

Joint Board

As we have kept you informed about how the present elected members of Exec. As well Trustee Board members strongly feels that any policy we enact has to be clear, fair and balanced to protect everyone's interest as well rights and above all has to be serving the larger interests of the Hindu Center. During the Gen. Body meeting several members expressed their anguish at some of the policies adopted. The President and the Chairman of the Board had assured that some of the issues require the broad input from members and the Board would look in to all the suggestions and decide. In the pursuit to balance all the view points the Jt. Board decided all the recommendations submitted by Mr. Champak Shah. We sincerely thank Champakbhai for being creative as well practical on some of the very difficult issues and bringing them to an amicable and balanced resolution. The Board explicitly was delighted with the efforts of the President as well Chairman who tirelessly attempted to sit down with all the coordinators and understand their difficulties and promised to amend all the stumbling blocks in their way to serve the temple. Following are the approved new policies.

1) Dakshina to Pujari:

> The Joint Board Unanimously passed the resolution reaffirming the continuity of past policy that explicitly commits to the "Dakshina" given to our priests by the devotees. It clearly establishes that any "Dakshina" collected by the priests while visiting the residences of devotes will be there's to keep but any Dakshina given to them at the Hindu Center premises will belong to the Temple. It was strongly felt by the members that our community must be well informed that any donation made to the priests must be made by the checks. Very soon the signs indicating the "dakshina" at the temple premises will be posted for every one to follow. Also, the Board requested to Pujari Comm. to revisit their recommendations reflecting the policy in our contract with the priests.

2) Special program outside of pre-scheduled weekly, monthly, yearly programs such as Katha, Gayatri mantra, etc.

- > Before you approve the program in the Hindu Center, have clear understanding in writing as to the financial implications and the fund raising activities: namely - which income belongs to whom and who will pay for expenses such as fees, transportation, lodging, boarding, decorations, etc.
- > Hindu Center should not claim money placed on Pothi and Bhet given personally to Guru.
- > All arati money belongs to Hindu Center.
- > No fund raising other than for Hindu Center, unless Hindu Center has pre-approved due to some special circumstances.
- > Work out with the person responsible for setting up the program as to how to optimize(not necessarily maximize) income to Hindu Center. And respect the traditions they have to follow.
- > Selling religious items such as CD of Bhajan's, or religious book is O.K.
- > can not sell commercial items like clothes, jewelry, food, etc unless pre-approved by the Hindu Center with conditions.

3) Discourse arranged of visiting Guru by members independent of Hindu Center, but with their permission.

- > Hindu Center should not claim Bhet given personally to Guru
- > Hindu Center is not responsible for any expense unless requested in advance and pre-approved by the Hindu Center.
- > All arati money belongs to Hindu Center.
- > No fund raising other than for Hindu Center, unless Hindu Center has pre-approved due to some special circumstances.
- > Selling religious items such as CD of Bhajan's, or religious book is O.K.
- > Can not sell commercial items like clothes, jewelry, food, etc unless pre-approved by the Hindu Center with conditions.

4) Celebrating Birthday, etc.

- > Yes, you can not have a special program to celebrate Birthday, anniversary, etc. under the name of religious, outside of the scheduled programs by Hindu Center, without renting the facility.
- > However, if you have ongoing scheduled program such as bhajans, vaishnav group, swadhyay, senior citizen, etc. and if well wishes of happy birthday or anniversary are expressed, I do not feel it is important to stop.

5) Education fees:

No registration fees. The parents/individual must be a member of Hindu Center.