ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) OF THE SHREE PASHUPATINATH FOUNDATION, USA, 10843 KENNEY STREET, NORWALK, CA 90650 ON DECEMBER 10, 2023, 10:00 AM PST

Minutes

The Annual General meeting of the Shree Pashupatinath Foundation, USA was held on Sunday, December 10, 2023, at 10:00 AM PST at the prayer hall of the Shree Pashupatinath and Buddha Mandir located at 10843 Kenney Street, Norwalk, CA 90650.

Shree Pashupatinath Foundation, USA				
10843 Kenney St, Norwalk, CA 90650				
Annual General Meeting, December 10, 2023				
SN	Name	Phone	Email	
1	Abhimat Choulggain	(562)-548-4617	C. a Shimat @ gmail. com	
2	Rampee P Chaulagerin	7146093717	radin Kavre agmilican	
3	Krishna P. Ghimire	562-340-9929	ghimine Krith 4270 mere le	
4	Ganga laxoni Shresma	562-503-6743	0	
5	Kanhai Ya Shresha	582-441-6019		
6	Sagar Poudel	213-840-9496	Sagarpoudel@Live.com	
7	Ram Dhumsel	213-378-3572	Lijerdhungeliz@gmin	
8	Dilli p Thepaly	240-3403309		
9	Gohn I Pondyal	818-626-1920	6pg 542@ gmail. com	
10	Bhuwan Paudel	(818) 395-4501	bhuwan_usa @yahoo. com	
11	PRAICASH SUNUWAR	67-6-262-9732	Prakashenne @ 9 mail	
12	Nanda las Gautum	5623410217	nabeenga@gmey	
13	OM Sybedo	714-868 1022	omtulasi@hot mail.com	
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20	Kayan Adhukar,	6262838849	Jeluware @ Imailio raymadhileour, @ yahor. Ca	
21	Subash Bhandari	5622304681	NA	
22	Kamal Gautam	562-338-7191	gaute mic 4mal 2001 Pyahoo. Con	
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1. Attendance: As attached below:

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ĥ	24	Richi Rama Tiwani	562-547-7140	N/I
	25	Joseph ghila	322-3318661	
1	26	Bhim Shakal	626 216 4741	
	27	Utrav Bajgam	469-486-0293	
	28	Rameshor Bhandan	626-759-4544	
	29	Bhanta Thepa	562 304-8970	
	30	Lawnon Gadtaula	661-544-6043	
	31	Netra Mainaly	714-580-3907	
	32	Sonta Shastri	3104867608	
	33	Chiransibi Gauton	818 744 3631	
	34		562-552-0070	
	35	Yubaraj Oli	562-552-7250	
	36	DILLE THAPA	52-292-2707	
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1	51	Radha Dhemi	626-4202122		
1	52	Apsara Dhami			
	53	Bishnu Laxmi Thispath			
	54	TARA GUMAS .			
	55	Sanju Sapkota	562-412 5078.		
	56	Mira Rimal	949-324-3944		
	57	Bimala admikal			
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	60	Perishna Serkora	\$ 4044539376		
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	62	Asni Chaulagain RAJESH pandzey	702-978-1123		
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	65	Gyonendra Gruny	818-285-9793		
	66	Tilak Rana	310-339-1130		
	67	LABA PRASAD TRIPATHE			
	68	Bibek Shrestha	562,889,9935		
	69			landia de	
	70	Nachu Thapa	626213 4825 826789-4802	axghiegmail.com	
	71	Suman Dhakal	(45)624 4673		
	72		682-559-2983		
	73	Indraraj Pandey	4176916185		
	74	Rich Direcci			
	75	Rishi Dhakar Dilli (siddhartha) Silwar	676-476-1017	~	
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78	AGM Closed	Session	Attendence	
79	Subin Bhattarai	415-319-1232	bh.subin agmail. um	
80	Laxman hlimire	626-213- 4825-	laxyli a gmail com	
81	Bhim Dhakal	626 216 - 4741	dhakalab @gail.com	
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2. Program Schedule:

