

Bharatiya Temple of Lansing: Annual General Body Meeting			
December 6, 2015			
Time: 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM			
Location: Temple			
Reported by : Manasi Upadhye			
Attendees			
X	Mr. Ashok Gupta	X	Mr. Subhash Gupta
X	Mrs. Meena Sharma	X	Mr. Mathi Ramachandran
X	Mrs. Vani Avula	X	Mr. Sanjay Gupta
X	Mrs. Manasi Upadhye	X	Mr. Ketan Patel
X	Mrs. Kiran Gupta	X	Mr. Ramesh Devaram
X	Mr. Rajat Shah	X	Mr. Manoj Mohan
X	Mr. Devesh Poddar		
Additional Attendees			
Around 30 temple members attended the meeting.			

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Prayer by Shastriji & Panditji	Started the meeting with a prayer by Shastriji & Panditji.	
Report by the Board Chairperson	<p>Ashokji talked about the temple goals – keeping the temple clean, providing a peaceful place for worship to the community and making the temple financially viable.</p> <p>He gave information about various projects completed during the year 2015 – Basement leak, Gopuram leak, Shastriji's house renovation, Seeta Ram Kutir to name a few.</p> <p>He thanked the community for great support and participation.</p> <p>He informed that the temple debt has been reduced by 40% over the last 4 years. The current debt is around \$275,000/-</p> <p>He also communicated that the board highly appreciate good ideas from the community and encouraged the community members to serve on the board.</p>	
Treasurer Report for 2015	Subhashji informed that Mr. Malvia has reviewed the Profit and Loss statement	Proposed 2015 budget was approved by the attendees.

	<p>and Balance Sheet for 2014. He projected the reports and walked through them.</p> <p>He also gave an update for the 2015 profit and loss statement as of 11/30/15. He explained that there will be changes to the 2015 statement as the transactions get posted till the end of the year.</p> <p>The annual budget for 2016 was proposed by him and approved by the attendees.</p>	
Temple board member election	<p>Three of the members will be leaving the board this year – Dr. Ashok Gupta, Mr. Mathi Ramchandran, and Mrs. Vani Avula.</p> <p>There were 3 nominees – Mr. Mathi Ramachandran, Mr. Rajat Shah and Mr. Ramesh Devaram.</p> <p>All the three nominees got elected.</p> <p>Three existing board members will be leaving the board early next year due to personal reasons – Mr. Subhash Gupta, Mr. Sanjay Gupta and Mrs. Manasi Upadhye.</p> <p>Three new members will replace them in January. The new trustees will be – Mrs. Kiran Gupta, Mr. Devesh Poddar, & Mr. Manoj Mohan.</p>	<p>All the existing board members who are leaving the board need to attend the January 2016 meeting and submit their resignation.</p> <p>These board members can also return the temple keys and documents if they have any to the board.</p>
Questions from the attendees	<p>Ms. Saroj Kapurji asked a question about putting donor’s name on the plaque board, is it necessary to spend money on that.</p> <p>Ashokji responded to the concern explaining that it doesn’t cost much and serves as a token of appreciation to the community members who donate and helps keeping the temple financially viable.</p> <p>Sarojji thanked the board for good committed work.</p>	
	Jaglanji requested temple board to commit \$500- donation per annum to Food bank. Other attendees explained	

	<p>that it's the temple community that donates to the Food Bank so there is no need for donating money from the temple funds.</p> <p>Jaglanji requested the board members to attend Havan, New Year Prayer and food bank activities. Board members will try their best.</p> <p>Board appreciated Jaglanji's great work.</p>	
	<p>Mr Subhash Sharmaji asked a question about external audit – should there be an external audit of temple finances? Ashokji explained that a good research has been done in figuring out if it is necessary to have an external audit which costs around 5000 dollars plus. An external audit is not a legal requirement for religious non-profit organizations. Temple Board follows established procedures and has multiple checks in place to avoid any fraud. A member from the community with accounting knowledge volunteers to perform review of the accounts.</p> <p>All the attendees agreed to the approach.</p> <p>The current constitution wording needs to be amended to change from audit to review.</p>	<p>The constitution committee will take action on getting the necessary changes done to the constitution by following the established procedure.</p>
	<p>Mr Sanjeev Dagli asked a question about having a documentation of established procedures which can be useful for the new board members.</p> <p>Manasi responded that such document is already in place and is available on the temple website. This document will be kept up to date as new procedures, guidelines are developed.</p>	
	<p>Mr. Ashim Aggarwal requested to try making value additions to the Sunday Puja format.</p>	<p>Depending on the availability of knowledgeable volunteers, board will try their best to do the same.</p>