

October 10, 2010

General Members Present

President Shiv Kapoor opens meeting, introduces the nominating committee and outlines the nominations process and election.

BOT Members Present: Shiv Kapoor, Veera Mallu, Subbu Arunachalam, Dr. Balgopal, Kiran, Jeetubhai, Koeli, Aradhana, Jeetu Bhai Patel.

ELECTION PROCESS

Nomination Committee:

Kalyanasubbu Sundaravelu – Chair

Balgopal Pallassana

Aradhana Chhajed

Chhotabhai Patel

Ravi Kandasamy

Subbu gives Powerpoint presentation on new Board of Trustees.

Current Vacancy table showed and process discussed. A list of nominated members proposed:

Shiv 3 years Benefactor/Patron

Koeli 3 years Benefactor/Patron

Nani 3 years Gold/Life/Annual

Saravanan 3 years G/L/A

Sanjeeva2 years B/P

Nookula1 B/P

Pradeep Khanna 1 B/P

Bhargav Patel 1 G/L/A

Neena Tripathy1 ALUMNI

Amit Jain1 STUDENT

DISCUSSION:

Raju Perecherla: I want to nominate Sharada as well as Mallu. She is willing to serve the BOT.

Subbu: We have questions about Mallu's willingness.

Mallu: I never said no to anyone but if there are new people coming on board, I would like that. I called several people. I called Sharada to determine conflict of interest. Process: once you have done nomination, if they say yes, that's it. Until last couple of days, to 90% people I said no. But after that I kept receiving calls – so I said "yes" to them. I also nominated some people who have experience in the past and people from different areas. Dr. Raju, Dr. Kaushikbhai Patel; Sharada. First person I nominated is Dr. Shiv Kapoor.

Kapoor: Nomination committee is only making recommendations. They are following the process. They approached the people but if they said "no" then they were not pursued. The question now: if this is the slate – if the person is on the board then you elect them. And then we can proceed with the rest of the election. If the person is recommended then you have to vote on it and proceed. Let's just continue from here. We have nominations and guarantee that the person will serve.

Bal: I am happy to see such enthusiasm for people to be added. In the past there was concern for people willing to serve. The nomination committee has in the past faced occasions where they approached people and turned down. Second, in my history of this organization we have so far seen this: the slate was provided and there has been acceptance by the general body and we have not gone for elections. They are contentious and in a small membership like this elections are difficult.

One thing nomination committee wants to present and permission required for it to be approved: The BOT has agreed to expand membership by one – it was 16 and now it is 17. They chose not to bring down membership so the slate is open now for that extra membership position. That is where we wanted to have the selection from the floor. There is one opening and general members will be given the chance to come and fill this open place.

Joshi: I agree. We should NOT have elections. I support what Bal has said. It is going to be contentious and we do not want that in a small community.

Kapoor: There is one opening.

DISCUSSION AMONG ALL MEMBERS SIMULTANEOUSLY.

Member: I like to nominate Jeetu Patel

Mallu: Kaushik Patel and Sharada

Bal: We need clarity – what category are you nominating them for, and whether they have accepted it.

Perecherla: Every time we have the category details. How are categories determined?

Kapoor: By their contributions/ donations made to the HTCSCI – Gold category, etc.

DISCUSSION AMONG ALL MEMBERS SIMULTANEOUSLY: Whether we had elections in the past.

Joshi: We might have had elections but it was not formal. Someone just stood up and proposed. It was not contentious.

BOT Composition slide shown for 2010-2011

DISCUSSION AMONG ALL MEMBERS SIMULTANEOUSLY.

Discussion on what should be the categories for election.

Kapoor: Right now, we have 2 BP and 2 GLAs. being nominated.

Subbu: Categories open are for GLA, Alumni and Student

Members suggest: Jay Patel, Kaushik Patel, Sharada

Subbu: Let us do floor for open category – 1 year floor – Kaushik, We do not discuss Sharada's nomination because we will continue to work with IGW and that represents conflict of interest. I know that we well recognize her work but as I stand here today, I have to tell you we will do business with IGW and she works in that company and there's a conflict of interest. If the general body wants to discuss that and vote it in, that is perfectly fine with the committee but let us follow the process.