Open Session

- 10:00 AM: Members arrive; tea and meet and greet.
- **11: 00 AM: -** Secretary Dilli (Siddhartha) Silwal starts the event and requests BOT Chairperson Bhakta Thapa chairs the meeting.
- 11:10 AM: Mangala Charan by Priest Choodamani Pathak
- 11:15 AM: Secretary Silwal Recognizes Past Presidents, Patrons, advisors, representatives of other Nepali organizations present at the meeting
- **11:20 AM: President** Rameshor Bhandari welcomes the AGM participants and presents highlights of the yearly report.
- 11:50 AM: Public speakers and public concerns (including public)
- **12:30 PM: -** Introduction of New Trustee members and new Life Members and distribution of plaques
- 01:30 PM: Distribution of Special Awards

01:400-2:15 PM: - Lunch

Closed Session (Only life members)

- 2:20 PM:- President's Report and future plans
- 2:45 PM:- Treasurer's Report
- **3:00 PM:-** Questions and comments on report
- 3:20 PM:- Adoption of policies and procedures
- 3:30 PM:- Selection of New Treasurer/Change of responsibilities

3:45 PM:- Thank you by Chair

3. Details of open session:

Community members started to arrive to attend the meeting at 10:00 AM. Nepali Chiya was served in the dining hall. By 11:00 AM Secretary Dilli (Siddhartha) Silwal started the meeting and requested Chairperson of Executive committee of BOT Mr Bhakta Thapa to Chair the AGM, both open and close session. Upon acknowledgement by Chairperson, Secretary Silwal requested Temple Priest Acharya Choodamani Pathak to do Mangala Charan. After Mangala Charan Secretary Silwal

formally started the open session of AGM recognizing Past Presidents, Patrons, advisors, Trustees, Members of the Executive Committee of Board of Trustees, Life Members, General Members, Community Members, and Representatives of other Nepali organizations present at the Meeting.

Moving further, Secretary Silwal Secretary Presented some historical facts of the Foundation below.

Annual General Meeting 12/10/2023

1. Facts about The Shree Pashupatinath Foundation, USA

- a. October 4, 2009; 14-member Committee was form for Formation of the Foundation coordinated by Mr. Bhakta Thapa. December 12, 2009, First Board of the foundation was formed with 21 Members chaired by Mr. Bhakta Thapa and later expanded to 33 members which served the foundation for 5 long years.
- b. The First pledge received for the foundation \$ 53014 from Akaraj Pandey, Manita Basnet, Netra Mainali, Deepak Pathak, Prem Guragain, Bhakta Thapa, Punnakhar Dhakal "Rishi", Madan Pathak, Mukunda Dhungana, Basudev Ghimire, Rajendra Siwakoti, Shiva Adhikari, Dil B Shrestha, Gokul Poudyal, and \$500 cash donation was received from the cultural performance by Nepali artist Om Bikram Bist.
- c. February 03, 2010, The Foundation was incorporated as Shree Pashupatinath foundation, USA and received Tax exempt status on May 10, 2020
- d. Satsang movement inspired by Dr, Chintamani Nath Yogi and Shrimad Bhagwat Mahapuran July 04-11, 2011, was a major milestone to raise funds of the foundation.
- e. November 16, 2012, Temple property was purchased at \$ 1,050,000 with down payment and closing cost of \$ 559, 416.63 and rest in loan guaranteed by Bhakta Thapa, Ram Lama, Rishi Dhakal and Akaraj Pandey.
- f. The foundation received a Conditional Use Permit on April 9, 2014, and major construction of the temple was complete at the end of 2017.
- g. A Grand Pran Pratistha Ceremony was held February 11, 12, 13, 2018 and Grand opening ceremony was held on March3, 2019.
- h. Bhakta Thapa was a longest serving President who served two terms 2009-14 and 2014-2014 totaling of 9 years and longest serving secretary Rameshor Bhandari 2014-18, and 2021-22 for total of 6 years.
- i. There are 1415 donors who made donations from 1 penny to 270,000.
- j. July 31, 2019, Mortgage loan is paid off.



k. Shree Pashupatinath Foundation runs active Nepali Pathshala for kids and Sanskrit Pathshala for adults.

