

Bharatiya Temple of Lansing: Board Meeting			
February 1, 2015			
Time: 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM			
Location: Temple			
Reported by : Manasi Upadhye			
Attendees			
X	Mr. Ashok Gupta	X	Mr. Mathi Ramachandran
X	Mrs. Meena Sharma	X	Mrs. Manasi Upadhye
X	Mrs. Vani Avula	X	Mr. Subhash Gupta
X	Mr. Ketan Patel		Mr. Sanjay Gupta
	Mr. Gundamraj Rao		
Additional Attendees			
Mr. Ajay Bhargav			
Mrs. Joanne			

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Review of January meeting Minutes	No pending action items from January meeting.	Meeting minutes were approved.
Guidelines Document for Memorial Services	Document was prepared by Ashokji. Document was discussed and signed by all the board members. Though such documents were not signed by the board members before, it was decided that any important document will be approved and signed by the board members. The document will be added to the master document of guidelines which will help as a reference document for the current board as well as subsequent boards.	Manasi will update the master document of guidelines and get it uploaded to the web site.
Tax deduction policy update	Subhashji gave an update on his discussion with the CPA about the Tax Deductible amounts. Any donation coming in can be considered as Tax deductible donation as long as it is called as a donation and not a charge for services. Temple being a non-profit organization any money coming to the temple can fall under tax deductible category, except for the facility rental charges or charge paid for performing functions requested by individual families like wedding etc. With this approach, money given for performing puja can be considered as a tax deductible donation than a priest service.	Subhashji will provide a write-up from the CPA which will help the board to decide what falls under the tax deductible donation category. Board will need to make necessary changes to the various categories through which it will be easy to generate Tax Deductible Donation Receipts and rightfully giving devotees the benefit for their Temple contributions.

<p>Temple Board's Commitment & Goals For 2015</p>	<p>Keep temple very neat and clean. To be taken care by BTL MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE: Ketan-Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shshtriji house renovation/repairs. - Auto-flush in men's urinal. - Resolve sump pumps on going issues. - Finish painting of outside sign - Plant trees/shrubs as requested by city-thanks to Aditya - Hang widow treatment in basement. - Update life member recognition board. <p>Keep temple a financially viable organization. To be taken care by BTL FUND RAISING COMMITTEE: Sanjay-Chair & BTL FINANCE COMMITTEE: Subhash-Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collect \$400,000.00 in temple revenue-Sanjay WILL create strategy to meet this goal. - Look into how a devotee can claim full tax deduction on all the checks written/cash given to BTL-Subhash/Ashok. <p>Keep temple very conducive to Devotees spiritual needs. To be taken care by BTL PRIEST COMMITTEE: Vani-Chair, by BTL POOJA / PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Meena-Chair / Mathi-Co Chair & also by BTL PR & COMUNICATION COMMITTEE: Manasi-Chair / Raj-Co Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maximize the use of BTL by different communities - Meet with different communities to improve PR. 	
<p>Ornaments Inventory and Auditing</p>	<p>Mathi and Dr. Reddy completed the ornaments inventory and auditing. Extra jewelry is kept in the locked cabinet. The list will be filed and kept along with the jewelry.</p>	<p>Mathi to get the updated list filed and keep it in the cabinet.</p>
<p>Project Update</p>	<p>Elevator Issues – Ketan got 2 quotes. He will take the necessary decision.</p>	<p>Pending task - Collect existing temple keys from various people and re-distribute amongst the temple board members and the priests.</p>

Priest committee update	<p>Vaniji gave the update – Contract for 2015 signed by both the priests. Health Insurance for 2015 finalized for both the priests. Shastriji's additional one month pending leave is settled by giving him one month salary. Shastriji will be taking this year's vacation from Feb 12 for a month.</p>	
Creation of different committees	<p>It was decided that the different committee chair person can add more members to their committee, define goals and try their best to work towards the goals.</p>	<p>Need to decide on BTL Nominating and Election Committee participants.</p>
Temple Event update	<p>Mathi gave update about Pongal celebration at the temple. 800 dollars were raised through the event.</p>	<p>Need is to keep talking with different communities and encourage them to participate in temple activities.</p>
\$25 Participation charge for non-members	<p>It was decided that there will not be \$25 program participation charge for non-members.</p>	<p>Additional PR activities will be planned to encourage devotees to willingly contribute their time, talent and treasure for the temple.</p>
Update on Mata Ki Chouki event by Mr. Ajay Bhargav	<p>Had a discussion with Mr. Ajay Bhargav about coordinating the event at the temple. Ajayji will be the temple's contact for the program. Ajayji agreed to get the program together and raise funds for the temple through the event. Ajayji set the goal to raise \$8000/- through the program. Temple board expressed their confidence in Ajayji's leadership skills. For planning the program date, Ajayji will work with Meenaji.</p>	