2009 Treasurer’s Report as well as the Membership and Finance Committee Annual Report.

Summary of the Treasurer’s Report and Membership and Finance Committee Report

Mr. Hardik Shah provided a brief update on the 2009 treasurer’s report. This included a breakdown on the expenses and membership fees received during each quarter of 2009. Mr. Shah updated everyone on the status of the 501(c)(3) application for ATPIO’s non-profit filing. Mr. Shah also indicated that with a significant help from his wife Ms. Hardi Shah, CPA the 501(c)(3)

application for ATPIO should be ready for submittal to IRS by end of first quarter or the beginning of the second quarter of 2010.

Following this Mr. Shah also gave a brief summary on the 2009 Membership and Finance Committee report. He indicated that there was some lapse in membership in 2009 because of the change in jobs due to the economic times. However; the membership in 2009 was still strong with a total of 80 members (42 paid members and 38 student members). Mr. Shah indicated that this was possible because of the great help he received from his committee co-chairs Dr. Anuj Sharma and Mr. Salil Gokhale. Mr. Shah explained about the value a young professional or student member can bring to this organization and encouraged young members to actively participate in organizations activities and its future developments. He also thanked all the senior members of the ATPIO board (past and current board members) specially Mr. Arun Shirole, Dr. Kumares Sinha, Dr. Mohan Venigalla, and Dr. Lalita Sen for their leadership and continued support for the organization and the encouragement they have provided to the young members joining the ATPIO board. He also notified everyone about ATPIO logo competition and encouraged students to participate.

Committee, Meetings, and Events

Dr. Sudeshna Sen updated everyone on the following activities and contributions of ATPIO:

1. ATPIO served as a cooperating organization for 2009 International Association of Travel Behavior Research (IATBR), December 13-18, held in Jaipur, India.
2. ATPIO Chair, Dr. Ram Pendyala, and member, Chandra Bhat, are serving on the technical advisory committee for 2010 Transport Science and Technology Congress (TRANSTEC) conference, scheduled to be held in April 7-10, New Delhi, 2010.
3. ATPIO Chair, Dr. Ram Pendyala is on the steering committee for the International Conference on 'Recent Issues and Solution Methodologies in Transportation Engineering and Planning: Sustainable Transport (RISTEP 2010) being organized by the Civil Engineering Department of National Institute of Technology (NIT), Srinagar, Kashmir, India during June 15-18, 2010.
4. ATPIO is cooperating with the Indian Institute of Science and various IITs in India in organizing their Transportation Research Group Conference (TRGC) series, scheduled to begin in 2011.
5. ATPIO is in discussions with four Centers of Excellence in Urban Transportation established in India to develop collaborative arrangements, proposals, projects, data collection, and research and technology transfer activities.
6. ATPIO is in discussions with the Ministry of Urban Development to participate actively in the organization of sessions and identification of speakers for the next IUT (Institute of Urban Transport) conference, New Delhi, December 2010.
7. ATPIO board member, Dr. Lalita Sen, has been notified by Martivbe Micozzi that she have been selected as the recipient of the William G. Bell Award for 2010 for outstanding contribution to the field of accessible transportation and mobility through practice, research, outreach and training. The award will be presented during TRANSED 2010 conference in Hong Kong next June.

8. Svyam as an NGO organized a conference on Accessible tourism and mobility in Delhi, March 2009 and had invited ATPIO board member, Dr. Lalita Sen to present papers on accessibility and Mobility Issues.
9. Svyam (NGO) Director, Ms. Abha Negi accompanied by her assistant Kavita Agarwal will be coming to TRB to make a presentation for TRANSED 2013 to be held in Delhi. The competing bid is from Berlin, West Germany.

Nominating Committee Report

Dr. Mohan Venigalla gave everyone a snapshot of the history of ATPIO that was formed in 2004. He also led the board member election process. The following officers were elected by the members and friends of ATPIO who were in attendance.

1. President: Dr. Ram Pendyala
2. Vice President: Mr. Hardik Shah
3. Secretary: Dr. Sudeshna Sen
4. Treasurer/Membership Committee: Dr. Anuj Sharma

Dr. Lalita Sen nominated Abha Negi for the board of directors. Following this, ballots were distributed to elect two board members from three candidates – Mr. Salil Gokhale, Dr. Sabyasachee Mishra and Ms. Abha Negi. Dr. Venigalla announced that Mr. Salil Gokhale and Dr. Sabyasachee Mishra were elected to the board.

Dr. Kumares Sinha appreciated Ms. Abha Negi's willingness to be a board member and requested the board to include her.

Recruitment of Volunteers for ATPIO Committees

Dr. Ram Pendyala stressed upon the need of “younger and experienced” professionals in the committees of ATPIO. He encouraged everyone to volunteer in the ATPIO committee activities.

Introduction of Guests from India

Mr. Arun Shirole welcomed the following two delegates from India: Dr. M. Ramachandran and Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Lohia. Dr. M. Ramachandran is the Secretary to the Government of India Ministry of Urban Development. Mr. Lohia is the Joint Secretary to the Government of India Ministry of Urban Development. Dr. Ramachandran gave a brief information about the pilot programs that are currently undertaken by the Ministry of Urban Development. He mentioned about the centers of excellence (i.e. educational institutions) that are helping the Ministry with the pilot programs which includes Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, IIT Madras, Center for Environmental Planning and Technology (CEPT) Ahmedabad, and NIT Trichi. He outlined the ongoing effort with the Indian Ministry to emulate the organization of a conference similar to TRB in India. He requested ATPIO members and friends to suggest issues that need to be considered for Indian scenarios. He also answered questions from the audience on availability of data for research and practice in India.

AASHTO India Tour

Mr. Arun Shirole requested Mr. John Horsley to elaborate on the AASHTO Delegation tour to India. Mr. Horsley briefly talked about the delegation team's visit to Delhi, Agra, and Patna in November 2009. He also mentioned that the delegation team comprised of a diverse group of transportation professionals representing AASHTO, officials of several state DOT's, and academic & consulting industry experts. He indicated that the AASHTO delegation team had meetings with the following agencies under the Government of India: Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MORT&H), Ministry of Rural Development (MORD), National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), National Rural roads Development Agency (NRRDA) and Indian Road Congress (IRC). Mr. Horsley commended on the tremendous progress India is making in developing the interstate system. He also mentioned that the delegation team attended the 70th IRC meeting in Patna during which a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between AASHTO and IRC to have potential collaborations on hosting meetings, seminars, and exchanging information in the transportation industry between India and USA. . Mr. Horsley also indicated that Mr. Hardik Shah and Dr. Shashi Nambisan were the two members on this AASHTO delegation team representing ATPIO.

Closing Remarks

Mr. Arun Shirole and Dr. Ram Pendyala thanked all the members and friends of ATPIO for attending the ATPIO annual meeting.