

Sep 26, 2010 HTA Board meeting minutes:

Location: Office room, Hindu Temple of Arizona

Time: 2-5 pm

Attendees:

Anil Gupta, Satish Ambadi, Ravi Agarwal, Bibhuti Panda, Ashok Verma, Jit Kabra, Srini Dasari, Govind Satpathy, Nirmal Chibber, Prakash Sahoo, Asha Jain, Rina Naranag, Varinder Narang, Sushma Bakshi, Vimal Arora

(The 11 voting directors were underlined above.)

1. Meeting was called in by Anilji and there was a discussion about lack of 2 weeks notice:

Motion 1.1:

To conduct the monthly BOD meeting as an exception on Sept 26, 2010, 2-5pm.

Proposed: Vimal Arora

Seconded: Ashok Verma

Yes votes: All except Jit.

Motion passed to conduct meeting 2-5pm, Sep 26, 2010.

The dissenting comment from Jit: As BOD has to obey byelaws, it is not healthy to conduct meetings with short notice and we should avoid this recurring in future.

2. Approval of Agenda:

2.1 There was discussion about including Satyanarayan Murthyn prathishta in the agenda or not.

There were comments that previously it was agreed that we should not bring this topic to agenda until we know the long range plan of the Temple. Jit pointed out that it was in the minutes of July meeting.

There were counter points that it was misunderstood and that was not what was said.

Motion 2.1:

Satyanarayan Murthy sthapana discussion should not be part of Today's agenda and can be added in future

Proposed: Varinder Narang

Seconded: Jit Kabra

Yes (should not included) Votes: Varinder, Sushma, Jit (3 votes)

No (should be included) votes: Vimal, Anil, Sathish, Bibhuti, Ashok, Srini, Nirmal, Prakash (8 votes)

Motion not passed. The proposed agenda to discuss Satyanarayana Murthy sthapana stands as is.

Comments:

Anil, Prakash: Not only Satyanarayanaana Murthy bPadmavathithi Murthy should also be included

2.2 Discussion about approval of Agenda

Jit recommended that Nomination and election committee discussion should get high priority
Prakash commented that Agenda was kept on notice board on 9/25/10

Motion 2.2

Approval of agenda as outlined below

Agenda

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of Aug 29 minutes
3. Garuda Murthy Sthapana
4. Prasad committee update
5. Puja Committee update
6. Satyanarayan Murthy
7. Nav graha Temple update
8. Notification of AGM 2010 & elections
9. Notification of election and nomination committee
10. AGM Agenda to include amendments to bye laws
11. Treasurer report
12. Even discussion
 - 12.1 Dasshera
 - 12.2 any other events
13. Long range committee update
 - 13.1 Navgraha Temple
 - 13.2 combining two properties
14. Renovation of the Temple
15. Donor recognition plaques
16. Transition status 2009 board
17. Maintenance committee
 - 17.1 Janitor supplies
 - 17.2 Nandi shiv ling
18. Other urgent items
19. Closure

Proposed: Praksash Sahoo

Second: Anil Gupta

Votes: All voted 'Yes' for the agenda

Motion passed to discuss above agenda in Today's meeting

3 Approval of the previous meeting's minutes

Amendmentccccirculated: Bibhutiji, Prakashji, and Varinderji pointed out that the Garuda Sthapana was discussed in the previous meeting but the meeting ended before a vote was carried out.

Motion 3.1

Approve the previous meeting minutes with above amendment

Proposed: Jit

Seconded: Vimal

Vote; *Motion passed with all 'Yes'*

4. Garudji Pran Prathishta:

It was pointed out that Garudji Pran Prathishtapan was approved by the previous board on October 19th 2008.

Varinderji noted that it was not posted on the website although Prakashji had the soft/hard copy.

Action items (Prakashji, Jitji and Anilji): Post October 19, 2008 meeting minutes on the website

Jit: The previous board while approving the Garudji installation commented that all Vishnu Temples have Garudji installed. Jit opined that since our temple is not solely Vishnu Temple, whether that approval should be considered as invalid.

Prakash: Our temple is Hindu Temple with Vishnu Deities and therefore we need to have Garudji and the above approval was valid.

Dr Sathpathy: Clarified the importance of Garudji when we have Vishnu idols inside the Temple.

Prakash: Proposed to place Garudji inside the Temple hall about 2 feet from the edge of the Marble on the rear of the temple Hall pointing towards Ramji. He also proposed that the Garudji statue should be at a height of 6 feet.

