

## BOT Meeting Minutes Feb 10, 2013

Members Present: Kiran, Shiv, Raju, Bal, Neelu, Piyush, Mallu, Shailesh, Bharathi, Radha, Koeli, Sanjeeva

Absent: Pradeep, Nani, Srinivas, Subbu, Saravanan

## High 5s:

- Inauguration Event –
  - Elaborate ceremony conducted
  - 400 attendees
  - Well organized and great volunteer participation
  - Beautiful rituals – (Bal & Shiv): The deepa puja was a beautiful and spectacular event and there was amazing homogeneity with no regional distinctions or divisions. Suggestion for newsletter.
- \$10,000 from Dr. Topaiah (to be received)
- \$3,000 from Dr. Prasad Sunkara and Sobha
- Read aheads/ Accounts:
  - General Account - \$31,472
  - Durga Fund - \$12,554
  - O & M Fund - \$35,417 (\$2000 received on Feb 10, 2013)
- Uncashed cheques written = \$1767 + \$1266
- IGW Pending bill = \$4000
- Expenditure for Inauguration event = \$3946 and (?)
- Idols:
  - For payment, it was decided that the next payment will be as an electronic transfer because Aditya and the Art Emporium had still not received the funds from the bank after the cheque cleared.
- Review of event:
  - We should have a process for recognizing people who volunteered and worked hard
  - We should do abhishekam on the metal idols

- Greater care about name announcements; puja sponsors and attendees should be given a first-arrival preference; participants should be asked to rotate so everyone gets a chance at close quarters.
- Suggestions for recognition with gift items. Bal: Pran Pratishtha is a major avenue for fundraising, so we must be careful that we promise gifts for only donations above \$1000 and also initiate a donation deadline for this process.
- Suggestion for only men to perform homam with wives sitting behind them (Bharathi)
- Suggestion for Gurukkal as resident priest for pratishtha.  
DISCUSSION. It is decided to stay engaged with him more on a consultant basis.
- O & M Funds
  - 42 members have already participated. Bal: We must send them a letter within 48 hours as pledge collection which Sanjeeva can initiate as Fundraising Chair. Mallu: There is still more potential collection from BOT members as we don't have 100% participation. Kiran: I requested each BOT member at least once; we should leave it up to them.
- Puja Committee:
  - Appeal for sign-up in temple-opening and greater participation from BOT – at least 1 member per day.
  - Website sign-up or call up Puja Committee Chair.
  - Bharathi: Temple weekend timings are still not finalized and we should make decisions on fixing temple timings.
  - Question (Bal): Should the timings for the main opening be published as soon as possible. Discussion.
  - Shiv Ratri Planning: March 10, 2013.
- IT committee
  - Working on updating site.
  - Request for posting event pictures as soon as possible.

- Cultural Committee:
  - Activity proposals
    - Bal – Group on parent-children communication (once a month) Discussions on Rajit Bhargav presenting. It was decided that the March 10 evening might be unsuitable for lecture presentation considering it is Shiv Ratri. Possibility of Rajit returning for a lecture later.
- Major Event Committee:
  - Nothing to report at this time. We successfully launched Inauguration and are timing ourselves for main event.
- Piyush: Should we promote Asha Holi(April 13. 2013) to temple community. Koeli: we always send the Asha flyer to our mailing group. We need the flyer.
- Temple Service Hours:
  - Discussion. Suggestions for: Weekdays: 6-7 p.m.; Weekend: 11a.m. -1 p.m. for now. Suggestions for and from out-of-town visitors.
  - Website sign-up link including a field for activities to be pursued during those hours.
  - Temple phone to be forwarded to Neelu and in the event of inadequate sign-up Koeli and Neelu to initiate calling tree.
  - Sign-up to be made accessible for volunteers
- Priest Prospects:
  - Mahadev Shastri – uncertainty about his availability
  - Vijay Kumar Pujiyam – good references; additional information available from Springfield temple, Peoria Temple and Quad City temple
  - SUB-COMMITTEE for priest contract development –
    - Chair: Raju Perecherla; members: Bal, Sanjeeva. Subcommittee to work on the priest contract package, and submit the draft to BOT by 24 February for review and comments
  - Suggestions for priest total compensation from outside = \$3000-3500

- The San Diego prospective priest candidate has demanded a higher salary so he is lower on the scale of preference.
- Temple Pratihtha Event Date
  - 3 options: April 26, 27, 28; May 24, 25, 26; June 21, 22, 23
  - Decision: May 24, 25, 26
- Idol schedule:
  - Aditya is on schedule. The Durga idol is done and Saraswati is partially complete.
  - Shipping time is estimated for 1 month
- Canopy purchase for front door – passed unanimously (Shailesh to lead)
- Event Management requested – circulation of participants, rectification in accounts
- Treasurer Position – Raju suggested that we should have two backup treasurers. Kiran indicated that Srinivas wants to resign and he wants to train someone anyway. He has been asked by Kiran to stay till the end of the year. Suggestion is up for 2 joint treasurers. Kiran asked for volunteers.
- Vote of Thanks – Raju – Can it be given by someone other than the President. Let us print names of people in a brochure to thank people.
- Temple Rental Contract: Shailesh to take the draft prepared by Bal and Kiran, and develop it further by 24 February for BOT review and comments.