

Minutes of meeting of the BOD held on 7/31/11

The meeting of the Board of Directors of HTA (BOD HTA) was held on 7/31/11 in the Annapurna Hall at the temple.

Following were present:

Madhu Aggarwal, Nirmal Chhibber, Sumana Ghosh, Pramod Ghiya, Vimal Arora, Sateesh Ambadi, Rina Narang, Isha Vashisht

Absent: Prakash Sahoo, Anil Gupta, Sushma Bakshi, Anita Ramaiah, Rajashree panda, Desh Ahuja

Others present: Ravinder Aggarwal, Varinder Narang

Meeting started at 3:15 PM after quorum was achieved.

The secretary offered a short prayer at the start of the meeting. All present joined in the prayer.

Members were asked by the secretary if any other agenda items needed to be added or any changes in the time allotted for different discussions were required.

Vimal Arora stated that no additional agenda items can be added now.

Item 1 –Approval of the agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Pramod Ghiya (PG).

Seconded by: Vimal Arora(VA)

All OK. Motion was carried unanimously.

Item 2—Approval of minutes held on 6/26/11

Motion to approve the minutes of meeting held on 6/26/11 that had earlier been sent by the secretary by e mail was made by Vimal Arora.

Seconded by : Sumana Ghosh

All OK. Motion was carried unanimously.

AI: Minutes to be sent by the secretary to be posted on the HTA website.

Item 3: Review of action items from last meeting.

Status of the AI's from the last meeting was reviewed by the secretary.

NC stated that Jalaram Bhajan Groups are available to do bhajans on Janamashtami. HTA needs to finalize as to which group will sing.

NC stated that HTA had decided not to pursue Chanchal's group performance for Mata Jagran.

NC stated that Mata Jagran by Gita Peshavria had been confirmed for 12th Aug in the temple. Arrangements for the jagran party will be taken care of by NC.

Rina Narang stated that Mrs Shashi Tuli should be informed about it. NC confirmed that Shashi Ji had been informed about this.

Nirmal Chhibber will confirm about the Prasad arrangements with Shashi Ji.

AR—Estimate for clean up. Since Anita Ramiah was not present this was not discussed further.

Donation of rice—It was confirmed that the rice had been donated.

NC gave an example where she had brought a phone for the temple and Ashwani had also brought a phone for the temple. It was stated that since Ashwani was asked to look into the phone situation (phone not working) he brought a new phone since the old phone was not serviceable. He was not aware that Nirmal Chhibber was also buying a new phone.

Item 4: Status of collection from fund raising event.

Pramod Ghiya gave a quick update on the status of collection from fund raising event.

Total commitments—About \$ 20K approximately

Funds collected so far----\$ 5K

Cost to temple---Nil

A detailed e mail will be sent in 3-4 weeks with another status update.

Item 5: Treasurer's report:

The e mail sent by the treasurer was presented by the secretary as the treasurer was out of town.

Here is the Treasurer's report for the August 2011.

Total Collections: \$ 14,286.00

Total Expenses: \$ 12,130.00

Positive Balance \$ 2,156.00

Major Festival Collection: Janamashtami: \$ 4,160.00

Major Additional Expenses: Cooking Range Installation : \$ 1,340.00

Additional Principal amount Paid to Bank for Mortgage: \$ 700.00

Bank Balance as of 08/31/2011 \$ 76,156.88.

A comment was made by Vimal Arora about the funds approved for the addition of the shower in the bathroom and that the project had cost more than the approved budget.

Ravinder Aggarwal , member of the long range planning committee, stated that he did not remember the amount of the approved budget and that he will later check the amount and inform the board.

An e mail was later sent by Ravinder Aggarwal to the board stating the amount of the approved budget. The project was actually closed with the cost well within the approved budget.

Item 6: Review of HTA expenses for the first six months.

Pramod Ghiya reviewed the expenses for the first six months and pointed out that one expense that stood out was the expense for the advertisements in the newspapers.

Vimal Arora asked the question as to why we are placing advertisements in 2 papers. She also stated that Asia Today's circulation was limited and that Valley India Times has a better circulation as far as the members of the Indian community are concerned.

Pramod Ghiya stated that he had spoken with Anita Ramaiah to not place a full page advertisement as the expense for the same must be approved by the board before the advertisement can be placed. Pramod Ghiya also questioned

why a full page advertisement was placed in Valley India last month and Anita Ramaiah had responded that this had already been committed. Rina Narang stated that Asia Today supports the temple and also takes pictures on all special events and publishes them in the paper (good publicity for the temple). Asia Today had also committed to some free advertisements for special events.

Vimal Arora stated that the devotees are used to looking in Valley India Times.

Following motion was proposed by Pramod Ghiya.

Motion: Maximum expense for the advertisements in the newspaper is to be limited to \$250 per month or \$3000 per year.

Seconded by Vimal Arora.

All OK. Motion was carried unanimously.

There was a lot of discussion about which newspaper the advertisement should be placed in. In the end it was decided that we should spend this \$250 per month so as to get the maximum benefit for the temple. If we can place the ads in both newspapers for the max amount of \$250 per month then it will be OK.

AR- Anita Ramaiah to advise the board about how we can get maximum benefit from the approved expense of \$250 per month for the newspaper advertisements.

Sateesh Ambadi had a question about two entries for the insurance expenses in the amounts of \$ 1965 and \$971. Since the treasurer was not present in the meeting it was decided that she will be asked to send an e mail describing the details of the insurance expense.

