

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

Present: Mohini Ahuja, Munnu Bajpai, Vidya Bakshi, Nirmala Chhibber, Mamta Gupta, Hirisave Ramchandra, Mina Sangani, Balbir Sharma, Surinder Sharma and Asha Thakur

Also Present: Uma Ramchandra and Prem Bhardwaj

1. Open Meeting.

The President opened the meeting at 2:15pm

2. Approval of Agenda.

Motion 44: To approve the Agenda with the addition of three items: i. Vacancy left by Suhash Arora. ii. Music System and iii. Maintenance of the area behind the Temple.

Proposed by: Vidya Bakshi

Seconded by: Mina Sangani

Carried Unanimously

3. Secretaries Report.

The secretary expressed a need for a team health discussion. This was carried out and the following concerns were expressed:

Punctuality of starting and ending meetings
Too much emphasis on food
Pujari not taken care of
Announcements not organized
Newcomers welcome lasts too long
Puja Committee set-up needs to be reviewed
Still two temples
Fundraising needs focus
Costs of pujas needs to be implemented

To address the main concern that the Temple is still viewed by many as being split the following motion was proposed:

Motion 45: From Sunday June 20, 2004, onwards, the Temple will hold ONE puja starting at 10:00am and finishing at 1:00pm. This will incorporate the Jagannath Puja as well as the regular Sunday Puja cuminating with Jyoth and Aarti for both at 12:30. Prasad will be served one time at 1:00pm for ALL devotees.

Proposed by: Vidya Bakshi

Seconded by: Mohini Ahuja

Carried Unanimously

4. Treasurers Report.

- a. The treasurer presented a financial report to the Board.
- b. There will be more lights installed at the rear parking lot to improve the lighting.
- c. Surinder Sharma has presented options from Accel Communications Inc. for installing a monitored alarm system at the Temple. The Board has chosen the two year contract at a cost of \$39.95 per month. Surinder Sharma to organize the installation.
- d. Directors Insurance coverage is now for \$1 million, the paperwork is with Hirisave Ramchandra.
- e. An insurance payment of \$2500.00 is due.
- f. The Temple's operating costs have risen to \$5000.00 per month.
- g. Surinder Sharma to to organize a monthly pest control service.
- h. There is a possibility that the Ekta Mandir will provide a \$50K loan to the Temple for 0%.
- i. The treasurer gave the paperwork for the safe to the secretary.
- j. The secretary has the password for the telephone. Secretary to check.
- k. Pujari has requested an advance of the monies that would be due at the end of this month.

Motion 46: Advance \$1835.00 to Pujari now as instead of waiting until the end of the month.

Proposed by: Hirisave Ramchandra

Seconded by: Vidya Bakshi

Yes: 8

Abstained: 2

Motion Passed

5. Committees Report:

a. Executive Committee:

- Vivek Gupta has sent an event planning form to everyone via email. Please look at this with a view to the anniversary plans.
- From next meeting, each Board member needs to report what they accomplished over the past 30 days and what their future plans are.
- Alter Demarcation – Nirmala Chhibber to go ahead and place a “barrier” in front of alter so that only the Pujari, or a person assigned by the Board acting as a Pujari, is able to touch the deities.
- Mohini Ahuja to make new clothes and dress the Ratha Krishna Murtis
- The president expressed his concern at the lack low Board Member turn-out to Sunday and Tuesday Pujas. The Board

agreed to set up a calendar on which they sign up for particular days. Vidya Bakshi to organize the calendar.

b. Puja Committee:

- The cost of every Puja in the Temple will be \$101.00. All sponsors must pay this amount. Vidya Bakshi and Balbir Sharma to communicate this information to all relevant persons.
- There will be two guest visitors at the Temple. The first one will be here June 4th, 5th and 6th and the second speaker will be here the week of June 13th. This speaker will finish his discourse on June 19th but the Puja Committee has asked him to stay for a short time on the 20th to help with our celebration.
- June 20th will be the day we celebrate the Temple's Anniversary
- The fundraiser will be held at a later date
- Balbir Sharma is the contact person for the Pujari. Any concerns/request from/by the Pujari must be addressed through Balbir Sharma.
- Balbir Sharma to show Pujari's contract to Ankur Bansal before making it official.

6. Varia

- The Board members discussed whether it would be better to hold the anniversary celebration on Saturday 19th as Sunday 20th would be more stressful for those that have to go to work on Monday. Vidya Baksi to discuss with the Event Planning Committee
- Mamta Gupta requested help from all Board members at the Youth Club Fundraiser on Friday May 7th.

7. Meeting Closed

The closed the meeting at 5:30pm