

## **Minutes of the General Body Meeting: April 11<sup>th</sup> 2015**

Jain Society of Greater Cleveland (JSGC) held a General Body Meeting (GBM) of its members starting at 2:00 PM on April 11<sup>th</sup> 2015.

- Board of Trustees present – Kalpesh Shah (President) , Rima Shah (Vice-President), Nemi Jain (Treasurer), Mitten Doshi (Secretary), Amit Jain, Rahul Jain, Shanti Jain, Usha Jain, Vijay Shah
- Kalpesh Shah (President) called the General Body Meeting to order at 2:00 PM. 75+ members were present and as per the JSGC Code of Regulations the GBM started.
- Kalpesh Shah welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending General Body meeting. He went over agenda for the meeting.
- Mitten Doshi presented the minutes of previous General Body Meeting held on Oct 25<sup>th</sup> 2014. The minutes of the previous General Body Meeting held were unanimously approved by members by voice vote.
- Kalpesh Shah shared Key Objective of GBM, he said the objective is to relay 2015 plan and solicit feedback
  - What we would like to take away from today's meeting is - Sangh's feedback on events & structure
  - What we would like you to take away is - BOT is actively working towards carrying the principles and practices established by our predecessors
- Nemi Jain was nominated by BOT as replacement for Kavita Jain who did not wish to continue on BOT position. His nomination was approved by general body. He took over post of Treasurer in the committee.
- Mitten Doshi then went into detail the events planned for 2015. These are also posted on jsgc web site.
- Rahul Jain and Amit Jain presented different sub-committees formed and requested help from volunteers to join these committees to help as much as possible. Details of the different committees and leads can be found in the presentation.
- Mohan Jain inquired about status of the fence gate, he said it has not been working properly and Is anything being done to fix it?. Kalpesh Shah responded that committee will make it priority to get it fixed before next GBM. Mohan Jain said that next GBM is long time and it needs to be done sooner. Kalpesh Shah said that we want to do it right and not a quick fix so cannot make any firm time commitment at this time.
- Kaman Jain asked about purpose of the fence gate, Shanti Jain and Kalpesh Shah responded that it is meant to be a deterrent to theft as there have been some such instances in temples in other cities.
- Rahul and Amit Jain requested general community members to work with BOT in different sub-committees.
- Amit said that we will be sending out a survey to get feedback on what community on different topics and anything in general that they would like to communicate anonymously.
- There was a question from a member on having impromptu event at the temple, what are the procedures for doing that. Amit Jain said that BOT will be deciding how many scholars do we have in a year so that there is enough attendance from the samaj. Also, what kind of scholars do we have?, Gujarati or Hindi speaking etc. We will be talking with some senior members to come to conclusion. We will be having open mind and welcome suggestions. Kalpesh said that this is sticky topic and consult with others and come to decision, our primary priority is advance our dharam everything else is secondary. Kushal Baid said that we have to be very careful in inviting

anyone who will be talking on non-jain topics as our general principle has been to invite only scholars who speak on Jain religion topic. Mitten Doshi said that we have to send out proper communication and plan for the invite for maximum participation from the samaj for the lectures.

- Nemi Jain then went into details of the JSGC finances till date. He suggested that we form a sub-committee for handling treasurer tasks so there is cross training and continuity. Also, have volunteers from samaj to help out with the tasks.
- Kushal Baid said that scholars will not accept money if that is kept aside in Gnan fund.
- Mohan Jain said that he discussed with Acharya maharaj in Mumbai and give that information to BOT members.
- Nemi Jain urged members to donate generously to Sadharan fund for temple maintenance purposes. We have several ways donations can be made. He requested to pay-off the pledges made before the end of the year.
- Minesh Shah and Kushal Baid presented information regarding JAINA conference event planned for the year 2015. JAINA is trying to engage all the Jain Centers across the USA, there are other centers contributing to the fund raising and Cleveland Jain center should also support their fund raising.
- Kushal Baid gave an update on what Advisory committee is working on and progress till date. He said that our constitution is old and it worked when our sangh was small, we are no longer small and time to look in to changes needed. We need to put appropriate checks and balances in place to ensure smooth operation of the center. He spoke about membership management and creation of 2 different layers of management of Jain Center. He welcomes any suggestions that anyone would have.
- Chandra Jain provided update regarding some of the programs held at the temple, he said he would more and more people to attend. He explained some the poojas conducted at the temple. He said that we generally do both Kriya and Bhavna, spoke importance of Bhavna.
- Mohan Jain asked if financial audit was done for 2014, Kalpesh Shah said that that has not been started yet. Nipa Jain said she has talked with someone who is willing to help us out and start working on it at the end of April. Nipa said she will be taking lead and continue on that, she has also reached out to Milind for help.
- Mohan Jain asked about completing audit balance sheet and inventory list of the property. Mohan Jain said that we have offered help and provided document, we need to get this done. Kushal Baid said that BOT needs to arrange and make a firm plan on getting audit done. Kalpesh Shah said that he has reached out to Shiva Vishnu temple on how they do it, he said it is being done but no concrete plans yet. We do have inventory list of the silver items and valuable items but it is not priced.
- Mohan Jain said that the audit needs to come from a CPA. Minesh Shah suggested that why don't we make audit as part of the yearly operational requirement. Kalpesh Shah said that he is working on it.
- Mohan Jain asked if we are properly insured for the center and members, Kalpesh Shah said that this is being done from PNC. He said that it includes personal and casualty, he supposed to get email from the person but did not get email yet. Mohan Jain said that he has offered help and what document can he provide but he was refused. He is upset as a member that members are being ignored who have offered help. Kalpesh Shah said that he is working on it and it will take time. We will accept these challenges and will get it done in timely manner.
- Kalpesh Shah thanked everyone for attending General Body Meeting.
- Meeting was adjourned.