



# Shree Pretoria Hindu Seva Samaj

Established in 1932

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*"Satyameva Jayate" - Truth Alone Prevails*

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SHREE PRETORIA HINDU SEVA SAMAJ HELD IN THE SAMAJ BOARDROOM:

**DATE: Wednesday 31 January 2024**

### 1. OPENING PRAYER AND WELCOME

The meeting commenced at 4:04pm with a prayer. The President welcomed all the attendees.

### 2. QUORUM

The meeting was declared duly constituted by the President as the requisite quorum as prescribed by clause 17 of the Samaj Constitution had been met.

### 3. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

President	Sanjay Govind (SG)
Deputy President	Himal Ramjee (HR)
General Secretary	Jayniksha Ramjee (JR)
Assistant Secretary	Minoti Bhatt (MB)
Chief Financial Officer	Nipun Jeeva (NJ)
Head of Facilities Management	Vineet Rama (VR)
Head of Special Projects	Harshad Dajee Pema (HDP)
Head of Youth Affairs (Navyug Mandal)	Yamini Bhima (YB)
Admin Office	Rakesh Kara (RK)

### Apologies/Absent:

Health, Welfare and Gender	Manisha Lakha (ML)
Treasurer General	Ami Acharya (AA)
Head of Education	Miheer Joshi (MJ)

### 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

### 5. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO MINUTES

None

### 6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES

Approved by Minotibhen and seconded by Yaminibhen.

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE

	<b>INCOMING</b>
7.1.1	Email from Tshwane acknowledging the letter from SPHSS president regarding the Rebecca Street crematorium.
7.1.2	Letter from Art of Living Foundation requesting the use of a classroom. Vineetbhai and Sanjaybhai to assess.
7.1.3	<p>Email regarding request from students requesting bursaries</p> <p>The bursary committee to understand how many bursaries/loans were given and the loan amounts given annually and the criteria, for each student, for the last five years. The terms and conditions regarding the Narsai Manga bursary/loan fund needs to be understood. Meetings will be held with students and are requested to bring their results, their 2024 fees schedule and current statement.</p> <p>Rakeshbhai is to send out a communication to the community that applications are open for bursaries/loans. Miheerbhai to approve this before being broadcasted.</p> <p>A meeting must also be held with all students that were given loans and have completed their studies and whose accounts have not been repaid.</p>
	<b>OUTGOING</b>
7.2.1	<p>Letter to Mayor of Tshwane regarding Rebecca Street crematorium.</p> <p>The crematorium has been in abeyance since last year July. The first letter was sent in July and another in August. The Council has indicated that the crematorium would be available by November.</p> <p>To date, no work has started. It was then decided that a letter will be sent to the Mayor. The letter was read out. This letter was signed off by representatives of various religious organisations of Laudium. There has been no response from the Tshwane Council again.</p> <p>The Crematorium Committee met on 30 January 2024 at the SPHSS boardroom.</p> <p>Legal Counsel was also called to the meeting. Legal counsel is to write a letter to the Mayor and the City Manager, and to also put together a court action that could be instituted in a class action. Legal counsel will be at no charge. A conference call was held with Ashwinbhai Trikamjee, the President of the South African Hindu Maha Sabha (SAHMS). On 5 or 6 February, members of the SAHMS will fly up to attend a meeting with Tshwane Council. Sanjaybhai, Rameshbhai, Thushan Padayachee and Pastor Kevin Naicker is to be part of the delegation. All organisations, including Christian organisations that want to use the crematorium facility are included. If this does not work, the media will be consulted.</p> <p>Communication was received on 31 January that Council is working on the crematorium but they also need to go on tender for gas and a repairs tender. They have indicated that by March the crematorium will be ready for use.</p>

<b>8.</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE</b>
8.1	<p>Draping</p> <p>The material has been handed back to SPHSS. It is in storage. This will be used for all SPHSS functions. Cost of draping for SAMAJ functions.</p>	

## 9. OFFICE ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

The Admin and Priest Bookings report was presented.

A register must be kept of all items that are in the cupboards, so that items are not bought unnecessarily.

## 10. FINANCIAL REPORT

Monthly financial report as at 31 December 2023.