2. Current Membership Status of the Foundation (Total 1414)

- a. Currently the numbers of Board of Trustees are 76 (which includes 1 Platinum Patron, 1 Diamond Patron, 9 Patrons and 66 Trustees)
- b. Currently Numbers of life Members are 203 (which includes 1 Platinum Patron, 1 Diamond Patron, 9 Patrons, 66 Trustees and 126 life members)
- c. Currently There are 539 General Members and 666 Temple citizen Members.
- d. There are 7 Affiliate Members

Welcome and Report of the President:

President Rameshor Bhandari welcomed the attendees and presented the activity report and future plans as below.

Respected members of this general assembly,

Welcome to the 2023 Annual General Meeting! Thank you to my board colleagues for great teamwork throughout this year! We should keep this collegiality and collaboration for another year or more. I would like to express my gratitude to our advisors, Board of Trustees, and life members, donors, and members of the Nepali diaspora for your valuable support. I feel privileged to serve this great and prestigious Foundation as the President since this year although I have served this organization as a secretary for six-and-a-half years and as a board member for two years.

This AGM is an opportunity to reflect on our yearly activities, and on what successes we have achieved. I am going to take some time and speak about some of our major achievements and our future plans.

Our team thought we have an enormous responsibility to take this Foundation to the next level and address the needs of our community. Therefore, we took a historic decision to organize the Los Angeles Spiritual Festival and Shiva Mahapuran in July. As per our bylaws, I presented my strategic vision and plan for our term at our first Board meeting on January 8. Our Board unanimously approved the plan. We chose to start with the most important but challenging plan i.e. Shiva Mahapuran.

Because of this event, we managed to strengthen our financial status, and we brought new and emerging donors to our Foundation's network. We are committed to our mission to build a community center. We won't be able to accomplish our mission without financial strength. As you all are aware, our team is working on generating revenue. This year, we collected about **\$800,000**. We need millions of dollars to buy the property we have dreamt of for the proposed community center.

We are going to contact all donors and request them to pay pledged contributions. We have prepared some volunteers for this job. We may need to hire a part-time employee to contact donors.

This project would not have been possible without the united efforts of our community members. I would like to thank all of you for your substantial amount of donations, support, and effort for this grand project. I look forward to receiving continued support in future.

I am deeply grateful to all of you for your profound commitment to our Foundation's mission and for putting the trust in our team. Because of your trust and support, we have accomplished so much, but a lot more needs to be done. Now, I am going to highlight some of our accomplishments.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

- Los Angeles Spiritual Festival and Shiva Mahapuran: This event has become an important milestone in creating a groundwork for Nepali community center. We managed to raise almost 2.2 million in cash and pledge. We have already collected about \$500,000.
- Attraction of new and emerging donors: Through this event we managed to bring new and emerging community members to our temple and its network. Our Foundation has added 18 new Trustee members and 30 new Life Members this year.
- **Publication of Nepali Calendar:** For the first time, we published a Nepali Calendar and distributed it to community members on Nepali New Year Day.
- **Installation of new fence:** Our temple was broken into last year, so we decided to secure our property with a taller fence. We completed the installation of a new fence and gate in March.
- **Resumption of in-person Nepali Pathshala:** We started registration for inperson Nepali class on January 29. This has increased community involvement in the temple on Sundays.

• **Appointment of new priest:** We hired a new priest effective June 15. We have increased revenue collection since July 2023. Average collection from the donation box is about \$3,700 a month.

