Bharatiya Temple of Lansing

Annual General Body Meeting
December 4, 2011 - Minutes

(1) Prayer by Dr. Sudhakar Kulkarni

(2) Mr. Kandula, President of outgoing board spoke.

He stated that the PMC hijacked the Board. Serious disruption by PMC caused the then Chairperson (prior to him,) to resign. PMC members were asked to join and fill the 2 positions vacant on Board. The Board was busy with Diwali. Persons who organized the petition should not be on the new Board.

Mrs. Sita said that there was too much interference by PMC. The new priest is a great addition to the community. He has made great contribution. (Applause).

Mrs. Bindu Kota said: PMC has not explained what happened. There was great misunderstanding. PMC was to blame for the situation.

Ashim Aggarwal said “What was the urgency to demand GBM one month before annual regular GBM ?”.

PETITIONERS Now took Turn to speak.

Bidhan gave a brief history of PMC and the differences between Board & PMC regarding Shastri Ji. Dhiraj said that community did not like how the Board was behaving with Shastri Ji.

Madan explained that SGBM was not called by Board in violation of the constitution.

Mr. Kandula stated that Board wanted a meeting with PMC which did not happen. Dhiraj replied that time given by Mr. Kandula was too short.

Ashim Aggarwal stated that Shastri JI did not sign the contract presented to him by the Board. PMC should have taken action. PMC only made the life of the Board difficult.

Hasso Bhatia stated that he got involved with the issue when he saw how Shastri Ji was being vilified with inappropriate accusations and language. A Priest is the face that the temple and community present to the outside world.

Sudhakar Kulkarni stated that there was good attendance at Diwali function and Temple got $30,000 in pledges during Diwali .
He said that Audit report for 2010 was available. For 2011, audit will be done in 2012. Audit report was presented then it was proposed by Malti Agrwal and seconded by Madan Lalwani to be approved by the general body. It was approved unanimously.

Estimated cost to run the temple for 2012 will be $240,000. It was accepted by the members with the provision that the new board will provide the details.

Dr. Kamal Mohan stated that the whole trouble in temple started with the expansion of the temple and he hoped no such expansions will occur in future. He also suggested that it is necessary for the old guards to hand over the temple management to the young generation who are the future of the community.

Sudhakar stated that Dr. Anantraman has retired and new board should make arrangement to appoint a communication liaison.

Dr. Suman Kashyap thanked the members of the nominations committee and the community in finding new board members. Board has 9 members but since there is a slate only of 8 persons, the 9th member may be appointed by the new Board itself.

Dr. Suman Kashyap also recommended to the new board that the terms Junior and Senior priest should be used and defined carefully in case these terms relate to duties and responsibilities. If these terms only denote the length of service, there may be no problems.

Mr. Syal and others introduced the new members. Out of 8, four were out of town. The services of the members present – Madan Lalwani, Bidhan Reddy, Meena Sharma and Ramesh Dedia were recognized.

Terms of the new members: Madan Lalwani – 3 Yrs, Bidhan Reddy-3 yr, Ashok Gupta – 3 Yr, Meena Sharma-2 Yrs, Padmani Karna-2 Yrs, K.P Gunaga – 2 yr, Ranjan Thakur 1 Yr, Ramesh Dedia 1 Yr.

Members of the new board who were present (Bidhan, Madan, Meena, Ramesh) spoke briefly.

Ashim Aggarwal asked the name of the treasurer for the new Board. Suman explained that these responsibilities are determined by the Board members among themselves.

Mr. Pendse proposed that the new board members be accepted. It was seconded by Ved Agrwal and other members of the community. The slate was accepted by unanimous acclaim. He also proposed that new Board should become effective immediately. It was seconded and approved.

Note: There was a lot of pandemonium at various stages.

Meeting was adjourned with a prayer by Dr. Raju.

Minutes submitted by: Ved Agrawal
12/4/2011