

Minutes of meeting held on 2/14/21

Following were present in the meeting:

Dr. Vaibhavi Pradhan, Dr. Harnath Singh, Chander Sethi, Ravinder Aggarwal, Punit Garg, Surinder Tuli, Gaurav Sharma, Jitender Gunala, Kamal Minocha, Surinder Khurana (joined late).

Ashok Verma joined but left after a few minutes.

Meeting started at 1:35 PM after the quorum was reached.

Agenda item 1: Approval of the agenda

Ravinder Aggarwal (RA) asked the board members if anybody wanted to add any item to the published agenda. No additions were made. RA then asked the board to approve the agenda. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Dr Harnath Singh (HS) mentioned that he would like to share some information with the board but can do that at the end of the meeting as part of agenda item 10.

Agenda item 2: Vote of thanks and appreciation for the outgoing president—

Surinder Tuli (ST) proposed a motion to express thanks and appreciation of the board to Dr. Vaibhavi Pradhan for a job well done under difficult circumstances. The motion was seconded by Dr. Harnat Singh (HS) and passed unanimously. The motion is stated below.

Motion: I propose a motion to thank our outgoing members President Vaibhavi Pradhan for doing an outstanding job during Sept '19 thru Dec 20. It was a tough time due to Covid and few other challenges.

Agenda item 3: Proposed changes to the bylaws

RA informed the board members that Mr. Ramachandra had contacted him a few weeks ago and had mentioned that the bylaws need to be amended to take care of certain items that needed changes. He also mentioned that he (Mr Ramachandra) could work on that provided the board appoints him as the chairperson of the committee and requests him for help.

After some discussion the board decided that a committee to amend the bylaws should be set up by the board. It was decided that the members of the committee can be Mr. Ramachandra (chairperson), Ravinder Aggarwal (Joint chair) and Dr. Vaibhavi Pradhan.

It was also discussed that any changes proposed by the committee would be submitted to the HTA board of directors (BOD) for approval. Once approved by the BOD a general body meeting (members meeting) will be called around June 2021 for approval of the changes. Proxies will be permitted in the general body meeting and each member will be allowed to bring 8 proxies. There was some discussion

about whether it should be 8 or 10 proxies per member but finally a number of 8 proxies was agreed upon.

RA will discuss this item with Mr. Ramachandra and request him to start the activity with a possible submission of the details by the committee to the BOD in around 6-8 weeks.

This committee will also look into the recommendation made by Surinder Tuli (ST) that the term of the President and the executive committee should be changed from 1 year to 2 years.

Agenda item 4: Approval of Puja committee chair

Punit Garg (PG) proposed the name of Dr. Vaibhavi Pradhan (VP) as the chairperson of the puja committee. It was seconded by Dr. Harnath Singh. All present voted in favor.

Dr. Vaibhavi Pradhan was elected chairperson of the puja committee and she accepted the position.

Agenda item 5—Verification of indemnity coverage for ex directors and volunteers

RA proposed that we should verify with the insurance company that the volunteers, ex directors and present directors of HTA are covered under the indemnity provided by the HTA/Insurance company. The reason for this request was that while some people think that they are indeed covered our C&BL talk about board of directors only. Dr. Vaibhavi Pradhan read from a note received from the insurance company sometime back where the insurance company had agreed that the volunteers were indeed covered under certain situations. However, there was no clarity with regard to the ex BODs.

RA requested Dr. Pradhan to send a copy of the letter received from the insurance company (copy since received) so that he could review it and decide further course of action. As far as identifying the volunteers several options were discussed. These included making a list of volunteers that have been helping the temple regularly. For events where multiple volunteers are needed (special events, cleaning drives, cooking and Prasad distribution etc.) it was discussed that a signup sheet could be used and the event coordinator can turn it over to the board. **Final decision in this regard will be made after review of the letter from the insurance company.**

Agenda item 6:--Attorney on retainer

The secretary suggested to the board that in view of the events of the past few months where the board had to use the services of an attorney it is possible that the services of the attorney may be required in future as well. The attorney charges a flat fee per hour and in case his services are needed the board could approach the attorney to help.

