



FORT WAYNE BHAAJAN SOCIETY Inc.

14335 Blue Heron Chase, Roanoke, IN 46783

Federal Tax ID 35-1806648 (non-profit)

(260) 672 8688

bhajansociety@gmail.com

Minutes of Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting

2:30PM - 4:30PM, Sunday, Aug 2, 2026

Dr. Manubhai Patel Community and Religious Center

220 E. Till Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Attendees:

Ajay Gupta

Hitesh Patel

Shanmugasundaram Subramanian

Jayesh Patel

Vikram Pal Gupta

Krishnan Ramani

Reena Thapa

Pallavi Merchant

Neerja Singh

Proxies

Abhijit Shukla (Vikram)

Harish Ardeshta (Sundar/Ajay)

Vasant Mapara

- The President called the meeting in session, and the meeting started at 2:36 PM;
- Jayesh motioned to approve the July 11th Board meeting minutes, seconded by Hitesh, and the motion was approved by all;
- Ajay emphasized that the name of the community center is Dr. Manubhai Patel Community and Religious Center;
- The board discussed the draft invitation for the inauguration of the center, and it was decided to include in the invitation that breakfast would be served between 7:00AM and 9:30AM and lunch after the conclusion of the pooja;
- Ajay asked the board members to be present at 6:30AM on September 20th for group pictures;
- Neerja (Decoration Committee) informed that work had been in progress to include more volunteers in the committee, and showed a design of a poster;
- Pallavi (Food Committee) informed that Krishna Catering would provide lunch as requested by the sponsor and Indian Market volunteered to provide either laddus or samosas. She also said that she would wait for the conclusion of Krishna Janmashtami pooja to seek for more volunteers and further planning;
- Ramani (Religious Committee) asked to explore whether Sharmaji could provide items necessary for the pooja;
- Hitesh (Logistics Committee) informed that he would denote about 100 chairs, and they would be available at the center by the day of inauguration;



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- It was agreed that September 12 is a volunteer day to clean, prep and move items from the church to the center;
 - Need to confirm with Sharmaji when to bring the Murthis to the center
 - Sundar to get the list of items required for the pooja from Sharmaji;
 - Ajay will have a discussion with Church management regarding the existing structure at the Altair;
 - Hitesh obtained three quotes for an acoustic system; Ajay reviewed these quotes; the three quotes are: good system (~\$4,800), better system (~\$5,500), best system (~\$7,600). All these systems would include four wireless microphones, a mixer and two speakers but the best system included high quality brand name systems. The best system is capable of supporting up to 16 microphones. Jayesh motion to approve the request for the acoustic system, which was seconded by Pallavi, and the motion was carried out by all;
 - It was decided to keep the old system for now, and add a clip-on microphone;
 - It was decided to compile a comprehensive list of items to be installed in the center and seek potential sponsors;
 - There was considerable discussion on securing the center with an adequate security system:
 - What type of system; how much funds are needed; is it a record system or deterrence; with or without a monitoring service;
 - One of the points is to have cameras at suitable locations (entry doors and hall) and keep the recordings in a cloud-based system;
 - Current door entry keypad is capable of storing 2000 codes; the board recognized that further discussion needed in providing access to the members;
 - Currently focused flood lights with minimal light pollution as per the codes would be installed at the entry and emergency exits;
 - Hitesh informed the lighting system in the parking lot would be maintained by I&M based on a monthly charge that would be added to the center's electricity bill;
 - Ramani to engage a security system provider to get some system options;
 - The board decided to revisit this topic in a separate meeting
 - There was a brief discussion on installing an awning above the front entrance, and decided to revisit at a later date;
 - There was a brief discussion on the operating model, and further discussion is tabled for the next meeting;
 - There was a discussion on installing a curtain system to separate the Altair and the hall during non-society related events; it was decided to continue the discussion and revisit after the mandapams are placed;
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- Ajay implored Reena to encourage strong participation from the community members of Nepali diaspora; Reena pointed out that significant members are receiving the society's e-mail through our communication channel and that she would continue to dialogue with the members;
 - It was decided to hold the next board meeting on September 2nd at 7PM. It was decided to have this meeting at the center with option of attending virtually via Zoom;
 - The meeting was adjourned by the President at 4:15PM.