Kiran: The question is can a contractor be on the BOT.

Mallu: I want to reiterate. Last few years she said no because she had conflict of interest but this year she said yes.

Raju P: She said the same thing to me.

Kapoor, Subbu: No, we still have some distance to go in our business with IGW.

Bal: We know that we are not done with IGW.

DISCUSSION.

Kapoor explains how the contract is not yet finished and we still have 2 more tasks with IGW.

Subbu: Let us go for voting.

Bal: I am still saying voting is not appropriate. Its a policy issue. If a person is part of a business as an employee and that business is involved with this organization – it IS conflict of interest.

Joshi: If you want open voting – I am going to abstain from that process altogether. I suggest we go for secret ballot.

Subbu: Good point. We still have to go for the floor nomination before we go to the categories. We can prepare ballots if you want.

Shyamala: We are all working toward the temple, so why this contention and bickering about selecting people?

Aradhana: We said we will ask Shiv if there is conflict of interest. He has said there is. So why are we voting?

Chhotubhai: If there is a legal issue we can avoid it then.

Nani: It IS in the constitution. We all voted for it. If we have somebody, we must have 100% confidence. It's a small community. If there is a lot of voting I don't think we want to go into it. You don't HAVE to be part of BOT to serve. We are missing the point. As for Sharada – she is a competent architect – but keep in mind there is conflict of interest. Don't make an exception for one person.

Kapoor: We have to decide what to do. Will you listen to me?

Mallu: I think previously I nominated Kaushik as GLA, I would select Kaushikbhai Patel... I talked to Sharada and she is happy whether she is on BOT or not. Second – she said there was no conflict of interest. She said it is up to the BOT's final decision. She is very open and left it to the BOT. Open to the floor.

Kapoor: Policy – if you are doing business with someone, an employee should not be on BOT. She can serve in any other capacity. And she will do in the future. She is not like I will work only if I am on the BOT.

Raju P: I think the point to be on the BOT is so we want more people to work.

DISCUSSION.

Kapoor: Another point. If you are on the BOT, you cannot miss more than 3 meetings. If so, you are out.

Bal: Everybody respects and regards Sharada. But clearly there is pending dealings with her employer. I would request – we move that she cannot be serving this year.

Subbu: For Floor nominations: Kaushik, Jeetu, Mallu [?]

Mallu: I withdraw from GLA one year.

Subbu: Decide between – Jeetu and Kaushik.

Jeetu: I withdraw.

Subbu: All agree, SO we have Kaushik Patel on the BOT?

ALL: Aye.

Bal: I want the slate to be accepted as is. Vote: Accept or reject.

Joshi: I second.

Raju: Let us go one at a time.

DISCUSSION.

Bhargav Patel: If my name is taken off I am fine with it.

Subbu: Any additional discussion for 3 year terms? Kapoor, and Koeli and is there anyone else?

Mallu: I would like to select Dr. Raju

Raju: No, no, I am ok with current nomination pattern.

Subbu: Look, at the current pattern, with Kapoor and Koeli 3 year term: Do we say yes?

All: Yes.

Subbu: Now 3 year GLA: Nani Bhowmik and Saravanan. We had to make sure these people get nominated because many people selected them out of many other suggestions, so they were nominated by the majority.

DISCUSSION on eligibility of BP position.

Subbu: Should we keep the nomination committee pattern for GLA?

ALL: Yes!

Mallu: Are there any abstaining? Parliamentary procedure.

Subbu: Now, 2-year B/P. Sanjeeva Reddy: we had a lot of nominations for him. I ask the General Body – Yes?

ALL: YES!

Subbu: Now for 1 year BP category = Srinivas Nookula and Pradeep Khanna.

Bal: We have to just check with my colleague, Aradhana, about Khanna.

Aradhana: He said yes.

