**Minutes of the Joint HTCSCI Board and Executive Committee Meeting, February 5, 2023**

Venue: Temple Cultural Center and Zoom

Time: 2.30- 4.30 pm

Present: Nani Bhowmik, R.K. Bhonagiri, Jagannadharao Brahmamdam, Dilip Chhajed, Mahesh Gubba (zoom), Pradeep Khanna, Shiv Kapoor, Rakesh Pandey (zoom), Shailesh Patel, Kalindi Patel (zoom), Jyothi Raju (zoom), Amita Sinha, Pratap Vanka, Subba Rao

The minutes of November 12, 2022 meeting were approved.

Shiv Kapoor gave the treasurer’s report: Total balance--$267, 675; Checking --$71,317; Jumbo--$134,783; Rainy day--$37,590. Construction costs so far have been $243,879 and $54,000 is still owed to Bash and Shrock.

Shailesh Patel gave the construction updates. Dry wall repair in the storage area, fire pit redesigned in the Hawan room, roof ventilator, and painting of wall interiors and ceiling. North door frame has to be redone and canopy has to be installed so that the water does not drip. Pratap Vanka made the motion to approve the cost of construction, estimated to be $10,000. It was seconded by Jagannadharao Brahmamdam and approved by all.

Painting the outside walls of the temple is estimated to cost $37,000.

R.K. Bhonagiri announced the schedule for pran pratishtha of Navagraha deities—Friday March 24, Saturday March 26, and Sunday March 27. Priest help from the Bloomington temple may be needed. The organizing team consists of committee chairs of puja (Jyothi Raju), food (Kalindi Patel), fund raising (Neha Tripathi Mehta), facilities (Mahesh Gubba) and cultural events (Jagannadharao Brahmamdam). This adhoc committee will be chaired by Shailesh Patel and will be advised by Priest Sharmaji and Shiv Kapoor for details of sponsorships. Shailesh Patel mentioned that painting and waterproofing (with special chemicals) of the pitham will be done by end of February. The puja committee is requested to formulate usage rules for Navargraha and Hawan rooms.

Rakesh Pandey will work with Ravi Kethe to update the temple website. Constant Contact can do the maintenance for $1 per day.

Kalindi Patel announced that Rasoi will begin from next Sunday, February 12 from noon-2.20 pm. Each platter will now cost $7. One Board member needs to be present to give the tokens and collect the money. There will be no rasoi on those Sundays when there is a major temple event. Instead, a snack bag consisting of dry food items can be sold as prasadam. On those days when there are no volunteers, rasoi funds will be used for preparing a simple menu in the Cultural Center kitchen if it is not rented.

Pratap Vanka suggested that outreach be done by visiting homes. R.K. Bhonagiri asked for improved communication regarding the Annual Braj and Yamnuna Kachru Memorial Lecture. The committee set up to organize 2023 lecture consists of Nani Bhowmik, Jagannadharao Brahmamdam, Dilip Chhajed, Kalindi Patel, Amita Sinha, and Subba Rao. Rajeshwari Pandharipande is the external member.

Shiv Kapoor mentioned that a solar company is interested in leasing temple land and is offering rent of $1000 per acre with a 2% annual increase. It will be a seven-year project with a contract for 35 years. Pradeep Khanna from his experience with setting up the UIUC solar farm said that land does not deteriorate. The temple can keep 10 acres and rent the remaining 30 acres. Discussion was postponed for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4.30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Amita Sinha