



## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (IEC) OF THE SHREE PRETORIA HINDU SEVA SAMAJ

Held at The Boardroom, Shree Pretoria Hindu Seva Samaj  
Date 24 September 2009  
Time 8:45

1. **WELCOME AND PRAYER** **ACTION**  
The meeting commenced at 08:45 with a welcome and prayer.
2. **ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES**  
**Apology** received from Pravinbhai Daya.  
  
**In Attendance:** Prakashbhai Hira, Rameshbhai Chhagan; Anielbhai Soma; Sanjaybhai Govind; Himalbhai Ramjee; Harshaben Dayal; Jagdishbhai Makan; Jyotiben Joshi and Kishorbhai Naran
3. **CORRESPONDENCE**
  - 3.1 **In:**
    - 3.1.1 E-mails received from Pankajbhai Joshi, Jivanbhai Kalyan and Girishbhai Daya with proposals for changes to draft constitution. These will be presented to the general body on September 29<sup>th</sup>.
    - 3.1.2 Received a fax from Trusharbhai Kalan in which he states that in the interests of co-operation with the Samaj, he would not attend the meeting with the Trustees because it would be discussing whether disciplinary charges should be brought up against him.
  - 3.2 **Out**
    - 3.2.1 Notice to attend disciplinary hearing, together with a charge sheet and invitation to make representations before the hearing served on Chetanbhai Tanna.
    - 3.2.2 A letter was sent to the Mayor on 9 September 2009 to complain about the pathetic state of the Rebecca Street Crematorium.
    - 3.2.3 A letter was sent to Counsellor Essop on 21 September 2009 requesting that three floodlights be installed outside the mandir and auditorium to provide better security.
    - 3.2.4 A letter was sent to the Laudium Sun asking them to correct

inaccuracies in their report on the Rebecca Street Crematorium that appeared in their Friday 19<sup>th</sup> issue.

3.2.5 Two letters were written to the tenants of the Samaj Centre in Marabastad on 23 September 2009: the first to inform that they would be visited to sign a lease agreement and to provide proof of payment over the last year; the second to give them new account details for payment of future rentals

#### 4. **ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The minutes of the IEC Executive Committee meeting of 17 August 2009, the meeting with Trustees on 24 August 2009, and the meeting with Trustees on 6 September 2009 were adopted, without amendments, on the motion of Kishorbhai Naran and seconded by Jyotiben Joshi.

#### 5. **MATTERS ARISING**

##### 5.1 ***Crematorium***

Kishorbhai reported that he had discussed the crematorium matter with the Head of Parks and Recreation at the municipality and had again been assured that the matter will be resolved shortly. The Chairman requested Kishorbhai follow-up on this matter and that Rameshbhai should write another letter demanding a response to our letter.

##### 5.2 ***Hindu Calendar***

Jagdishbhai confirmed that the Hindu calendar was on track and would be published before Diwali

##### 5.3 ***Appointment of a Financial Officer***

Anielbhai confirmed that Dharmeshbhai Ramjee has agreed to update all financial transactions of the various portfolios of the Samaj on a bi-monthly basis. The computer and software packages have been bought and will be placed at the Samaj from Friday 2 October. It was also decided that Anielbhai will present a proposal to remunerate Dharmeshbhai for his services.

##### 5.4 ***Tin Collection***

Sanjaybhai reported that the tin collection process in Laudium and Marabastad was proceeding smoothly. However, the amounts collected were not substantial, probably due to the many years of neglect which resulted in people not bothering with the tins. It was agreed that the officials would need to build relations with the community on this matter. The President expressed his gratitude to all the 35 odd volunteers who had assisted in the collection process. They are: Bharat Kooverjee, Kishore Naran; Shirish Kalian; Jithen Govind, Sanjay Govind; Veenesh Govind; Pankaj Goolab; Nipun

Jeewa; Raju Oka; Chetan Jeewa; Ajay Hira; Shayan Modi; Bhavick Bhoola; Dharmesh Ramjee; Prajesh Bhoola; Kirtan Pema; Piyush Valji; Ravi Uttam Lalla; Nixon Hansjee; Preshant Ramjee; Chetan Soma; Satish Ramjee; Prakash Sookha; Rakesh Ravjee; Jayprakash Bhana; Pradeep Bhoola; Navnit Bhima; Jaymil Bhima; Bandish Gokal; Aniel Soma; Himal Ramjee; Prakash Hira; Atish Mistry; Milan Govind

## 5.5 **Portfolio Committee Members**

The President expressed his gratitude to all the various Portfolio Committee members who are doing a sterling job in assisting the portfolio heads in performing their duties. He requested that the secretary circulate their names so that the community could know who they are. They are:

### **Religion & Cultural Committee:**

Mr. Jagdishbhai Makan (Head); Mr. Maheshbhai Jina; Mrs. Harshulabhen Naik; Mrs. Dakshabhen Pema; Mrs. Urmilabhen G Kalyan; Ms. Varshikabhen Bhana; Mr. Girishbhai Daya; Mr. Jayprakashbhai Bhana; Mrs. Urmilabhen Ramjee; Mrs. Bhanubhen Pema; Mr. Hasmukhbhai Nichha; Sri Mukeshbhai Joshi (Priest); Mr. Amratlalbhai J Khatri; Ms. Sujatabhen Garach; Mrs. Manoramabhen Ramjee; Mrs. Suryebhen Daya

