

Minutes of meeting of the BOD held on 10/30/11

The meeting of the Board of Directors of HTA (BOD HTA) was held on 10/30/11 in the Annapurna Hall at the temple.

Following were present:

Sumana Ghosh, Desh Ahuja, Vimal Arora, Nirmal Chhibber, Madhu Aggarwal, Pramod Ghiya, Rina Narang, Rajashree Panda, Anita Ramaiah

Absent: Prakash Sahoo, Anil Gupta, Sateesh Ambadi, Sushma Bakshi, Isha Vashisht

Others present: Ravinder Aggarwal, Varinder Narang (long range planning committee).

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 if any other agenda items needed to be added. No additional agenda items were required to be added.

Item 0 –Approval of the agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Pramod Ghiya and was seconded by Rajashree Panda.

All O.K. Motion was carried unanimously.

Item 1—Approval of minutes of meeting held on 9/25/11

The minutes of meeting held on 9/25/11 had been sent by the secretary to all the board members for review and comments prior to this meeting. Nobody had sent any comments.

Motion to approve MOM held on 9/25/11 was made by Desh Ahuja and was seconded by Pramod Ghiya.

All were OK. Motion was carried unanimously.

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

Item 2- Review of action items from last meeting:

Action items from last meeting were reviewed by the secretary.

Item 3—Treasurer report

Since the treasurer was not present in the meeting the treasurer report was presented by the president.

Treasurer Report for Sept 2011

Donations Received		\$11,093.40
Total Expenses		\$11,426.90
Positive/Negative EXP	\$ (333.50)	
Bank Balance as of 9/30/2011		\$78,249.40

Item 4: Nomination committee update-- 2012 elections

Members of the board discussed some of the current requirements for the elections/nominations and expressed a desire to change some of these:

- a) It was proposed that the requirements to be from a certain region (North, South etc) should be dropped. The member need not be from a given region to contest the election.
- b) Vimal Arora suggested that we should get new people in the board.
- c) Rajashree suggested that we should increase the membership requirements (donation) for members to be nominated and they should serve the temple by participating in major events at the temple.

Following motions were proposed:

- 1) Requirements for election of directors from North/South/East and West regions should be dropped starting 2012.**
- 2) Membership requirement for somebody to be eligible for contesting the election should be raised from \$1000 to \$2000 or above starting in 2012.**

All present were OK with the above motions and both the motions were carried unanimously.

Item 5: Election committee update-2012 elections.

Hrisave Ramachandran will be the chair person of the election committee for 2012. Other members of the election committee include Rajesh Mehta and Prahlad Thakur.

Following motion was proposed by Desh Ahuja and seconded by Rina Narang:

Board should approve a budget for election committee for advertisement in the paper for an amount of \$400.

All were OK and the motion was carried unanimously.

It was also agreed that Desh Ahuja will act as the liaison between the board and the election committee.

It was discussed and decided to recommend some changes in the constitution and bye laws to the upcoming AGM meeting to be held on Dec 18th 2011, for review and approval:

- a) Requirement for the voting member eligibility should be changed from \$100 to \$500 so that the list of members is manageable and we can achieve quorum for the AGM. The members should fill out a form and submit to the board.
- b) The voting members should be at least 18 years of age.
- c) Life membership criteria should be increased from \$1000 (current) to \$2000 (proposed).
- d) Recommendation to change the eligibility requirements to serve the board as a director as follows
 - 1) Any member of the family should not have served the board for more than 4 years out of the past 8 years (current requirement is for individual and not the family).

There was discussion on the last item as several members of the board felt that we will have a difficult time finding members to actively serve the board. It was discussed that we need members in the board who can actively participate for the betterment of the temple and who are active in participating in the activities of the temple and serving the temple. In the end a vote was taken and all present except Rina Narang and Madhu Aggarwal voted for this recommended change.

A motion was proposed By Pramod Ghiya and seconded by Desh Ahuja to recommend the above changes to the AGM for approval. The motion was carried by a majority vote (7 in favor , 2 opposed).

Item 6: Hiring of second priest:

Rina Narang stated that the temple needs a priest from North India as a lot of people ask for Pujas to be done by North Indian priest. The priest should also be able to speak Hindi.