Mallu: I got an email. He is out of the country. But said: he agrees with whatever BOT decides.

Subbu: Let us select in the 1-year BP category: Nookula and Pradeep Khanna.

ALL: Aye. [Unanimous.]

DISCUSSION on 1-year GLA. Bhargav Patel and Jeetu Patel yield to Mallu.

Joshi: Constitutional rule: if u do not have GLA for a category, then BP can serve in that category.

DISCUSSION.

Mallu: Yes.

Subbu: Will you serve if nominated?

Mallu: Yes.

Subbu: 1 year GLA will go to Mallu.

Subbu: 1 year Alumni – Dr. Neena Tripathy.

Bal: She is a born in this town, and is a physician in Carle. Her main focus will be to generate alumni interest in project. She will be a strong alumni member for BOT.

Mallu: I would like to elect Dr. Raju Perecherla. He is an alumni. I tried to contact Neena but failed. I propose Dr. Raju be elected. He has been interested and I would like to nominate him as alumni member if he says yes.

Bal: If Dr. Raju accepts, then I will withdraw her nomination. I don't want her to go through this. This is a true alumni who says I would like to work and I think it would be sad to put her through elections. Mallu, you said we wanted new people, and she is a new nominee.

Mallu: Last year I talked to her and was not able to convince her.

Several: We will go for Dr. Raju..

Others: We should try to get Neena. She is second generation Indian and has the ability to bring in her peers.

Kapoor: Many think that she will tap into another, a new constituency.

Raju: Last year I had other commitments. This year I am o.k.

Several: Go ahead Raju.

Bal: I withdraw Tripathy's nomination with regrets.

Subbu: Any other nominations for this category?

Kapoor: Joshi is an alumni.

Joshi: I would definitely work but cannot follow timings and will miss more than 3 BOT meetings, so not at this time.

Subbu: I will ask General Body for this.

Bal: I abstain.

Shyamala: Neena is second generation. Raju works anyway.

Subbu: We must have balance.

Raju P: It is not the balance but more people who will work hard. We have been at it long enough and know who will work and who not.

Mallu: We have Saravanan, Kaushik Patel, we already have so many physicians.

Subbu: It is more important which constituency has to be represented.

Bal: I feel, if we have the temple for new generation, we have to bring in the second generation.

Raju P: We cannot say that. We have to have the same goal. We cannot say everything is different depending on the situation.

Shyamala: Looks like everyone had a hidden agenda. They are not necessarily for the temple.

Joshi: I am sorry. I don't have any hidden agenda.

Bal: Look at it. There are 17 BOT members, but we have only Aradhana and Koeli: only 2 women members. Think about it.

Joshi: That is not relevant.

Bal: Why not?

Kapoor: If Bal abstains, we can vote for it. If Raju says go ahead and General Body accepts it then we go ahead.

DISCUSSION

Nookulla: I would like to withdraw in favor of Raju Perecherla. I will nominate in my position Dr. Raju P.

Subbu: Bal can withdraw if there is a contest.

Nookulla: I am withdrawing in favor of Raju.

Subbu: Nookulla withdrawing in favor of Raju., Raju do you accept?

Raju: I accept. [After consultation].

ALL APPROVE with applause.

Subbu makes changes to 1 year BP category.

Joshi: I want to vote for Tripathy – she is a second generation and from here, from Champaign. And she can bring a lot of other people from the alumni group. But I don't agree with the point that we have to bring 50% women. We are not opposed to women in being in position. But let us not bring those things into this: That [representation] agenda into this forum.

Subbu: One thing we felt is that one more woman will be good. So we will approve Tripathy 's 1-year alumni term Now last category. We have email from the person..

Bal: Again. Amit Jain, PhD student, Business School. Very active in campus religious organization, He was helping us on mulching. I said to him – I want to ask you – you are a dedicated person. Will you serve? Can you spare time as a PhD student? He says this will be an honor. I gave him time and he responded positively with email.

Subbu: I saw him during mulching. He apologized for not being able to be here today.