AI: Treasurer to send an e mail to the board providing details for the two entries for the insurance expense.

All present agreed that there was nothing in the expenses statement that seemed unreasonable or that required further questioning.

Item 7: Coordination of outside pujas and car pujas.

Nirmal Chhibber stated that the puja committee had met on this account and that duties had been allocated to the puja committee members. She also mentioned that Rajashree Panda was appointed as the person in charge to coordinate all outside pujas and car pujas. All entries will be made in the

register and the register will be shown by Pandit ji to Nirmal Chhibber and Rajashree Panda. All phone calls coming to the temple for outside pujas will be attended by Pandit ji and he will then inform Rajashree Panda about the puja requests from the devotees.

Nirmal Chhibber was again reminded by the secretary that committees and sub committees have to bring their recommendations to the board and the board must make a final decision before the proposals from the committees can be implemented.

She was also reminded that the arrangements that are put in place must be fair to both the priests.

Following motion was proposed by Sateesh Ambadi.

All committees or sub committees must bring their recommendations to the board for approval. The approval can be obtained in the regularly scheduled board meetings or thru e mails in case an approval is required sooner than the board meeting.

Seconded by : Pramod Ghiya

All voted yes. Motion was carried unanimously.

Nirmal Chhibber also informed the board that Suman Ghosh will co ordinate priest's schedule and vacation time etc.

Rajashree Panda will co ordinate all outside pujas and car pujas.

Motion proposed by Pramod Ghiya to accept Puja committee recommendations.

Seconded by Sateesh Ambadi/Vimal Arora.

All voted yes. Motion was carried unanimously.

A suggestion was made to Puja committee members present that if somebody calls to schedule an outside puja , pandit ji should get all the details and let the co ordinator know. The co ordinator can then call the devotee and finalize the arrangements keeping in mind that these pujas need to be shared equally by both the priests.

Item 8: Puja Committee update

Nirmal Chhibber provided puja committee update for the coming month.

August 2011

1. Stress management and breathing techniques by Swami Pragyapad (Sun Aug 7, 5 to 5:30 PM)
2. Mata ki choki by Geeta Pasavaria (Fri Aug12, 7 to 9 PM)
3. Satyanarayan Puja and Raksha Bandhan (Sat Aug13, 5 to 7 PM)
4. Lakshmi Puja (Fri Aug 19, 7 to 9 PM)
5. Krishna Janmashtami (Sun Aug 21, 6 To 12 AM)

She was requested to send an e mail with all the details to the secretary so that it can be included in the minutes.

A request was made for approval of budget for Ganesh Chaturthi for an amount of \$250 (not including flowers). It was decided that the garland will be made for Ganesh Ji only.

Motion was made by Nirmal Chhibber to approve the budget for an amount of \$250 for Ganesh Chaturthi.

Seconded by – Sateesh Ambadi

All OK.

Motion carried unanimously.

A question was asked about the posters that the temple had procured in the past. The members wanted to know where the posters are being stored.

AR: Sushma Bakshi to check and inform the board as to where the posters are being stored.

Item: 9 Clean up status

This item was not discussed as Anita Ramaiah was not present in the meeting.

Item: 10 Calenders and aarti books for 2012.

Board members were asked if we needed calendars for 2012. All agreed that we should get calendars for 2012.

The secretary asked the board members present if somebody wanted to volunteer for this project. When no body came forward Pramod Ghiya stated that he will take the responsibility for the calendars for 2012.

Names of some local publishers were mentioned. The members were asked to send full contact information about any local potential candidates that can be used for publishing the calendars to the secretary and Pramod Ghiya.

Item: 11 Shri Jagannath Rathyaatra update.

Praksh Sahoo was not present in the meeting so this item was not discussed.

AI: Secretary to send an e mail to Prakash Sahoo asking him to furnish all the details to the board.

Item: 12 Lock up of the room in 3033 N Hayden Road for use by the HTA Board

A suggestion was made by Isha Vashisht that the front room in 3033 N Hayden Road should be locked up so that it is always available to the HTA board for official use.

A question was asked about what is in the HTA safe and where the safe is kept.

AI: Isha Vashisht will set up the office in the front room and keep it secured.

Item 13: Murti sthapna update.

Update was provided by the long range planning committee.

Navagraha murtis are almost ready.

Total cost so far \$2000 not including the shipping charges. Murtis will be shipped by sea.

The pedestal had not been ordered yet.

A volunteer Architect had been contacted to provide conceptual drawings. Lot tie papers have been submitted to City of Scottsdale and we have already have had three meetings with them. Approval is expected in the next 4-6 weeks but it depends upon what other information the City may request upon review of the documents submitted.

Board members were asked to submit any requirements that they feel are necessary for the new addition to the temple for the sthapna of additional murtis. They were asked to send the requirements alongwith the source of these requirements (where these requirements are described) to the board and long range planning committee no later than Aug 10th 2011. Any requirements received by this date will be verified and taken into consideration when designing the temple addition.

A design layout for Navagraha murtis , Shri Satyanarayan Ji's murti and Padmavati Ji's murti will be done.

Long Range Planning committee recommended that size of murtis should be same and symmetry should be maintained in the design for aesthetic reasons. A final layout based on inputs received will be submitted to the board for approval.

Final detailed design will be started after the approval of the board. Layouts will be posted on the notice board and inputs from devotees will also be sought.

Varinder Narang will send an email to the board.

Note: This e mail was sent by Varinder Narang after the meeting and was forwarded by the president to all the board members. A copy of the E mail sent by the president is attached.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.