

Minutes for Meeting of the HTA Board of Directors

Date: Sunday May 3rd 2009

Time: 2:20 p.m.

Present: Asha Jain, kamal Kharbander, Bibhuti Panda, Prakash Sahoo, Desh Ahuja, Uma Ramchandra, Anil Gupta, Mina Bhagdev, and Ravi Aggarwal

1. Approval of Agenda

Asha Jain request addition of item: Suggestion for Communication Committee.
Motion to approve agenda with addition suggested by Asha Jain made by Asha Jain

Seconded: Prakash Sahoo

Carried Unanimously

2. Approval of minutes from previous meetings

Asha Jain requested March meeting minutes be amended to show that All Temple Member are welcome to attend Board Meetings. A request was made for Asha Jain to forward March minutes to Board as many members could not open them. When received, Board members to look over for approval next month.

April Minutes: Item 4 iv Change to read "group from Bangalore"

Motion to approve April Minutes subject to change being made: Prakash Sahoo

Seconded: Bibhuti Panda

Approved: Unanimously

3. Treasurers Report:

Expenses for April: \$28,123.00 includes \$15,000 loans paid to individuals, landscaping, and bathroom upgrades.

Income for April: 15,103.00

Bank Balance: \$46,153 with \$10,000 checks outstanding.

Balance is \$36,153

4. Puja Committee Report

Use of temple facilities: suggested \$51.00 per hour as long as they do their own cleaning. Otherwise \$85:00 per hour.

Also all (non-temple) programs must be over by 9:00pm

May 8th Mata Jagran from 7:00pm-9:00pm

Hanuman Chalisa starting 10:30 am and should be done by 4:30 pm on May 9th.

Art of living will be using the dining hall for pravachan on May 9th 2:30-4:00pm. They will be charged \$50.00 per hour for the use of the facility.

SatyaNarayan Puja: May 9th - Prakash Sahaoo & Mina Bhagdev are event coordinators.

Puja starts 5:30 – 6:30pm (Ganesh puja, Vishnu puja)
6:30 – 7:30pm (Vishnu sahasranam & Lakshmi Astotra)
7:30 – 8:30pm (Satyanarayan katha, aarti)

We need sponsers to cook for 17th and 31st of May. Also for July 1st.

Prasad for SatyaNarayan – Kamalji will take care of it.

Shiv Charitra pravachan by Dr. Ram Kamal Das Vedanti
Sunday May 31st Start 2:00pm-6:00pm
Mon-Fri (June 1-5) 7pm-9pm
Saturday (June 7) 10:00am-1:00pm

Cost: Flight plus \$1,001.00

Dilip Parekh will contact Jalaram group to postpone their monthly bhajans to June 11th.

June 11th Pranik Healing: 7:00pm -10:00pm in dining hall. Only problem might be the use of the bathroom. Will request Priest to keep the door open for them.

June 20th Art of Living will do pravachan in the dining hall – temple will request pravachan relating to God.

Rath Yatra:

7th June: Snan puja – after Jagannathji's 6:30 pm Puja, curtain will be closed at 8:30 pm.

14th June - No Jagannathji puja, but Krishnaji's Puja will be done.

24th June Wednesday (open curtain do Jaganthji darshan) Evening 7:00pm

28th June Sunday Rath Yatra. Havan in morning, puja, rath yatra, puja and aarti.

Our pandit is happy to do this puja. Do we want to bring pandit from outside so that the puja is done correctly? Board decided to talk to pandit and see if he is comfortable. The priest will write down the procedures and consult with Oriya community before the day

Motion: We do not collect a donation for Cherah (sweeping). Mina Bhagdev
Seconded: Bibhuti

Aye: 7

Nays: 1

Motion Carried

Motion: Each year the HTA Board invites a the HTA president to do the Cherah (sweeping) : Desh Ahuja

Seconded Kamal

Carried Unanimously

Bibhuti and Prakash, anil, as event coordinators will make a committee for planning.

Motion: Board to approve \$1600.00 for the visit of Dr. Ram kamal Das Vedanti \$2,000.00 for Rath Yatra and \$300.00 for Satyanarayan puja. Asha Jain

Seconded: bibhuti Panda

Carried Unanimously

5. Update of Priest employment

We have received one more resume from a priest from Aandra. Asha Jain has not followed up as we had decided that current priest will be allowed to stay for the next three months. Same R1 situation

Existing new priest was happy to volunteer for next three months but was concerned about his Visa situation.

Discussion ensued about how much Dakshina can be requested by the priest when he does puja for people.

AbhayKumar was told that we do not have a permanent position, we can only offer 1 year employment at a time – Asha Jain has not heard back from him.

Discussion about which pandit does which puja. At present both priests are alternating by themselves. It was felt that someone should oversee that this is being done fairly. For the out side Temple Pujas, Asha Jain will act as a Co-ordinator for Panditji's Puja-schedules

Temple policy is that priests are not allowed to asked for dakshina, rates for different pujas etc. this should all be posted on the website.

Some situations e.g. bereavement where priests just takes basic information: phone #, name of caller, name of deceased and then tells caller if they are available and that a Board member will be in touch with them for further deatails.

We have one more month to make a final decision about the new priest.

6. Update of Construction

Tiles are going in the kitchen and pantry area will be done 3rd week of May
We need two more single gas burner in the kitchen with hoods – cost will be about \$2,500.00.

Once we have the funds, the Board would like to build car port structure between the dining hall and the kitchen.

There are still 5 windows needing blinds – cost should be within \$150.00. Prakash Sahoo to go ahead get the work done. Asha Jain to ask the cleaning lady to deep clean the priests room and then the new priest can maintain it.

REMOVAL OF WALL: Prakash Deshmukh is happy to sign the paperwork. He needs to see the drawings and the city approval. Jalaram group will do the work for free. Temple will only need to pay for the materials (approximately \$2,000). Ravi Aggarwal will meet with Prakash Deshmukh to go over the details.

Motion: The Board approves spending a minimum of \$2,000, and a maximum of \$5000.00 on the removal of the wall. Work to be completed by Rath Yatra 2009.
Prakash Sahoo
Seconded Kamal Karbander
Carried Unanimously

Meeting with Ravi Aggarwal, Asha Jain, Prakash Sahoo, Prakash Deshmukh, Dilip Parekh and Navin Kuber on Wednesday May 6th at 7pm at HTA

7. Any other business – Newspaper Ad – we are being offered the opportunity to advertise our monthly events in Asian Times for \$2,800 for 14 months. We will get full and half pages plus coverage in two Punjabi newspapers. This paper will go online shortly. Asha Jain to continue negotiations. We would like to give her our list of members for mailing.

Fundraising – Anup Jalota will be attending the valley on August 22nd. Asha Jain will negotiate with Amrita Dodani. In meantime, if we know any good comedians/musicians that we can call for \$1000.00 please refer to Board

8. Closure: Meeting called to a close 4:55pm