Mallu: He is very dedicated. But are there other student members in this environment? Sivali my daughter.

Kapoor: Maybe we should all approach the student constituency after this and may be able to attract more students to this project.

Subbu: Shall we select Jain? G.B. appoves?

ALL: Yes!

Subbu: Here is the breakdown:

Floor: Kaushik

For Nookulla: in his place we are selecting Dr. Raju.

[Raju P. and Nookulla leave for private discussion.]

Everyone congratulates Subbu about Nomination Committee work.

**NEW BOT 2010 MEMBERS AS APPROVED BY THE GENERAL BODY MEETING ON
OCTOBER 10, 2010**

3-YEAR	Dr. Shiv Kapoor	B/P
3-YEAR	Koeli M. Goel	B/P
3-YEAR	Nani Bhowmik	G/L/A
3-YEAR	Dr. Saravanan	G/L/A
2-YEAR	Sanjeeva Reddy	B/P
1-YEAR	Dr. Raju Perchla	B/P
1-YEAR	Pradeep Khanna	B/P
1-YEAR	Mallu Veera Boddu	G/L/A
1-YEAR	Dr. Neena Tripathy	Alumni
1-YEAR	Amit Jain	Student
1-YEAR	Dr. Kausik Patel	Floor Nominee

DR. KAPOOR'S REPORT TO GENERAL BODY

Kapoor: Raju's nomination and acceptance stands. Let me give you a little update on where we stand on the project progress. 2007 we acquired the land. In 2009 we had the first fundraising dinner. Then September 2009 we had the groundbreaking ceremony. Without money we cannot do these projects. Here are a few points of review and information for the General Body:

- We are thinking how we can raise more money. Maybe through foundation stones, bricks? We are still looking for people to come over and sponsor.. The brick sponsor sheet is full.
- October 2009 we planned and installed several trees.
- 2010 we did our 2nd fundraising dinner. Some success can be reported.
- Last month many of you showed up for another tree planting and maintenance.
- Ganesha Chaturthi we had a homam – and it was a very successful event. Also we have a newsletter Koeli Goel prepared which shows all the events and our overall progress.
- Building Plan discussion and drawings are here to view.
- Construction Update and bids from 8 contractors: When bids came out with costs about 40% higher than what the idea we got from IGW, more than what we thought it would be, we started looking for more detail. We asked all 7 [one was very high so we dropped] for detailed itemized picture. One said they would not give itemized account until selected.
- Now we have 6 contractors: even people from Chicago came and we had discussions about whether they can cut down costs. This was done with all 6. All agreed they will send us estimates. Idea is to then get a short list of 2 or 3 people based on Quality, Preferences etc. Further discussions will be done. Important is that we understand the contractor and what is the cost involved and finally that we still need more money.
- Short PowerPoint presentation on the accounting picture of HTCSCI.
- Membership
 - Grand benefactor: 2
 - Benefactor: 10
 - Patron = 28
 - Gold = 24

- Life = 39
- Annual = 15

CONCLUSION: There is a huge amount of work going on. Last week we met with 6 contractors 2 hours each so it meant we spent 12 hours of the week to bring it to some decision. At this point, this is our conclusion: We need to collect more money, so talk to your friends and see if we can get more money. It's a small community. Please think about how we can raise more money. Estimate for building came out - \$270/ sq ft.

Malllu: Last year we thought we will have an advisory committee. One other thing – I would like to put a motion: if one third of BOT members request for a meeting, the president should call for a BOT meeting.

Kapoor: I suggest you put motion in for a constitutional amendment. Today we are out of time. Next time we can have another General Body meeting and make the decision.

Bal: We have it in the constitution. But we need to have a quorum to do it. But we never had a quorum to do something. Even today we do not have one. Does it mean this election is not valid?

DISCUSSION ENSUES WITH MULTIPLE MEMBERS SPEAKING AT ONCE. TIME SLOTTED FOR MEETING IS OVER AND MEETING IS ADJOURNED.