PLANS FOR 2024:

Our team would like to accomplish the following in 2024:

- 1. Purchase property for Nepali Community Center: We have formed a Property Search Committee to look for possible property.
- 2. Collect at least one million pledged donations.
- 3. Reach out to new donors: Add patrons, trustees, and life members.
- 4. Install audio visual security cameras at the gate.
- 5. Increasing enrollment in automatic payment plan: We will reach out to all Trustees and life members to enroll them in the dollar-a-day program. (Average collection now is about \$16,00 a month. Around 70 are active in the program. We need to enroll all trustees and life members to this program. Please start today if you haven't done so).
- 6. Performing Birthday Puja: Let's visit the temple on our birthdays. On March 26, 2023, the Board decided to offer free birthday puja to the family members of those who enroll in the dollar-a-day-program.
- 7. Sunday food sponsor list: We are offering prasad on Sundays. We have found sponsors most of the time, but we would like to create a list of sponsors for every Sunday.

I am confident that we will be able to accomplish our goal with your support. I look forward to working together with each one of you to make this foundation great.

Thank you.

Rameshor Bhandari President Shree Pashupatinath Foundation, USA December 10, 2023

ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES MONTH BY MONTH:



January

This board started its tenure with Satyanarayan Puja on January 1 (Sunday) to mark English New Year. Community members participated enthusiastically in the puja.

In our first meeting on January 8, 2023, I presented a strategic vision and plan for 2023/2024. Among the projects we expected to accomplish, we have been able to achieve success on some fronts, while we are waiting to accomplish other plans. On January 29, a special Saraswati Puja was organized. Nepali Pathshala children and their parents filled out their forms to resume in-person class from February 5. Bibek and Oshin Shrestha sponsored the event. Our second meeting held on January 22 decided to start in-person Nepali Pathshala. Currently, about 70 children are taking Nepali class in three levels. Bringing the Nepali class back in person brought new excitement and vibrancy to the temple on Sundays. We need to reach out to more children and parents to encourage them to enroll in Nepali class.

February

On February 05, Shree Swasthani Brata katha sange Purnima puja was organized in the morning.

On February 18, we celebrated **Maha Shivaratri** festival. We held Maha Rudhravishek in the morning and evening in mass. The temple was open to the public all day, and there was a large gathering in the morning and evening shifts because it was a Saturday event. Puja ingredients were provided for free. A total of \$18,872 was collected from the Shivaratri event.

March

On March 12, we organized a Holi Celebration at our temple. This event was especially meant for Nepali Pathshala children although our community members participated enthusiastically.

On March 30, we organized Shree Ram Nawami Bishesh Puja, Satsang and Bhajan. Although it fell on Thursday, our community members participated with enthusiasm. Food was served.

April

We prepared Nepali Calendar and distributed on Baisakh 1 for the first time. We announced business owners for the advertising opportunity and were able to collect \$5,251 and its expense was about \$1,798. This was a win-win project for the temple and entrepreneurs. We plan to continue publishing the calendar in the future.

On April 16, we organized Shree Satya Narayan Puja and New Year 2080 Celebration

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Shree Pashupatinath Foundation, USA

at the temple. Although it was not exactly Baisakha 1, a hall full of community members participated in the puja.

On April 21, we organized a public meeting at our temple to seek public opinion on finalizing a date for a grand religious ceremony in July. Many of the community members suggested holding the event during school closure in July, and the auspicious date was before the 15th of July. We finalized the date for the event.

On April 26, we had a distinct pleasure to welcome a high-level Buddhist Spiritual Guru at our temple. We organized a Meet & Greet program with His Eminence Shyalpa Tenzin Rimpoche, Tibetan Buddhist teacher, author & visionary founder of Universal Peace Sanctuary in Lumbini, Nepal.

May

On May 21, we performed a Satsang at the residence of Sanjip (Padam) Thapa and Bindu Basnet Thapa in Artesia. The Thapa family also accepted our request to become a life member by donating \$2001. 1008 Mahamandaleshwor Swami Rameshworananda Saraswotijee Maharaj gave a spiritual talk, and our Bhajan Mandali sang Bhajans.

