

Minutes of HTA BOD meeting held on 9/2/07

Present: Prem Bhardwaja, Kamal Kharbanda, Ashwani Bakshi, Uma Ramchandra, Dr. Satapathy, Mohini Ahuja, Ravinder Aggarwal, Deepak Malhotra, Asha Jain, Anil Gupta

The meeting started at 2:30 PM.

Agenda item 1: Update on Murti sthapna

Board requested Ravinder Aggarwal/Ashwani Bakshi to call Pandey exports for sending the paperwork related to shipment of murtis and other articles.

RA to check with Pandey Exports about insurance procedure once the shipment is recd here. In addition ask Pandey Exports for proof of insurance and the name of the company who will perform inspection once the goods are recd here.

AB informed the board that Bala Ji's murti has already been recd and was cleared by the customs on Thursday. RA/AB to make arrangements to bring the crates from local storage to the temple using AZ Hauling or other hauling company. Crates will be in Phoenix area ready to be picked up by Tuesday. There are a total of 4 crates weighing about 1070 Kgs.

It was agreed to print T shirts for fund raising during murti sthapna event as per details given below.

- 1) 75 large, 25 extra large, 25 small and 25 medium (total 150)

Large OM design in front and a small HTA—Murti sthapna 2007.

- 2) 100 T shirts as per details given below (large size)

25 with Shiv Ji's picture in front
25 with Hanuman Ji's picture in front
25 with Radha Krishan Ji's picture in front
25 with picture of another diety in front

All of these 100 T shirts will have "Hindu Temple of Arizona" written on the back.

- 3) All above T shirts will be white in color and the cost is expected to be around \$4 per piece.
- 4) It was also decided that if the hats can be purchased for upto \$5 per hat we should buy 50 hats with 'OM' written in front. All hats should be adjustable.

Board was informed about the potential delay in the arrival of marble slabs for the alter area. It was decided that if necessary the marble installation can be done after the murti

sthapna activity. The mandaps and the murtis can be installed for the sthapna and the the installation of the marble slabs can be done later.

Agenda Item # 2—Puja related and puja activities—

This agenda item was actually discussed towards the end of the meeting. Uma Ramachandra provided an update about Puja committee activities with special emphasis on upcoming Janamashtami event.

Uma Ji informed the board that some children’s activities had been planned and will be presented on Janamashtami day. She also informed the BOD that Sh Shankar Shambhog was in town and will sing hindi bhajans at the temple. The program details and timings of various activities on Janamashtami day were discussed and finalized as under.

7PM—8 PM	Children’s activities
8 PM--8:30 PM	Hanuman Chalisa followed by Aarti by Pandit Ji only
8:30PM—9:30 PM	Dinner/Prasad
9:30 PM—11:30 PM	Pravachan by Sh Pankaj Bhai Vyas
11:30 PM—12:00	Sponsor Puja
12 midnight	Abhishek by Pandit JI followed by Prasad

Uma JI also stated that 20 abhishek Thalıs for \$101 and 5 abhishek thalıs for \$501 will be prepared.

Jagdish Sharma will take care of the audio/video arrangements on this occasion.

Ganesh Chathurthi will be celebrated in the temple from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM on September 15th.

Agenda item #3—Approval of funds for workers from India---

Installation of mandaps and murtis—RA informed the board that so far the details of the people who would be coming for installation of the mandaps (from Pandey Exports) had not been recd. It was agreed to make alternate local arrangements in case those people can not come here in time.

Following motion was porposed by RA

Board should approve spending of an amount of \$3500 for the tickets and visa fee for two people to come to Scottsdale (from India) for the installation of murtıs and mandaps. The motion was seconded by Asha Jain.

All voted in favor of the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

For staorage of articles following was decided:

Storage of murtıs—In puja hall. Two new double doors will be closed/locked and the alter will be relocated to the other side after Janamashtami. Help will be hired as necessary to move the murtıs and mandaps etc.

Storage of mandaps—Mandaps can be stored in the garage area in the new building.
Storage of clothes and jewelry—These will be stored in lockable cabinets.
Other boxes—All other boxes will be stored in the new building.

Agenda Item # 4—Approval of funds for second container---

AB informed the board that a second container had to be rented as all the material did not fit in one container. It was a mis calculation on part of the shipper and almost 50% of the stuff was left after one container had been packed.

Following motion was proposed by AB

Board should approve spending of additional \$4400 for the shipment of second container. The motion was seconded by Asha Jain.

All present voted in favor of the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda item # 5, Approval of funds for painting inside of the puja hall—

Various options for painting of the inside of the puja hall were reviewed. Finally in view of the funds available it was decided to paint only the alter area including the walls and the ceiling.

Following motion was proposed by RA:

Board should approve spending of \$1500 for the painting of the alter area before the murti sthapna. Motion was seconded by Kamal Kharbanda/Dr Satapathy.

All present voted in favor of the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Agenda item# 6—Update on visa application for Pandit Jai Gopal Ji.

AB informed the board that Pandit Ji's visa application had been denied. He also informed the board that he had made a representation to Senator Kyle and that a response had been recd from the senator's office. Basically the HTA was informed that Pandit Ji will have to apply again. Decision was made to write another letter to the senator's office and explaining the situation. In the meantime Pandit ji will be asked to apply again. Pandit ji will provide the visa fee for the new application.

It was also decided to start looking at local candidates and find out if they can accept a temporary assignment for 3-6 months. Ashok Jain can contact two priests (Connecticut and NY—Asha Jain to send E mail to Ashok).

Once the candidates are contacted a short list can be made and they can be interviewed on the phone. All efforts are to be made to finalize this decision for an alternate pandit ji so that he can be here before the murti sthapna.

Agenda item # 7—Contract extension for Pandit Kanhiya Lal—

Puja committee was requested to communicate its recommendations to the board in writing. Prem Bhardwaja confirmed that the puja committee recommends extension of the contract.

Following motion was proposed by PB

Contract of Pandit Kanhiya Lal should be extended for a period of 1 year at the existing terms and conditions (after the recommendations from the puja committee are recd by the board in writing).

Motion was seconded by Kamal Kharbanda.

All present voted in favor of the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8—Visit of Sh Pankaj Bhai Vyas Ji—

Ashwani Bakshi informed the members of the board that Sh Pankaj Bhai Vyas Ji will be at the temple on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and give a discourse about Shri Krishna and Janamashtami. The timings for Monday will be from 6 PM to 9 PM, Tuesday from 9:30 to 11:30 Pm and Wednesday from 7 PM to 9 PM. Prasad will be served on all 3 days.

Remaining agenda items were not discussed because of shortage of time.
The meeting adjourned at 5 PM.