### **Health, Welfare & Gender Committee**

Jyotiben Aswinbhai Joshi(Head); Rookiben Amarlal Soma; Raginiben Kirtibhai; Manishaben Kalyan; Harshulaben Rowjee; Taraben Bhaga; Jivanbhai Kalyan; Ranjanaben Kalyan; Nirooben Manilal; Baboobhai Gokul; Jyotiben Bhima; Chetnaben Kalian; Jasooben Diar; Lopaben Kalyan

### **Education Committee**

Harshabhen Dayal (Head); Bandishbhai Gokal; Padmanibhen Mistry; Vikashbhai Kalyan; Atishbhai Mistry; Chetanbhai Jeeva; Chetnabhen Kalian; Nalinibhen Bhagatjee; Manishabhen Kalyan; Sheetalbhen Valjee; Nipunbhai Jeeva; Preetibhen Goolab; Madhubhen Kanjee; Nishabhen Jeeva.

## 6. **Report-back from Strategic Session**

Due to the prohibitive costs for facilitation and time-constraints, it was decided not to go ahead with a full strategic session but to devote most of the day (12 September) to a finalisation of the constitution. Shirishbhai Kalyan and Ashitbhai Sodha represented the Bursary Fund committee. Unfortunately, despite being invited and agreeing to attend, no official from the Navyug Mandal were present. Sentiment from the members present was that the day was extremely fruitful as the constitution had been finalised and that portfolio heads were able to share their strategic intent with each other and to seek synergies. It was agreed that the new executive committee should pursue the matter further after the elections scheduled for 11 October 2009.

Prakashbhai Hira

It was also agreed that the new executive committee should explore the possibility of forming a partnership with the Pretoria Hindu Society towards the establishment of an Old Age Home on the Society's property in the Erasmia area.

Prakashbhai Hira

## 7. **ABSA Feedback**

Anielbhai reported that a delegation consisting of Champakbhai Chagan (trustee), Tapidasbhai Bhana (trustee), Himalbhai Ramjee, Sanjaybhai Govind, Shirishbhai Kalan, Mahir Tayob (Tayfin) and himself met with ABSA officials to put forward the Samaj case for the recovery of R1,9 million + interest. They were cordially received and believe that a positive relationship has been achieved. ABSA has indicated however that no claims will be settled until a criminal charge has been laid. Members agreed that this will be done as soon as the forensic audit, which should conclude shortly, is completed.

Anielbhai also expressed his dissatisfaction at Deloitte's seeming reluctance to co-operate fully with Tayfin in their investigation and adopting delaying tactics. However, he believes this matter has now been sorted out. Anielbhai feels that some kind of settlement will hopefully take place before Diwali and undertook to give a full report to the community at the AGM

## 8. **Progress on Disciplinary Hearing**

Anielbhai explained that notices had been sent to the four affected individuals and a charge sheet had been drawn up. However, he had also sent out letters to them inviting them to meet with him and make representation on the matter so that the matter could be resolved without a disciplinary hearing. Some members expressed the hope that the matter could be resolved amicably as it was in our interest to move ahead. However, it was reiterated that the actions taken by the IEC were necessary in terms of its fiduciary duties and that the four affected individuals are being given the opportunity to state their case and to clear their names. Should they fail to do so, they would be accountable for the consequences that follow.

## 9 **General**

- 9.1 Anielbhai stated that he had received a request from Kishorbhai and approved the further expense to install a toilet for paraplegics
- 9.2 Anielbhai reported that the new bank account has been opened and all transactions would commence from that account from 1 October 2009
- 9.3 Prakashbhai thanked the members of the Religion & Cultural Committee and the Maintenance Committee on the excellent planning and arrangements made in the hosting of the Navratri Festival.
- 9.4 Joytiben reported that they are preparing to give hampers to the needy in our community during Diwali
- 9.5 Sanjaybhai reported that the planning for the fireworks display was

proceeding as planned and has been confirmed for Saturday 17 October. The religious & cultural committee and maintenance committee agreed to assist him with some of the arrangements. He reported that he had also invited the Pretoria Tamil League and the Laudium Tamil Association to participate – confirmation being awaited.

- 9.6 Prakashbhai sought the members retrospective approval for a letter he had sent to ABSA Bank informing them that a decision had been taken to replace the old signatories with that of Kishorbhai Naran and Sanjaybhai Govind. This was agreed to unanimously.

Prakashbhai was also authorised to inform FNB of the names of signatories of the new account opened there.

- 9.7 Upon his request, Himalbhai was given the authority to establish a website and e-mail address for the Samaj

Himalbhai Ramjee

- 9.8 Kishorbhai informed the members that there was an arrangement with the previous executive committee for Kantibhai Lakha's wife to be paid for cleaning the mandir and that he had received a request from her to be paid for August and September. The members approved this payment but asked that Jagdishbhai make alternative arrangements for the cleaning of the mandir from 1 October 2009.

Kishorbhai Naran

Jagdishbhai Makan

## 10 **NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that this meeting would be the last meeting of the IEC before the elections take place on Sunday 11 October at 15:00

## 11. **PRAYER & CLOSURE**

The meeting ended with a prayer at 10:10

*Rameshbhai Chhagan*

**RAMESHBHAI CHHAGAN & SANJAYBHAI GOVIND  
JOINT HONORARY SECRETARIES**