We reached out to various neighborhoods to prepare Shiva Mahapuran Main Organizing Committee and publicize our event. Thank you to our community leaders in different cities in Southern California.

June

On June 21, we organized Yoga for Vashudhaiva Kutumbhakam to mark International Yoga Day.

On June 25, we participated in Nepal Festival in Hollywood. This was an opportunity to promote our upcoming Los Angeles Spiritual Festival and Shiva Mahapuran.

July

The Los Angeles Spiritual Festival and Shiva Mahapuran was held from July 9-15. We focused all our energy on this event, which became historic and one of the most successful fundraising events organized by the Nepali diaspora. Thousands of community members attended, donated, and supported this event.

We have no words to express our gratitude. We are grateful to all our community members for your enthusiastic participation, volunteer service, and generous donation. I hope this event will be a milestone in our community's collective success in Southern California.

August

On August 13, we organized a special Volunteer Appreciation, Bhajan and Satsang event to honor the volunteers who worked tirelessly to make Shiva Mahapuran in July successful. We honored all volunteers. This event became very special because we managed to hear from the Mayor of Norwalk, Ms. Ana Valencia.

On August 25, we conducted a Satsang in Grand Terrace with Dr. Chintamani Nath Yogi. This event was hosted by the Inland Empire Nepalese Welfare Society and Sushil Chaugai. We were able to reach out to new community members in the Inland Empire region.

On August 26, we held a one-day Cultural Camp for children at our temple. Dr. Chintamani Nath Yogi ran the Spiritual and Cultural Camp through his inspirational talks and songs. We also inaugurated Sanskrit class in the presence of Dr. Yogi.

On August 27, we organized a Satsang with Patri Das. He was very influential, and our Sunday school children were highly motivated by his musical performance and bhajans.

He seems to have a great number of followers. We would like to invite him again if he visits Los Angeles.

On August 31, Janai **Purnima and Rakskya Bandhan** program was organized at the temple. Although this festival fell on a weekday, a significant number of community members visited the temple and took Janai and Rakshya Bandhan from Guru. Although we did not fix any amount for Janai and Rakshya Bandhan, we collected a total of \$2,517 from this event. A special Vaidik puja was started early at 6 o'clock to prepare Janai and Rakshya Bandhan. We started Janai distribution around 7:30 AM.

September:

On September 6, a special Puja, Bhajan and Satsang was organized to mark Shree Krishna Janmashtami. Veda Bhakta Joshi sponsored the Prasad. It was a grand celebration. We were able to collect \$13,613.11 from pledge and other contributions on the occasion.

On September 10, 2023, we organized a talent show and award distribution ceremony for Nepali Pathshala. The awards were sponsored by Veda Bhakta Joshi. All children who participated in the exam were given \$10 each. **TALK TO SUMAN JI**

On September 18, as usual, **Teej Puja** was held in 4 shifts. All four shifts were packed. There was a significant enthusiasm and involvement of community members from various regions, especially new donors. A total of \$10,525 (**Teej Dar 4200** + **Teej Puja \$6235**) was collected. We also organized Teej Daar on September 16. This program was successfully concluded despite several Daar Programs in the community.

We also organized Panchami Puja on Wednesday, September 20. Our current Priest, Choodamani Pathak, was able to convince female members of our community to perform Panchami Puja.

On September 25, we organized a Satsang with Swami Swatantrananda Ji. Although this event was organized with short notice, we were able to bring people from a distinct group of our SANATAN Dharma to our temple.

October:

October 15-24 Dashain Celebration: As usual we organized Dashain program at our temple. There was a significant presence of community members during the 10-day celebration, and we provided Prasad every morning after Puja. JAMARA was distributed for free, but we encouraged community members to donate to the temple and were able to raise a significant amount. About \$4200 was collected from Prasad sponsor and Jamara distribution.