Varinderji offered 3 alternatives:

1. Hang the Garudji statue from the roof of the temple (same location as proposed by Prakashji) so that it is at a height of 6 feet
2. Remove the cupboards and place Garudji against the wall.
3. Place next to the west of the northern door, along the wall, with Garudji pointing to Lord Ram.

The entire BOD went inside the temple to make a survey. After some discussion 2 proposals were made

The major requirement for Garudji Prathishtapan is the ability for the devotees to do Parikrama.

Some proposed to do parikrama outside the Temple. Others expressed safety issue with kids bumping into it as they run around.

At the end we agreed to put this motion on the table.

Motion 4.1

A motion was put on the table to approve either option1 or option 2 as listed below.

Option 1: Board to approve November 21st, 2010 installation of Garudji on a pillar at about **5 feet from the wall** (The pillar's diameter/width is to be included with in the 5 feet), in line with Lord Ramji. The height of the pillar along with Garudji statue will be 6 feet.

Option 2: Board to approve Novemebr 21st, 2010 installation of Garudji on a pillar at about **3 feet from the wall** (The pillar's diameter/width is to be included with in the 3 feet), in line with Lord Ramji. The height of the pillar along with Garudji statue will be 6 feet.

Proposed: Prakashji
seconded: Srini

Voting:

Option1: Vimal, Anil, Bibhuti, Ashok, Srini, Nirmal, Prakash (7 votes)

Option2: Satish, Jit, Varinder, Sushma (4 votes)

Motion is approved to go with Option1 above

Additional comments:

Jit: We need to be flexible to move 1 feet either way depending on the construction needs.

4.2 Achal Pran Pratishta vs Chal Pran Pratishta

Lot of discussion on Pran Pratishta vs Chala Pratishta took place.

In Chal Pratishta the idols can be moved. In Pran Pratishta idols can only be moved with special puja process. There was discussion on the differences between them.

Main arguments:

Jit: Chal pratishta gives flexibility. We don't want to constrain future expansions.

Prakash: If under Pran Pratishta also idols can be moved, why can't we do Pran pratishta now and only under extraordinary circumstances, move Garudji to new location.

Satishji, Varinderji, Ashaji, Vimalji and others made comments favoring Chal Pratishta

Govindji, Srini, Bibhuthiji, Prakashji, Nirmalji and others made comments favoring permanent pran pratishta

Motion 4.2

The Murthy sthapana for Garudji will be done according to the traditions of Chal Pran Prathishta

Proposed: Jit

Seconded: Sathish

Votes:

Favoring Chal Pratishta: Sathish, Ashok, Jit, Varinder, Sushma, Vimal (6 votes)

Favoring Permanent Prathishta: Anil, Bibhuti, Srini, Nirmal, Prakash (5 votes)

Motion passed to do Murthy sthapana according to the norms of chal Pran prathishta.

4.3 Publishing a book commemorating Garudji Murthy Sthapana

There was discussion about publishing a book that includes articles, facts about garudji and other deities, advertisements etc.

Motion 4.3

Hindu Temple to publish a book (30-50 pages) commemorating Murthy sthapana to include facts and articles about Garudji and other deities.

Proposed: Prakash

Seconded: Jit

Votes: all voted 'Yes'

Motion passed unanimously to publish above book.

5. AGM

5.1 Action items to BOD; All agenda items to be submitted before October 18th, 2010 to Anilji.

5.2 Action items to BOD: All Hindu Temple Bye Laws and Constitution changes to be submitted (to Secretary/President) before October 18th, 2010. The changes will be proposed and submitted to general body members in the upcoming AGM.

6. Nomination Committee

Board has nominated Ashok Verma as the chairman of the Nomination committee. Ashok to consult Subash Arora or other members for any guidance.

7. Election Committee

Anil will inquire our members and select an Election Committee Chairman. Few names were suggested:

Vivek Gupta, Sudhir Mehta, Prem Bharadwaj

The board meeting continued after few BOD had to leave at 4pm

At this point the quorum is still maintained with following Directors:

Vimal Arora, Anil Gupta, Bibhuthi Panda, Ashok Verma, Srini Dasari, Nirmal Chibber, Prakash Sahoo, Sushma Bakshi (Eight Directors)

8. Prasad Committee

In the absence of Vimal Arora, BOD has assigned following members for responsibilities for the making of Prasad for rest of the year

1st Sunday – Kamalji

2nd Sunday – Oriya Assoc of HTA

3rd Sunday – Chamchalji and Gitaji

4th Sunday – Anitaji and Amitaji

5th Sunday – Praksahji/Anilji

Tuesday – Sushmaji

October 16th – Desshara mela and Ravan Dahan – Varinderji

Board has recognized the invaluable contribution by Vimalji for making prasad for the first 9 months of 2010. Vimalji, in turn, recognized the contribution made by many other volunteers and suggested that all of them should be recognized as well.

