



Shree Pashupatinath Foundation, USA

MEETING OF THE MANAGING BOARD OF DIRECTORS
10843 KENNEY STREET, NORWALK, CA 90650
ON MARCH 1, 2025, 05:00 PM PST.

Minutes

The 5th meeting of the Managing Board of Directors of Shree Pashupatinath Foundation, USA was held on Saturday March 1, 2025, at 05:00 PM at the office of the Foundation in 10843 Kenney Street, Norwalk, California 90650.

1. Attendance:

S. N	Name	Position	Roll Call	Remarks*
1	Bimal Shrestha	President	Present	
2	Ram Babu Pandey	President-Elect	Present	
3	Rameshor Bhandari	Immediate past President	Present	
4	Dilli (Siddhartha) Silwal	Senior Vice president	Present	
5	Upendra Sapkota	Vice President	Present	
6	Tulasi Ram Gyawali	Secretary	Present	
7	Suman Dhakal	Joint-Secretary	Present	
8	Laxman Ghimire	Treasurer	Absent	Notified¹
9	Dilli Prasad Thapaliya	Joint Treasurer	Present	
10	Ajit Babu Ghimire	Director	Present	
11	Amrit Mahat	Director	Present	
12	Bhawani Pandey	Director	Absent	Notified²
13	Bhuwa Niure	Director	Present	
14	Chakrapani Mishra	Director	Present	
15	Milan Nyaupane	Director	Present	
16	Muna Pyakuryal	Director	Present	
17	Nanda Lal Gautam	Director	Present	
18	Prabin Ghimire	Director	Present	
19	Ram Sharan Pandey	Director	Present	
20	Sanju Sapkota	Director	Present	
21	Sapana Sedhain Thapaliya	Director	Present	

*If absent, notified or not and how many times absent annotated by superscript number.



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Also, present if any:

Only board members were present at the meeting.

2. Roll Call:

President Shrestha called the meeting to order at 05:35 PM PST in person. Following the roll call, it was noted that a quorum was present. Secretary Gyawali started the formal proceedings.

3. Approval of the previous minutes:

- Meeting Minutes of the 1st and 2nd meetings of the Managing Board of Directors were unanimously approved.

4. Agendas of the meeting:

- Approval of Meeting 1 & 2 Minutes
- Financial report and opening CD-account with Everest Federal Credit Union (EFCU)
- Discussion about Maha Shivaratri
- Planning for upcoming festivals/special events (Holi & other) & Nepali New Year Calendar
- LA Fire Go-Fund Collection final update and donation
- Nepali Pathasala child safety policy
- Formation of advisory committee
- Review & update of previous meeting agendas (Sub-Committees & Jeevan Vigyan)
- Updates on collecting the pledged amount during Shiv Mahapuram and NCC Project
- Additional Agenda (if any)

5. Discussion/Decision(s):

- a. The minutes of the first and second meetings were presented to the board. The minutes of the first meeting were approved unanimously. President Shrestha requested a revision in the expected profit range for Jeevan Bigyan, changing "\$20,000-\$50,000" to "more than \$20,000." With this amendment, the minutes of the second meeting were also approved unanimously.
- b. Joint Treasurer Dilli Thapaliya presented the financial report Starting January 1st through February 28, 2025. The total bank balance of SPFU was \$1,259,284.26. He said gross collection in the month of January and February was \$83,789.47 with total expenses amounting to \$33,426. The revenue includes \$20,265.77 in general income and \$3,541.22 in interest earnings. It was noted that February's interest was not yet included, as the bank issues interest payments in the first week of the following month.



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During the discussion, the board also considered opening a new Certificate of Deposit (CD) account to help generate returns from idle funds. Currently, the Foundation holds a balance of \$200,000 in its Bank of America accounts, which earns no interest. By not investing these funds, the Foundation is potentially losing around \$10,000 annually. After reviewing market trends and recognizing a decline in interest rates, the board identified Everest Federal Credit Union (EFCU) as offering a 5% annual interest rate.

EFCU is federally insured up to at least \$250,000 by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), ensuring the security of the funds. Given its strong interest rate, federal insurance, and commitment to supporting the financial well-being of the Nepalese American community, the board recommended opening a fixed deposit account with EFCU.

The Board of Directors unanimously approved to open CD account and fund with \$200,000.

- c. There was an extensive discussion regarding the recent Maha Shivaratri event. President Shrestha briefly explained the event and addressed all questions and concerns raised during the discussion. Senior Vice President Silwal, who coordinated the event, expressed his gratitude to both the kitchen team and the Akhanda Bhajan Kirtan group. He pointed out that the puja did not follow the intended schedule and recommended having more volunteers for next year.

President Shrestha suggested implementing a policy to prohibit photography near the sanctuary of the deities. Additional topics discussed included volunteer dress code, food safety, proper refrigeration, and related logistical issues.

There was also a proposal to replace the Akhanda Bhajan Kirtan with a Bhakti Bhajan program starting early in the morning. Toward the end of the discussion, Chakra Pani Mishra suggested reviewing the internal puja process and recommended involving more pandits for future events. It was estimated that over 1,000 devotees visited the temple on Maha Shivaratri.

- d. The meeting included a discussion about the upcoming festival, Holi. Nepali Pathshala Principal and Joint Secretary Dhakal shared his plan, which involved a one-hour Holi introduction session in each classroom, followed by lunch. The main Holi celebration would take place from around noon to 1:30 PM. Senior Vice President Silwal and Secretary Gyawali agreed to take charge of the Holi T-shirts.

Additionally, President Bimal Shrestha and Secretary Gyawali took on the responsibility of securing sponsors and designing the Nepali calendar for the year 2082.

- e. The meeting approved the donation of the remaining funds raised for the LA County fire victims. Immediate Past President Bhandari was tasked with selecting an appropriate organization to receive the donation, ensuring the funds directly support the fire victims. A total of \$7,301.10 was raised for fire relief, with \$4,260.99 spent on purchasing supplies and goods for donation. The remaining balance is \$3,040.11.



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- f. Treasurer Ghimire prepared the Nepali Pathshala child safety policy. As Ghimire was absent from the meeting, Nepali Pathshala Principal Dhakal presented it to the board meeting. The board agreed to move forward with its implementation.
- g. The President recommended seven individuals for the advisory committee. The meeting approved the proposed names, chosen for their significant contributions to the temple and community.
 - Veda Bhakta Joshi (Platinum Patron)
 - Bhakta Thapa (Founder President & Patron)
 - Rishi Dhakal (Honorary Consul General & Patron)
 - Madan Pathak (Trustee Member)
 - Dr. Badri Bhandari (Life Member & Law Professional)
 - Sushil Chaugai (Trustee Member)
 - Indira Tripathi (Trustee Member & Women Representation)
- h. President Shrestha provided an update on the various repair works currently underway at the temple premises.
- i. The Senior Vice President Silwal provided a brief update on the progress of the proposed Jeevan Vigyan program, specifically regarding the search for a suitable venue.

6. Adjourn:

Due to the time constraints, the meeting was adjourned at 07:36 PM PST.

Sign and submitted by:

Tulasi Ram Gyawali
Secretary