On Sunday, October 22, a Satsang was organized with Acharya Purushottam Sapkota. On October 15, we also organized a flu and covid shot clinic in collaboration with South Asian Network and Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. County has directly reached us on many occasions. If our community is interested, we can organize such events more frequently. Several uninsured community members, including visiting parents, benefited from this clinic.

On October 14, we organized DEEP PRAJWALAN for world peace. This was done in the wake of the killing of people in Israel and the Palestine and other parts of the world.

November:

Deusi-Bhailo: November 11, 12, 13

We managed this year's Deusi-Bhailo a little differently. We brought together 12 restaurant owners in one venue and reached out to many potential big donors. We managed to collect \$16815 new cash besides over 70,000 pledge collection through this event held at three locations. Thank you to all restaurant owners, including Tilak Rana and Amrit Mahato and his team, Dinesh Shah, Nara Acharya and Janaki Chaulagain.

On November 5, we created a GoFundMe campaign to raise funds for the victims of earthquake in Western Nepal (Rukum and Jajarkot districts). **We raised \$3056**.

December:

Annual General Meeting on December 10, 2023.

Financial Summary of the Foundation:

Following the welcome and the report from President Bhandari, Board of Director Laxman Ghimire presented the financial report as below.





Financial Report

Shree Pashupatinath Foundation, USA



Zelle your Pledge Amount Today ! info@pashupatinathfoundation.org

Financial Position

Assets	As of November 2023	As of December 2022	
Bank Accounts	\$788,527.15	\$351,659.27	
Other Funds: Paypal/Go- fund/Undeposited Cash	\$3,044.10		et Change in Assets \$438,734.2 2
Total Cash and Bank Accounts*	\$791,571.25	\$354,835.27	⊅ 430,/34.22
Fixed Assets (Land, Building, Improvements and Equipment) at Cost	\$1,452,911.93	\$1,452,911.93	
Current Liabilities	(\$631.76)	(\$2,630.00)	
Net Assets	\$2,243,851.42	\$1,805,117.20	
		Total Pledge	\$2,159,848.97
12405401	2022000000	Total Revenue Received	\$474,451.68
	IUNITY	Expenditures:	
CENTE	R FUND	Advertising & Marketing	\$650.00
Shiva Ma	hanuran	Equipment Rental	\$640.00
Shiva Mahapuran 2023		General Supplies, Food and	
2	525	Beverages (Prasad)	\$21,453.25
Not Day	renue	Bank Fees & Merchant Charges	\$901.10
Net Rev			\$875.52
\$416,5	50.66	Miscellaneous Expenses	\$675.52
	50.66	Miscellaneous Expenses Printing & Publication	\$1,187.90
	50.66		
\$416,5	50.66	Printing & Publication	
\$416,55		Printing & Publication Professional Fees (Other Priest	\$1,187.90 \$16,013.00

<u>Public Speakers and Public Concerns:</u>

Secretary Silwal opened the floor for questions and concerns from the members.

1. Life member Dilli Prasad Thapaliya suggested to put "Annual Financial Report" on the website of the foundation. He further added that members should know the agenda of the Meeting in advance. He suggested that it would be helpful to have specific details of the income and expenses of the foundation.

President Bhandari answered Mr. Thapaliya that we will go further in details in the 15 Annual General Meeting December 10, 2023



closed session of the meeting afterwards.

2. Trustee Ramchandra Lamichhane raised the issues of minimal participation of the Buddhist Devotees at the Temple. He suggested more needs to be done to attract Buddhists to the temple, adding more activities. Mr. Lamichhane questions the current provision in the bylaws to elect President-Elect, hiring practice of the Temple priest. He further suggested bringing some project to engage elderly and young, to hire an office secretary and put a Flag of Nepal at the Temple.

President Bhandari answered Mr. Lamichhane that further discussions will be done at the close session of the Meeting.

3. General Member Purushottam Dhakal suggested to put more programs to engage and make bridges to attract more members of the community. Mr. Dhakal further suggested that the Foundation should organize some professional workshop to help Nepali immigrants seeking immigration help, start English language class for senior citizens and promptly move towards establishing the Nepali Community Center.