Board will honor all those members (including BOD members) that made the prasad for 2010.

9. Pran Prathista anniversary (October 24th)

The board has suggested to recognize several members outside the BOD who made immense

contribution as volunteers. These are some names suggested. The BOD need to send the remaining names to Anilji in 2 weeks (by October 10th)

Some names suggested today:

Rohitji , Chamchalji , Sashiji, Kamalji, Ormiji (?? name might have spelled wrongly) and Rinaji

10. Plaque for Benefactor/Grand Benefactor

Sushmaji has suggested that a plaque is outstanding for Vermaji for all the great contribution he made to the Temple and suggested that we need to take this opportunity to felicitate him.

Motion 10.1

HTA to award a Plaque, similar to the one that we already offered for other benefactors and grand benefactors, to Shri Vermaji on the occasion of upcoming Temple Pran Prathishta anniversary

Proposed: Anilji

Second: Vimalji

Votes: all voted 'Yes'

Motion unanimously passed.

Sushmaji with the help of Ashwiniji is going to procure plaques before the anniversary. They will be very similar to that of previous benefactor/grand benefactor plaques.

11. Lord Satyanarayana and Mata Padmavathi Pran Prathishta

There was a discussion about doing Pran prathishta for idols of Lord Satyanarayanaji and mata Padmavathiji.

Several view points were discussed - here are some sample comments:

1. We can conceptually agree for Pran Prathishta but the location cannot be decided now without exploring some options
2. The Satyanarayanji Idol, can be installed opposite to Shiv Ling right next to Jagannathji. We have been doing Satyanarayanji puja on every full moon day for the last few years and it is time we do permanent prathishta inside main temple hall.
3. We need to get bigger idol so that we maintain symmetry. Also incorporate this with future Temple expansion.
4. Where will we put ?- where they are now or somewhere else in the main temple hall, or in the new room being built for nava graha
5. Let us not discuss location now. Once we agree on Pran prathishta, we will ask long range committee to find a place in the main temple hall.

Motion 11

HTA to do Murthy Sthapana and Pran Prathishta for Lord Satyanarayanji and mata Padmavathiji inside the main Temple hall.

Proposed: Nirmalji

Secoded: Ashokji

Votes: all voted 'Yes'

Motion passed to start the process of Murthy Sthapana for Lord Satyanarayanji and mata Padmavathiji.

Next steps: Location to be discussed in coming board meeting. Nirmalji to come up with some options.

12. Garudji Prathishtapana Logistics (continuation of item 5 above):

An annexure is enclosed

12.1 Puja responsibility: assigned to Srini

Motion 12.1

A request for approval of bringing additional priests (if required by our priests) from other local Temples to support the Pran Prathishta activity. Board to approve a maximum budget of \$1000 towards dakshina for external priests for the Pran Prathishta activity.

Proposed: Bibhuti

Secoded: Ashokji

Vote: all voted 'Yes'

Motion passed.

Additional comments:

Prakashji: Although board has agreed a maximum budget of \$1000 for additional preists, it will be paid by the devotees and prathishta will be at no cost to HTA.

12.2 Construction Responsibilities: Prakashji and Bibhutiji

Howeerr, Prakashji andBibhutijii will inform the board the days of construction so that if anybody isinterested..

12.3 Book and advertising responsibilities: Prakashji and Bibhutiji

12.4 Garudji's Pillar color:

Bibhuti inquired whether black color for Garudji pillar is acceptable to HTA. Unless there are any

religious guidelines, the Board would like to have an Off-white color for the marbled pillar.

Bibhuthiji and Prakashiji agreed to procure off white pillar that matches as closely as possible the off-white marble tile that we currently have.

(Note: Garudji if of black color)

13. Meeting adjourned

Anilji suggested that we should have another meeting in 2 weeks time to complete the rest of the agenda.

Motion 13.1:

Request to adjourn the meeting for today and continue the rest of the agenda in the next meeting.

Proposed: Prakashji

Seconded: Vimalji

Vote: all voted 'Yes'

Meeting adjourned.