Hindu Society of Central Florida

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting Details

Date & Time	**September 20, 2026 10:10 AM**
Location	Board Room, Hindu Temple Hall, Casselberry, FL and ZOOM Virtual session
Directors Present	Shri Deepak Aggarwal Shri Babuji Ambikapathy – ***Joined via ZOOM*** Shri Madhu Cherukuri – ***Joined via ZOOM*** Shri Promod Dubey Shri Mahendra Kapadia Shri Satish Mahajan Shri Ramprasad Nitta Shri. Jogi Pattisapu Shri Muthuswami Swamy (President, EC)
Directors Absent	None
Additional Attendees	Shri Alagappan (Treasurer, Executive Committee) Shri Sri Rao, Project Engineer Shri Eshwar Boddepalli (Vice-President, Executive Committee)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Dr. Jogi Pattisapu, called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 10:10am. A quorum was confirmed by the Vice-Chairman.

2. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

The Secretary presented the minutes of the August 23 Board Meeting for approval. The minutes had been circulated in advance through the Board communications.

MOTION

Motion: To approve the minutes of the August 23 Board Meeting
Moved by: Shri Satish Mahajan **Seconded by:** Shri Madhu Cherukuri, Secretary
Result: Approved unanimously.

3. Yagashala Project and Retention Pond Improvements

The Board reviewed plans to advance the long-awaited Yagashala together with improvements to the existing retention pond needed to support it. The Board favored completing the pond work once, sized for future campus needs, to avoid repeated construction and permitting. Plans will first be presented to Seminole County, after which the architect and engineer will be engaged.

The preliminary estimate for the Yagashala structure, traditional architectural features, and pond work is approximately $500,000. Designated Yagashala funds and new donor commitments are already in place, and fundraising will continue. The Yagashala was previously approved by the General Body, and the Board will confirm any additional bylaw approval requirements.

MOTION
To authorize up to $500,000 for construction of the Yagashala and a one-time improvement of the current retention pond sized for future use, and to approach Seminole County regarding the broader development plans, including access to the rear property and the Community Hall additions.
Moved by: Shri Deepak Aggarwal **Seconded by:** Shri Ramprasad Nitta
Vote: Voice vote; no objections were stated.
Result: Passed.

4. Site Drainage and Chinmaya Mission Coordination

The Board reviewed campus stormwater options, including existing drainage capacity designed jointly with the neighboring Chinmaya Mission property. These options will be discussed with the County, and coordination with Chinmaya Mission leadership will continue. No changes to the drainage system were approved.

5. Community Hall Expansion

The Board reviewed architectural plans for single-story additions of just under 4,000 sq. ft. on the west and north sides of the Community Hall. The additions would provide flexible rooms for storage and instruction, along with green rooms for the auditorium stage. The Board noted the strong community need for additional space for education, cultural programs, and family gatherings.

The plans will be submitted to the County for review. In parallel, the required organizational approval process will be completed, including General Body approval as required by the bylaws. Cost estimates will be refined after the County review.

MOTION

To authorize Shri Rao to take the existing Community Hall addition plans, and any additional documentation required, to Seminole County for review and approval, with nominal preparatory expenses as needed; and, in parallel, for Shri Promod to lead, with Board involvement, completion of the required organizational approval process. No construction budget is authorized.

Moved by: Shri Promod Dubey **Seconded by:** Shri Muthusamy Swami

Vote: One objection by Shri Ramprasad acknowledged by the Chair. The Chair did not vote.

Result: Passed.

6. Designated Fund Allocations

The Treasurer reviewed the balances of funds designated for specific temple projects. These will be reconciled with the accountant's records, and a consolidated project-tracking report covering budgets, donations received, and spending is being prepared.

7. Outdoor Seating Area

The Board approved a covered outdoor seating area next to the canteen, which will add dining space and free up room in the Community Hall. The project will be funded entirely through designated donations, with the Murli Deshmukh family as the principal sponsor. The structure will include an insulated roof, power, and fans, and the existing tree will be preserved.

MOTION
To construct the Outdoor Seating Area using donated funds only, with no funding from the temple's operating budget, for up to $150,000, including a reasonable enclosure as permitted by the County, an insulated roof, electrical power, and fans, with the existing tree preserved.
Moved by: *[to be confirmed]* **Seconded by:** Shri Muthusamy Swami
Vote: Shri Babuji in favor on condition the tree is not cut;
Result: Passed unanimously.

8. Insurance Recovery and Capital Campaign

The Chair reported that the insurance claim for the vehicle-related damage to the Community Hall has been settled at $100,000, the maximum allowed under the policy. The Board thanked Shri Shubhang Patel, Shri Promod, Shri Sadanand, Shri Anu Patel, and Shri Mahendra for their assistance with the claim.

The Chair outlined the Long Range Planning Committee's five priorities: the Yagashala, Community Hall expansion, the Outdoor Seating Area, access to the rear property, and potential acquisition of the adjoining property. A capital campaign of approximately $3.175 million is being prepared to support these projects, and the community will be invited to participate.

9. Donor Recognition and Project Communication

The Board discussed donor recognition for major project sponsorships. To keep the community informed, current projects will be published on the HSCF website and by email, showing each project's estimated cost, funds raised, and remaining need. Donors will be acknowledged publicly, with their consent.

10. Navaratri Planning

Children's Garba is planned for October 10 and Navaratri celebrations begin October 11, with special sponsorship opportunities on Ashtami. Businesses and families may sponsor advertisements or greetings at $251 each, displayed on the temple's television screens. Shri Mahendra Kapadia will serve as the Navaratri event lead, and the Board encouraged involving younger volunteers to support future events.

11. Grounds, Parking, and Facilities Updates

Landscaping: The landscape and maintenance plan will be recirculated. **Parking:** Leveling, seal-coating, restriping, and marking of accessible parking and the fire lane are underway; parking areas will be rerouted as sections are completed. **Grass area:** New sod will be installed once weather permits. **Gopuram:** The approved restoration work is proceeding. **Kitchen awning:** Confirmed as engineered to a 160 mph wind rating.

12. Patashala and Priest Quarters Repairs

Roof repairs are progressing under the previously approved authorization, and ductwork in the priest quarters has been replaced. Repairs to address water intrusion in the Patashala will be carried out within the existing maintenance budget. The Board also noted the successful sound arrangements for the children's graduation programs.

13. Waste Management and Safety

Waste and recycling: Updated recycling and disposal procedures will be established, and all staff will be briefed. **Safety:** The panic buttons have been tested and are working, which completes a long-desired safety improvement. The Board supported extending the public-address system so emergency announcements can be heard throughout the Community Hall and Patashala, and improving cooling for technical equipment.

14. Newsletter and Accounting Support

Under the bylaws, the newsletter is to be distributed quarterly. A November edition covering the year's activities is planned. The Board was also updated on plans to strengthen accounting and financial reporting through an outside bookkeeping service.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned after closing prayers.

15. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS PASSED

#	Agenda Item	Motion	Result
1	Yagashala Project and Retention Pond Improvements	Authorize up to $500,000 for Yagashala construction and one-time retention pond improvement; approach the County on broader campus plans.	Passed
2	Community Hall Expansion	Authorize County review of the addition plans with nominal preparatory expenses; organizational approval process in parallel; no construction budget.	Passed (one objection)
3	Outdoor Seating Area	Construct the Outdoor Seating Area from donated funds only, up to $150,000, preserving the existing tree.	Passed unanimously