

Minutes of the General Body Meeting: April 29, 2007

Jain Society of Greater Cleveland (JSGC) held a General Body Meeting (GBM) of its members starting at 5:00 PM on April 29, 2007, following Mahavir Jayanti snatra pooja at the Brecksville Community Center, in Brecksville, Ohio.

Ashwin Turakhia (President) called the General Body Meeting to order at 5:00 PM. 70+ members were present and per the JSGC Code of Regulations the GBM started.

- Eight of the nine Board of Trustees namely – Ashwin Turakhia (President), Ravi Jain (Vice President), Mayuri Dalia (Treasurer), Kamna Jain (Secretary), Anil Jain, Pramod Jain, Mayurika Shah and Neha Shah -were present.
- The minutes of the previous General Body Meeting held on 11/19/2006, which had been available on the JSGC website, were unanimously approved by members by voice vote.
- Ashwin Turakhia made the following announcements:
 1. Members can opt out of receiving a paper copy of the Jain Times. They can send an email to the secretary or fill their name on the paper kept for this purpose outside the hall.
 2. If there is any change of address, please notify the secretary.
 3. Thanks to Pravinbhai Shah, and Vinodaben Shah for the musical accompaniment for the pooja.
 4. The program with Dhirajbhai Pandit had incorrect dates in the Jain Times. He will be here from June 15 - 21.

Ashwin Turakhia remembered the Virginia Tech shooting victims and expressed our condolences. JAINA has sent a letter to the president of Virginia Tech expressing those sentiments. A moment of silence was observed.

- Ashwin Turakhia turned the meeting over to Kushal Baid for an update on the Temple Project. Kushal Baid gave a presentation about the progress since the last general body meeting on 11-19-2006. His presentation is available in its entirety on our website. Kushal Baid also introduced Eric Flickinger, the wetland consultant, who had been invited to the meeting to answer any questions that the members may have about the wetland issue.
- Kushal Baid summarized the progress to date and the current status of the wetland issue. The latest communication from the Army Corps of Engineers relayed the recommendations from the "Fish and Wildlife" service of the U.S, Department of Interior which placed additional requirements to protect the wetland areas and raised a new issue of the Indiana bat habitat. Certain time limitations had been placed on cutting of certain trees due to the potential Indiana bat habitat issue. They had further recommended that a mist net survey to be done to assure that no Indiana Bats would be affected by our project. The cost of this survey will be approximately \$3000 - \$8000 depending on the company. Eric Flickinger, the wetland consultant said it should be on the lower side of that range.

- Due to Mr. Flickinger being only available for a limited time, Kushal Baid opened the floor for questions on the wetland issue, so that Mr. Flickinger was available to answer them.
- Chandra Jain asked what a wetland means. Eric Flickinger answered that these are areas where 1) that the vegetation grows in saturated soil, and 2) the vegetation is inundated with water. These areas support special types of vegetation and are protected by law. He added that we had worked to minimize the disturbance to the wetlands.
- A person who did not identify himself asked, if the trees that needed to be cut down, could be moved. The answer was no because the Indiana bats nest in specific types of dead trees and they can't not be moved.
- Arun Shah asked why the Indiana bat issue is only being discovered at this time. Eric answered that there has been a change in Fish and Wildlife service requirements. While we anticipated that there may be some Indiana bat activity around our land, we had, however, not expected it to be an issue.
- It was pointed out that we had a put a 10% deposit (\$2,800.00) on purchasing one acre of "mitigation" land (total cost \$28,000.00) to offset the potential wetland that will be disturbed by our project. Our deposit had been accepted indicating that our request for purchase of this "mitigation" land had been approved.
- With no additional questions for Mr. Flickinger, he left the meeting.
- Continuing with his presentation, Kushal Baid pointed out that we have received approval from the Ohio EPA sanitary system from Summit County Engineers and from the Ohio EPA for water well location.
- He added that the layouts for the Center are almost complete. The drawings were discussed and explained. The electrical, mechanical design contract has been awarded.
- Kushal Baid requested Hansaben Sutaria, Chairperson of the Gabhara Committee, to give an update of the deraser portion of the Jain Center. Hansaben indicated that the ghabara will be made up entirely of marble. The rangmandap will be 27' by 47', the floor will made of marble. Specifics of the plan, including where the columns, chitrapats etc will be, were discussed.
- Someone asked what a chowki is. Hansaben answered there are three entrances, one at the front and two on the sides. The front entrance that is covered with a marble dome is called a chowki.
- Someone asked if a marble shikhar would be okay in the snow. The answer was that per the Engineering and construction committee it should be okay.
- Pravin Mehta questioned why there was no vestibule in the front of the main entrance to the service area as this will be a cold area in the winter. Jitu Shah, Chairperson of the Engineering and construction Committee, answered that there is a covered area in front and no vestibule had been planned. If we need a vestibule in the service area, we will have to move the porch out and a lot of changes to the entire plan would need to be made. Engineering and Construction committee would look into it.
- Kushal Baid discussed the financial status and commitments and well as money still needed. We have over \$40,000 in new commitments since

November 2006. Of that \$17,501 are eligible for matching pledge commitment.

- Kushal Baid also presented a near term timeline. But he cautioned that things are changing all the time. He explained the delay in the first shovel ceremony. He said that because we didn't have the appropriate permits and there was no safe place to stand for the community, it was decided it to delay the ceremony.
- Dilip Maniar asked what the plan was to collect the remaining money and also was the estimated cost updated since the changes from 2005. The answer was the cost has not been updated since there are events that are constantly different. After the permits are in hand, then we will update. The plan for collecting monies would continue the same as before.
- Dilip Maniar further asked if it would be better to put the project on hold until we have all the costs and know where the remaining funds were coming from. Kushal Baid answered that we have collected almost \$1.2 million at this point. The community had shown good support of the project through the various delays, so there is no need to put the project on hold at this time.
- With no further questions on the temple update, Kushal Baid turned the meeting back over to Ashwin Turakhia.
- Ashwin Turakhia introduced the new board of trustees; Chirag Shah was out of town. He thanked the sponsors for today's program Sharadbhai and Jayaben Patel Family, Pravinbhai and Pratibhaben Mehta, Hasubhai and Pushpaben , Kiritbhai and Sudhaben Shah, Atulbhai and Neelaben Shah, Kantibhai and Bhagwantiben Jain, Hasmukhbhai and Naliniben Shah, Dr. Mohan Bafna and Family, Vinodbhai and Hansaben Sutaria, Dilipbhai Maniar, Sanjaybhai and Vinodbalaben Shah and two donors who wished to remain anonymous.
- He recognized the following participants for doing Ayambil Oli Tapasya: Vinodbhai Sutaria, Hansaben Sutaria, Atulbhai Shah, Mayuriben Dalia, Mukundbhai Dalia, Naliniben Shah, and Jagdishbhai Shah.
- Ashwin Turakhia thanked everyone for attending this meeting.
- The General Body Meeting was adjourned at about 6:15 PM
