

Board Meeting of the Hindu Temple of Arizona
March 7, 2004, 2:00pm

Present – Madhu Aggarwal, Vidya Bakshi, Nirmala Chhibber, Mamta Gupta, Hirisave Ramchandra, Balbir Sharma, Munnu Bajpai, Mina Sangani, Asha Thakur

Also Present: Uma Ramchandra

1. **Meeting opened** at 2.30pm by Vidya Bakshi

2. **Approval of Agenda.**

Motion 38: To accept the agenda

Proposed by: Vidya Bakshi

Seconded by: Munnu Bajpai

Carried Unanimously

3. **Approval of February Minutes.**

Motion 39: To accept minutes of February meeting.

Proposed by: Balbir Sharma

Seconded by: Hirisave Ramchandra

Carried Unanimously

4. **Secretaries Report:**

a. **Tenure.**

The following Board Members will serve a one year term: Madhu Aggarwal, Nirmala Chhibber, Mina Sangani, Rohini Sharma, Surinder Sharma, Asha Thakur

The following Members will serve a two year term: Mohini Ahuja, Munnu Bajpai, Vidya Bakshi, Mamta Gupta, Hirisave Ramchandra, Balbir Sharma.

b. **Vacancy left by Subhash Arora.**

Motion 40: To fill the vacancy left by Subhash Arora's resignation from the Board.

Proposed by: Hirisave Ramchandra

Seconded by: Munnu Bajpai

Carried Unanimously

c. **Status of incomplete items from previous meetings.**

- **Job Description for Pujari** – Balbir Sharma is still working on this and will have it completed by next month.

- **New Sound System.**

Motion 41: Nirmala Chhibber to investigate/coordinate the purchase of a karaoke Machine, 2 microphones and speakers for less than \$500.00.

Proposed by: Vidya Bakshi
Seconded by: Hirisave Ramchandra
Carried Unanimously

- **Dates of meetings** for HTA Board of Directors. The Board will meet on the 1st Sunday of every month.
- **Committee Reporting and follow-up procedures.** The chairperson or designee of each committee to report accomplishments/progress/upcoming plans/concerns/funding requests EVERY MONTH. Any committee meeting minutes need to be circulated to Board of Directors.
- **Re-Keying Building.** Surinder Sharma to arrange re-keying of building.

Motion 42: Once the building has been re-keyed, there will be three key holders; Vidya Bakshi (President), Balbir Sharma (Puja Committee Chair), and the Pujari.

Proposed by: Munnu Bajpai
Seconded by: Vidya Bakshi
Carried Unanimously

5. Treasurers Report:

- a. The treasurer presented a financial report to the Board.
 - a. Corporate Commission report is due March 23rd. Hirisave Ramchandra has prepared the annual report and will submit it once it has been signed by Vidya Bakshi.
 - b. Hirisave Ramchandra and Vidya Bakshi will visit Hari Shah in his office to discuss filing the taxes.
 - c. Calendar Dues. Some of the larger donations have not been received. Hirisave Ramchandra has sent these donors a calendar and an invoice together with a thank you letter. Balbir Sharma to follow up.
 - d. The check that was made to Devarki has not been cleared.
 - e. The Temple needs a photocopier. The Board decided to wait one or two months to see if some-one will donate one.
 - f. The Temple needs a safe. Madhu Aggarwal will talk to Priti Jain to see if they are interested in donating one.
 - g. In future a list of all items that the Temple needs will be posted on the Temple Notice Board and also on the Website. Each committee chair

- needs to give a list of things they need to Vidya Bakshi and Rohini Sharma. The list will be read during announcements every week.
- h. Surinder Sharma to investigate cost of installing and maintaining an alarm system for the Temple and report his findings to the Board at the next meeting.
 - i. Murti Donors. Anila Popat donated \$1000.00 to the Temple for the Murtis. Mohini Ahuja to check with Deshiji to ensure that the name appears on the appropriate donor list.
 - j. Ballon Payment. The balloon payment for \$80,000 will soon be due.
 - k. Puja Fee schedule needs to be re-vamped by the Puja Committee
 - l. Hirisave Ramchandra to send letter to Hemant Mishra to invite him to the next Board Meeting regarding his claim.

6. Executive Committee Report:

- a. The executive committee needs to start meeting.

7. Puja Committee Report:

- a. **Roles and responsibilities for the Pujari.** The chair and co-chairs are working on this.
- b. **Puja Times** – Munnu Bajpai to publicize the new puja times within two weeks
- c. **Prasaad Sponsorship** – The Puja Committee discussed prasaad sponsorship and has put a tentative plan together; the sponsor is only responsible for paying \$101.00, we can then have multiple sponsors each week. The Temple will organize food/plates/serving of prasaad. The Menu will be kept simple – 1) Daal and rice with halva or 2) Subji and puri with halva. The sponsor can provide additional sweet if they wish. Puja committee to put an implementation plan together.
- d. **Temple Decoration** – The temple decoration will be the responsibility of Mamta Gupta but the alter decoration is still the responsibility of the Puja Committee.
- e. **Upcoming Events** – Navratri March 21 – 30, Ramnavmi March 30. Puja Committee to give details of these events to Communications Committee.
- f. **Temple hours** from April will be: Mon through Sat 9:30 – 11:00am and 5 – 9 pm. Sunday will be 8:00 am – 7:30 pm
- g. **Ramnavmi Celebration** from 6:00 – 9:00 pm following responsibilities assigned:
 - Munnu Bajpai to co-ordinate the event on the day, including the microphones and the schedule
 - Munnu Bajpai to tell Pujari what rituals to perform
 - Prasad – Anu Bakshi, Nirmala Chhibber, Madhu Aggarwal
 - 5-6 volunteers for parking lot – Surinder Sharma to coordinate

- Invitations by phone – Pujari to make majority of phone calls inviting them to the event. Board of Directors to assist.
8. **Communications Committee** – The temple has been offered free website service. Surinder Sharma to investigate and give feedback to Board.
 9. **Seva Committee** – Madhu Aggarwal to use a book to put together a list of volunteers.
 10. **Youth and Education** – Asha Thakur to invite Ashok Jain to next meeting to discuss the possibility of him providing “Toastmaster” Classes.

Motion 43: To buy 20 “Hinduism” books and 20 “Stories from Panchatantra” books for the library/youth club.

Proposed by: Mina Sangani

Seconded by Vidya Bakshi

Carried unanimously

11. Buildings and Maintenance Committee

- a. Need to replace the door trim that was infected by termites
- b. Leaking roof has been fixed. Surinder Sharma will pay for the labor, the Temple will pay for the parts.
- c. The trimmings need to be painted.
- d. The OM sign at the front needs to be changed.
- e. The area out at the back needs a door installed. This will help with the security of the things that are stored there. It will also help to keep the homeless people out of there.

12. Fundraising Committee

- a. Sashi Patel, the Architect from Philadelphia, needs copies of the original plans of the Temple.
- b. Mamta Gupta to put together an informational brochure detailing the benefits of being a member of the Temple. This brochure will be mailed out to members and non-members.

13. Varia

- a. **India Festival.** The Temple has 2 booths. One will be handing out information together with calendars, fliers, newsletters, chunnis, murtis and agarbati. The other will be selling corn, fruit salad, kulfi, tea, mendi and pan.
- b. **Input from Ashok Jain.** We are doing well as a Board but the room for improvement is that we need to communicate with the public about our achievements. We need to pay off the loan and have a celebration.

14. Meeting Closed 6:00pm