President Bhandari answered Mr. Dhakal that Foundation is committed to facilitate any possible programs to the community with the help of community leaders and volunteers.

Introduction of New Trustee members and new Life Members and distribution of plaques:

After the conclusion of floor discussion of public concerns and suggestions, Secretary Silwal started the ceremony of distribution of the plaques to New Trustees and Life Members. Chair of the AGM Mr. Bhakta Thapa, President Rameshor Bhandari and all the present Patrons of the Foundation jointly welcomed and presented the Membership Plaques to the following new Trustees and Life Members of the Foundation.

	NEW TRUSTEES:
1	Subin Bhattarai & Dr. Samikshya Neupane
	Dhan Medhasi & Pratiksha Medhasi
3	Tilak Rana

Š S	hree Pashupatinath Foundation, USA
4	
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6	Bhanu Naupane & Alina Dhakal
7	Nara Acharya & Janaki Chaulagain
8	Ramchandra Lamichhane & Bimala Lamichhane
9	Kopila Adhikari & Rajaram Dhakal
10	Hem Bahadur Thakulla & Radha Dhami
11	Laxman Ghimire & Kalpana Ghimire
12	Sanju Sapkota & Family
13	Chakrapani Mishra & Rita Mishra
14	Ram Sharan Adhikari
15 16	
16	
17	
10	Roshan Ro & Onradna Opadnayay Ro
	NEW LIFE MEMBERS
1	Om Subedi & Tulasi Subedi
2	Vinod Gnawali & Dibya Dhungana
3	Agandhar Kandel & Maya Sapkota Kandel
4	Dharma R Shakya & Neelam Shakya
5	Rajendra K Pradhan & Anju Pradhan
6	Raj Kumar Pradhan & Reeyaska Pradhan
7	Rajendra Pyakuryal & Muna Pyakuryal
8	Laxmi Pandey
9	Ram Chandra Aryal & Sabina Aryal
10	Dilli Prasad Thapaliya & Sobita Thapaliya
11	Vikrant Giri & Kamala Giri
12	Narayan Prasad Panta & Sarada Panta Pandey
13	Sagar Poudel & Sarita Sadaula
14	Sanjip Thapa & Bindu Thapa
15	Dilli Raj Acharya & Dipika Regmi Acharya
16	Raj Kumar Shrestha & Manu Shrestha
17	Chhabilal Poudel & Nirmala D Poudel
18	Arjun Tripathi & Durga Tripathi
19	Numbish Prajapati & Raisha Shrestha
20	Ramesh Thapa & Devi Kumari Thapa
21	Prabin Ghimire & Roshani Dhungana

Shree Pashupatinath Foundation, USA			
22	Kul Prasad Dhakal		
23	Prakash Sunuwar & Anjana Rai Sunuwar		
24	Sudip Raj Sharma & Shova Sharma		
25	Ramjee Prasad Chaulagain & Dhanisara Chapagain		
26	Dr. Badri Bhandari & Basanthi Bhandari		
27	Suman Dhakal and Bimita Acharya		
28	Milan Neupane & Binita Neupane		
29	Kamal Dhakal & Bishnu Regmi		

Distribution of Special Awards and President's Awards:

The Chair of the AGM Mr Bhakta Thapa & President Bhandari jointly presented the "Special Award" to the following personnels for their extraordinary contribution as volunteer to "Los Angeles Spiritual Festival and Shiva Mahapuran 2023".

1.Honorary Consul Rishi P Dhakal
2.Nabin Pokhrel
3.Surya Prasai
3.Sanjip Thapa
4.Agni Chaulagain
5.Madhusudan Thapa Magar
6.Krishna Devkota
7.Milan Neupane

Moving further "President's Award" was presented by President Bhandari to the following personnels for their extraordinary contribution during "Los Angeles Spiritual Festival and Shiva Mahapuran 2023".

