

Bharatiya Temple of Lansing  
12/2/18 Annual General Body Meeting Minutes

Chairman Mr. Mathi Ramachandran welcomed the audience and started the meeting.

Temple priest Shastriji performed prayer.

Mathi Ramachandran gave highlights of our temple performance. He mentioned that activities in the temple have increased. Our temple is performing all the poojas performed by Parashakti temple, one of the busiest temples in Michigan. More devotees are attending special events in the temple. Temple membership has remained stable with newer members making up for members leaving town. Temple is sustainable with the current monthly income. There are months which bring more funds that compensate for months that bring less income. Still more needs to be done to raise funds and the board is considering various options.

Temple Treasurer's report presented by Mr. Ramesh Devaram. He mentioned that we paid \$85,000 towards mortgage principal for past two years (2016 & 2017). Reducing the mortgage balance from >\$600,000 in the beginning of 2012 to \$101,435 (10/29/2018). Both the houses of priests are paid off. Shastriji's house lien is attached with the temple mortgage, as such the release document is still held by the bank. Based on the current balance and monthly payments, mortgage will be paid by 2021. Maintenance projects undertaken in the past year and their costs presented. Total income and expenditure as of end of November 2018 presented. Upcoming projects for 2019 include temple Gopuram repair and Temple Furnace. Proposed budget for 2019 presented. Twenty thousand dollars will be moved to the rainy day account for purpose of furnace repair.

The current executive board was introduced.

Election of temple Board members by Dr. Ved Gossain.

Dr. Gossain thanked the current board members and explained the terms of the new members to be elected.

Q: Why don't we make all the terms of board members equal?

A: ( Dr.Gossain) This will require a change in the constitution, which is something to consider in the future.

Q. The board should encourage new ideas and newer generation to join the temple board.

A: (Dr. Gossain): Suggestion accepted.

Dr. Gossain explained that two of the current board members Mr. Ramesh Devaram and Mr. Bidhan Redey wish to continue serving in the board. Apart from them there are four positions for which there were six nominations. So there are total six positions and eight nominations. Mr.

Chandrasekhar and Mrs. Raj Bala Jaglan have graciously withdrawn their nominations. Mr. Chandrasekhar was thanked for withdrawing his nomination in the last minute. He has been an active member of the temple. Dr. Gosain requested the members and the board to consider him for the board if an opening arises. Mr. Bidhan Redey current board member said he is considering possibly stepping down in an year and would consider Mr. Chandrasekhar for the position along with training Mr. Chandrasekhar. The terms of the newly elected board members will be decided by the board.

Dr. Gossain and the members unanimously elected and welcomed the four new members Mrs. Prashanthi Boinpally, Mrs. Meena Sharma, Mr. Pradeep Kumar and Mr. Jay Murthy.

Meeting opened to questions from members/devotees

Q: In spite of increased attendance why is total income remaining the same?

A: (by Mathi & Ramesh). New devotees compensate for older devotees who have left town. So the overall income remains stable.

Q: Temple Gopuram repair was done a few years ago, why are we doing again?

A: (by Mathi, Ketan): The Gopuram is a major issue. To correct it permanently, the whole thing has to be reconstructed. At this time the option is to repair the gopuram which will stop the leak for another 5 years.

Meeting concluded with prayer