Item 7: Long term planning committee update about Nav Graha temple/Satyanarain Ji's murti location:

The long term committee members, Varinder Narang and Ravinder Aggarwal alongwith Pramod Ghiya presented three layout proposals for the Navagrah temple in the room previously occupied by Pt Kanhiya Lal ji. There were discussions on all three proposals and Pros and Cons for each were discussed. Pramod Ghiya emphasized one more time that this was the final discussion on this topic and the decision made in this meeting will not be discussed in the board again. Everybody present agreed with the decision.

Motion to approve Proposal marked 'B' and that this was the final discussion/decision on this topic was proposed by Anita Ramaiah and seconded by Vimal Arora. A copy of proposal marked 'B' is attached. All voted yes and the motion was carried unanimously.

It was agreed by all the board members that the temple should procure a new, 3 feet tall murti of Shri Satyanarayan Ji so that the size will match all the rest of the murtis (except the main deities) in the temple.

A motion was proposed to approve the budget and expenditure of \$20,000 to cover the cost of the murti, mandap, 2 sets of poshak & jewellery and shipping charges for Shri Satyanarayan Ji's murti and the required mandap.

Motion proposed by : Nirmal Chhibber

Seconded by: Sumana Ghosh

All voted yes. Motion was carried unanimously.

Rina Narang stated that the required funds for this expenditure (\$20,000) should be raised specifically for this purpose.

There was discussion about using the current Satyanarayan Ji's murti as an Utsav Murti after the new murti is received and its sthapna is done in the new approved location. There was also discussion whether the current murti (to be Utsav Murti in future) should be moved to the main puja hall every time Satyanarayn Ji's puja is done.

The long term planning committee explained that there will be enough room in the new puja hall to be built and a lot of people will be able to sit in that room.

Every body at meeting agreed that once we have new temple of Sri Satyanarayan ji the puja will be done in that same new temple unless there are too many people.

Long term planning committee also suggested that once a more detailed layout of the approved plan 'B' is created it will be placed on the notice board so that all devotees can visualize what is being done.

Item 8: Change of Sunday Puja timing:

Rina Narang proposed that the timing of the Sunday Pujas should be changed back to the morning hours as the attendance has dropped dramatically after the timings were changed to evening hours.

Vimal Arora suggested that we should ask the devotees for their feedback about the Sunday Puja timings.

A motion was proposed by Rina Narang and seconded by Anita Ramaiah that starting from the first Sunday in December 2011 the timing of Sunday pujas should be changed. The new timings would be from 11 AM to 1 PM.

All members present voted in favor of the motion except Nirmal Chhibber and Madhu Aggarwal.

The motion was carried by a majority vote.

Item 9: Discussions on details to put in the newspaper advertisement

Anita Ramaiah asked that the details of events to be added in the newspaper should be provided to her one month in advance so that she can have enough time to make the advertisement for the newspaper.

She also proposed that the event coordinators for all major events should be finalized at the start of the year.

The board suggested that the event coordinators for the events to be held next year will be decided by the new board.

Nirmal Chhibber agreed to provide details of the events to Anita for the months of November and December in advance.

Item 10: Puja Committee update:

Nirmal Chhibber provided details of the events to be held in the next two months. She was asked to send an e mail with the details to the secretary so that the same can be added in the minutes.

She also suggested that after every major event the board should review the event and look at the positive and not so positive points so that improvements can be made going forward.

Festivals and Upcoming Events in November :

Wednesday November 2, 2011-- Jala Ram Jayanti Celebrations 4-7pm

TULSI VIVAH

Monday November 7, 2011 from 7-8 pm

Satyanarayan Puja

Thursday November 10, 2011 7pm-9pm

MaataJagran

Friday November 11, 2011 7 pm-9pm

Sunday November 13, 2011 from 5-7pm : **Garuda Murti Sthapana Anniversary Celebrations**

Tuesday November 15, 2011 from 7-9pm: **Batuk Bhai Vyasji Pravachan** and Abhishek of Shivling made from 11,000 Rudraksh followed by Hanumanji Puja

Sunday November 20, 2011: **Bhaja Govindam Pravachan** by Hari Kandadai

10. The motion to close the meeting was proposed by Rina Narang and seconded by Pramod Ghiya.

The meeting was closed at 6:00 PM