<b>Income and Expenses</b>	
<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Monthly Income	165 103
Monthly Expenses	(253 653)
<b>Monthly deficit</b>	<b>(88 550)</b>
Pharmacy rent only paid in January	
No Balmandir fees received in December	
<b>Cash Position</b>	
Cheque Account	68 779
Money on Call	5 973 362
Petty Cash	1 456
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 043 597</b>

Monthly financial report as at 30 November 2023.

<b>Income and Expenses</b>	
<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Monthly Income	523 943
Monthly Expenses	(623 235)
<b>Monthly deficit</b>	<b>(99 292)</b>
VAT	(16 390)
Transfer to call account	(200 000)
<b>Cash Position</b>	
Cheque Account	157 329
Money on Call	5 940 926
Petty Cash	2 596
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 100 851</b>

### **Samaj Maraba Complex**

#### **In progress**

Enbaya (prepaid electricity service provider): New contact details updated. Meeting to be setup to reconcile Tshwane and tenant usage, and system training.

Meetings have been held with the tenants, to discuss rental renewals, and will continue over the coming weeks.

#### **Balmandir**

##### *Student Payment options:*

-2023 transactions up to date.

Many parents have indicated that payment will be done in advance for the year.

### **In progress**

-SARS transfer to pay PAYE & UIF, auditor advised public officer has to be updated with SARS so that access can be transferred

### **Supplier payments**

#### **In progress**

- SARS transfer to pay VAT, auditor advised public officer has to be updated with SARS so that access can be transferred
- bank transactions are being updated weekly

## **11. EDUCATION REPORT**

Not reported on

## **12. RELIGION & CULTURE REPORT**

**Bhajans by Bhavik Haria** – 2 March, 3pm in the Mandir

Rakeshbhai to send out a poster in due course with the approval of Miheerbhai.

**Shivratri** - 8 March

Maha prasad will be served. Bhajan groups will be invited to render bhajans. The set up for Shivratri is to be planned by this weekend.

**Holi** - 24 March

Rakeshbhai to check if there are flags and order the logs. Small packets to fill colour must be acquired.

### **Vastra/Vagha**

Senior community members have been consulted and have given their advice. At the moment it seems we need to have greater transparency on all aspects of the vastra/vagha. The SPHSS financial policy is clear; if one wants to raise funds for the SPHSS, that funds need to come into the Samaj coffers and dispersed via the Samaj office bearers.

For defining a policy for the Vagha, community members will be invited to make submissions. These submissions will be addressed before a committee (the Board trustees, EXEC members and senior members from the community), on a one-on-one basis. Community members must contact the office to submit their names. Meeting dates will be decided based on the number of submissions and those who would like to make submissions will be invited to make their submissions before the committee. From these submissions, a policy will be drawn up.

## **13. FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**

**Mandir project:** knowledgeable contractors to upgrade/fix the Mandir are being sourced. A list of the repairs to be done is available and will be circulated to the Exec.

**Sunilbhai's flat** will be renovated. The alternative accommodation will be renovated first. Contractors need to be sourced. A list of the renovation is available.

The **hall's** lights need to be rewired. Globes are to be acquired.

The entrance of the hall needs to be renovated. The slab at hall is cracked. Sanjaybhai to give details for the contractor that does torch on. The assistance of an architect and a Quantity Surveyor will be sought.

**Marabastad:** A list of all repairs that can be done immediately must be drawn up. The medium to long term issues must be looked at.

#### **14. SOCIAL SERVICES REPORT**

Not reported on

#### **15. NAVYUG REPORT**

108 Hanuman Chalisa recitals will be held on 21 April 2024.

Quotations for sound will be obtained from Johannesburg Yuvak Mandal and another sound engineer. Pritesh needs to advise as to who can do the sound in his absence.

Monitors and draping need to be arranged. Stalls selling specialized religious items is to be considered.

The bhajan mandals' invites need to go out by Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

#### **16. GENERAL / NEW MATTERS**

A formal document needs to be drawn up to give the community an indication of the estimated costs for the funeral undertakers.

#### **17. NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting dates: 20 February, 19 March 2024, 23 April, at 4pm.

#### **18. CLOSING PRAYER**

The meeting closed with a prayer at 7:22pm

**SANJAY GOVIND  
PRESIDENT**

**JAYNIKSHA RAMJEE  
SECRETARY-GENERAL**