RA proposed a motion to approve a budget of \$1500 to be used in case services of the attorney were needed in future. Punit Garg and Dr. Harnath Singh seconded the motion and it was unanimously

approved. In case the amount for services exceeds \$1500 or once it has been used up a fresh approval of the board would be required for any further expenditure.

Agenda item 7: Mahashivrati event

Various options for Abhishek throughout the day and coverage by the board members when the temple is open were discussed.

Gaurav Sharma can be at the temple from 5-7 PM and Kamal Minocha can be there from 7-9 PM. It was also suggested that a box can be placed near the Abhishek area where the devotees can place donation for the Abhishek. Pandit ji can monitor this.

- a) Event coordinator—So far the name of the event coordinator is not finalized. The event is on a weekday and hence the choices will be limited.
- b) RA will check with some people to see if they can be the coordinators.**
- c) Budget-A budget of \$1500 was approved for the event.
- d) Finalize sponsorship details
 - 1) Pramukh sponsor \$ 501
 - 2) Grand sponsor \$ 251
 - 3) Thali Puja \$ 101
 - 4) Abhishek--\$21
- 5) A signup sheet will be placed in the temple by Dr Pradhan.**
- e) Puja will be offered on Zoom. Not advisable to have sponsors present in the temple during puja because of COVID guidelines that will be followed.
- f) Ad in the paper will be placed. Dr Pradhan will contact Rohit Aggarwal to prepare the flier that can be sent to the paper and also sent on bulk e mail to the devotees.**
- g) Punit Garg informed the board that Manju Sharma has agreed to prepare Prasad boxes that the devotees can take with them (no eating on temple premises). A total of 150 boxes will be prepared. It was also suggested that only dry items should be placed in the Prasad box. Punit Garg will finalize the details with Manju Sharma and inform the board.**

Agenda item 8—Annual sponsorships for Sunday Pujas

RA recommended that HTA should offer annual sponsorships for Sunday Pujas as well. These will be Ganesh Ji Puja/ Sankat Chathurti, Jagannath Ji Puja, Ram Ji puja, Shiv Ji puja, Bala Ji Puja.

It was proposed by RA that annual sponsorship donation for each Sunday Puja can be \$ 251 and annual sponsorship donation for all Sunday pujas (all 5) can be \$1001. Punit Garg and Chander Sethi seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Dr. Pradhan can now start including this in the announcements. This can also be included in the fliers.

Agenda item 9—Classes for children in temple in temple

Chander Sethi provided details of the proposed classes. These will be classes for all those who want to attend and not just the children. Classes will be on Zoom for now and will be of 30 min duration each week. At present no donation will be solicited for these classes and pandit ji will explain details of various pujas being performed. **Ajay Chaurasia will be requested to add information on the screen in the temple puja hall.**

All present in the meeting were in favor of such classes and they can be started whenever the team is ready. Announcements can be made during temple announcements. **Chander Sethi will attend these sessions and monitor progress.**

Agenda item 10---Misc items

Dr. Harnath Singh informed the board that he had a discussion with Mr. Surendra Singh and Mr. Singh wants an e mail from the board inviting him to meet with the board. There was a discussion and most members felt that the face to face meeting can be helpful provided it is held in a constructive manner.

Dr. Harnath Singh was requested to get some more information about what Mr. Singh wants to discuss. The meeting, when held, will be informal in nature and no attorneys will be present. HTA board will be represented by the executive committee in this proposed meeting. **Dr. Harnath Singh will inform the board once he gets more information as requested.**

Surinder Tuli stated that the list of members of the board of directors has not been updated on the website of HTA. Punit Garg informed that Uttam was very busy. It was decided that Gaurav Sharma can help in updating information on the website (BOD list, posting minutes etc). **Punit Garg will arrange a meeting between Gaurav, Uttam and himself so that Gaurav can be brought upto speed.** Gaurav can also help with sending mass e mails to devotees and for this **Punit, Rohit and Gaurav will have a meeting so that Gaurav can become familiar with this activity.**

Information at AZCC needs to be updated. **Ravinder and Punit will work on getting this done.**

Temple address needs to be updated at various places so that the same address is show in all documents. **Punit and Ravinder will look into this.**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was proposed by RA and seconded by Punit Garg. Meeting was adjourned at 2:55 PM.