



Dear Friends,

There was a General Body meeting held on January 29th from 2pm to 5pm at the temple. The meeting was civil, cordial and everybody had a chance to express their opinion. The following were the key items discussed and decided at the meeting:

1. Following a healthy debate the new By-laws were approved and a copy will be posted on the temple website for all to read.
2. According to new by-laws there is an individual membership (\$200) for singles and a family membership (\$365) for married couples per year to be a member of the temple starting this year 2011. Family membership will have two votes. Everyone shall pay \$365 to keep their membership active for 2011 regardless of their previous status. All earlier life members are also required to pay the membership dues to cover the operating expenses.
3. Any donations made to the temple as general donations or for archana/puja/abhishekam shall be separate and not considered towards the membership dues. A separate check for \$365 shall be made specifically for the membership dues. Membership dues are also tax-deductible. Membership shall be active for two months before a member is considered eligible to vote.
4. All parents of the Sunday school kids or yoga classes kids have to be temple members.
5. Multiple ideas were presented and discussed on temple expansion but as the meeting was running late it was decided to reconvene at a later date to continue the discussion.
6. **Premium membership:** It was widely suggested and agreed that temple shall start Premium membership of \$1000 per year. This will include yearly membership \$365 and automatic sponsorship of all regular pujas/abhishekams performed at the temple. A list of regular events is provided below. Priest will chant the family names and gotras of all the Premium members at all the abhishekams and other pujas throughout the year. Premium members do not have to pay the regular sponsorship of \$51.00 or so every time.
7. Temple need to appoint or re-appoint members for all the sub-committees. **We are requesting the names of volunteers** who wish to lead or serve in the sub-committees and the committees are Fund Raising (Chair- M.S. Krishna), Food Coordination (Chair open), Membership (Chair open), Puja (Chair- Karuna Pandit), Maintenance (Chair open), Templeplanning (Chair open). All volunteers shall be active and be able to devote their time to either lead or serve in the committees. All members of the committees shall be members of the temple who paid their membership dues.



## Membership Privileges are as follows:

1. Members have the privilege to serve on any temple committee/sub-committee.
2. Members can use the temple for any private pujas or religious ceremonies..
3. Discounted rate for priest services in the temple or at home.
4. Members' children can take part in educational Sunday school and Yoga classes.
5. Members can vote in General body and voice their opinion on any Temple issues such as Temple expansion and addition of Deities.
6. Only Members are entitled to run for any office of the Temple management.
7. A general good feeling that you're promoting the religious and spiritual growth in the community with a good support structure in addition to being part of a strong social network.

In addition to the above membership benefits, Premium Membership (\$1000) will cover the sponsorship for the following events at the temple. They do not have to pay sponsorship of \$51 each time. This will save a premium member over \$600 in a year.

Names of the family members along with nakshatra and gotra of the Premium Member will be given to priest to chant during all these pujas and celebrations even if the premium member is unable to attend the event.

1. All the second Sunday Ganesha Abhishekams (12 times in a year)
2. New Years day Ganesha Abhishekam
3. Vasant Panchami (Saraswati Pooja)
4. Maha Shiva Ratri
5. Sri Rama Navami
6. Hanuman Jayanti
7. Guru Poornima
8. Sri Krishna Janmashtami
9. Ganesh Chaturthi
10. Durgashtami
11. Dhanteras
12. Diwali Lakshmi Pooja
13. Datta Jayanti

More updates to follow...

--Temple Management