Upendra Sapkota Eak Prasad Pandey Laxman Ghimire Netra P Mainali Akaraj Pandey & Neera Aryal Pandey

Conclusion of the Open Session:

The open session of the AGM was adjourned at 1:30 PM. All the members then proceeded to have lunch.

4. <u>Closed Session:</u>

The closed session of the AGM started at 2:15 PM. President Bhandari Started the Meeting.

Discussions and Decisions:

- a. Mr. Bhandari informed the meeting about the resignation from Treasurer Chakrapani Mishra. He declared the vacancy of Treasurer and added the necessity to transfer responsibility. He informed the meeting that Mr. Mishra is ready to serve as the Board of Director. Mr Bhandari proposed to appoint BOD Laxman Ghimire the new Treasurer of the Foundation. The meeting approved the proposal and Mr. Laxman Ghimire was officially appointed as the Treasurer.
- b. Mr. Bhandari informed the Meeting about the continuous requests from individuals and organizations to allow the use of temple hall for public or private events. He further added the facts of having images of deities in the hall, so it's important to have limited the use of temple hall for religious, cultural, and educational events organized by Shree Pashupatinath Foundation, USA since the temple was established. Therefore, he proposed the General Assembly to pass a resolution to approve this practice. The Meeting approved the existing practice to use the Temple Hall for religious, cultural, and educational events organized by Shree Pashupatinath Foundation USA.
- c. Mr. Bhandari informed that there is an ongoing controversy regarding the calendar of festivals observed by Nepali diaspora in various countries. He added that our temple is following traditional Nepali calendar prepared by Rastriya Panchang Nirnayak Samiti, but there is a push to follow rituals based on a calendar prepared by International Panchang Nirnayak Samiti. He would like the General Assembly to know that our temple has initiated conversations with all Nepali temples in the United States and held meeting with Nepali temple presidents on September 30. He Informed the Meeting that only Dallas temple has adopted this calendar. Other temples are reluctant to change. The Meeting approved the current use of Rastriya Panchang Nirnayak Samiti as previous.
- d. President Bhandari informed the Assembly that there is a necessity of "Nepali

Temples' Network" in the USA. He informed that we are going to continue conversations with other Nepali temple executives and boards to create a network of Nepali temples. Shree Pashupatinath Foundation, USA would like to host a meeting of Nepali temples from across the United States. The Meeting agreed that it'd be a great initiation to bring social equilibrium in the United States.

- e. Mr. Bhandari explained that our community is growing, and it is not possible for Board members to know everyone in Southern California. We should adopt a policy to limit obituary messages on our Facebook posts. We would like the General Assembly to limit the condolence messages to the Life Members and Trustee Members and their parents only. The Assemble approved the decision to limit the obituary message in the Facebook page of the Foundation.
- f. Mr. Bhandari requested members to use donation box for any donations made and ask receipts for any services requested.
- g. President-Elect Bimal Shrestha briefed the incident of theft at the adjacent property, the existing security cameras, lights, gates and doors in the Temple and further planning to upgrade security equipment. He also added that we must diminish the visible cash at the temple.
- h. There was question asked by General Member Purushottam Dhakal about the theft in the adjacent property and asked for if there was any insurance coverage or compensation to resident Prakash Pandey. Secretary Silwal explained the limitation of liability insurance and there wouldn't be any coverage for theft of personal property unless Mr. Pandey had renter's Insurance.
- i. President Bhandari informed the Meeting about the security measure being taken. He informed that the Security Guard has been hired for 3 hours every day during evening hours.

Thank you and Remarks by the Chair:

Chair of the AGM Mr. Bhakta Thapa thanked MBD and everyone for attending. He emphasized that unity among the community members is the key to moving forward to fulfilling the mission of the Foundation. He thanked all involved for making "Los Angeles Spiritual Festival and Shiva Mahapuran 2023".



5. Adjourn:

There being no further business, the AGM was adjourned at 03: 43 PM PST.

Sign and submitted by:

Dilli (Siddhartha) Silwal Secretary