

**CARIBBEAN HINDU ASSOCIATION OF NORTH TEXAS (CHANT)**  
d/b/a NORTH TEXAS HINDU MANDIR  
10309 Baronne Circle, Dallas, Texas 75218

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BYLAWS LAST AMENDED NOVEMBER 14, 2009

**1. NAME**

- 1.1 The name of the organization shall be "Caribbean Hindu Association of North Texas (CHANT)" (d/b/a North Texas Hindu Mandir) and shall herein be referred to as the "Mandir".
- 1.2 CHANT d/b/a NTHM was incorporated by the Articles of Incorporation on June 20, 2001.

**2. MEMBERSHIP**

- 2.1 Membership in the Mandir will be opened to members of the general public, regardless of race, color, creed, gender, political or religious persuasion, provided, however, that applicants agree to abide with the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws of the Mandir, and the guidelines established by the Executive Committee.
- 2.2 Annual membership dues are now set at \$10.00 per adult or \$25.00 per family. Membership shall be renewed annually. Any family member over the age of 18, who is not financially dependent on his/her parent or guardian, i.e. declared a dependent on income tax returns, must pay annual membership dues. The officiating priest shall be exempted from the payment of membership dues to the Mandir and the officiating priest shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of a regular member of the Mandir as prescribed by sections 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 save and except the officiating priest shall not seek election for executive office of the Mandir.
- 2.2.1 Dues for regular membership shall be renewed annually. Regular Membership dues are \$25.00 per household and \$10.00 per individual. Annual Dues will be collected by the Treasurer.
- 2.2.2 Dues for lifetime membership are set at \$1,001.00. Lifetime membership cannot be accrued over time and shall be a voluntary one-time payment per household. Annual membership dues shall not be required of lifetime members. Lifetime membership dues will be collected by the Treasurer.
- 2.2.3 Membership of the Officiating Priest(s)  
The officiating priest of the Mandir is exempt from paying annual dues. The officiating priest shall enjoy all rights and privileges enjoyed by regular members except those prescribed in section 2.3.2.
- 2.2.4 Definitions. The term household, for the purposes of assessing dues, shall refer to the members of a family residing at the same address. The term "individual" refers to a person over the age of 18, who
- (a) does not reside in the household of a current member or,
  - (b) cannot be claimed as a dependent on income tax returns
- 2.3 Regular members
- 2.3.1 Regular members are those who are at least 18 years of age and have paid the annual membership dues for the fiscal year.
- 2.3.2 The above categories of regular members are entitled to voting powers and may seek election to any executive office of the Mandir, providing they meet the requirements set forth in section 14.1.
- 2.4 Lifetime Members
- 2.4.1 Lifetime members are those who have paid the lifetime membership dues.
- 2.4.2 Lifetime members are entitled to voting powers, and may seek election to executive office of the mandir, provided that the requirements of section 14.1 have been met.

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2.5 Junior members

2.5.1 Junior members are those persons under the age of 18 years who are either:

- (a) Children of regular members or lifetime members or
- (b) Persons whose applications for junior membership have been approved by the Executive Committee.

2.5.2 No dues are required for junior membership.

2.5.3 Junior members are not entitled to voting powers and may not seek election to any executive office.

2.5.4 Upon attaining the age of 18 years, junior members may apply for regular or lifetime membership.

2.6 Withdrawal of membership

2.6.1 Any member who wishes to resign from the Mandir shall do so by giving notice in writing. No refunds of annual dues or donations shall be allowed.

2.6.2 Membership will be suspended if a member is in arrears of annual membership dues for any fiscal year.

2.6.3 Membership is canceled if the annual membership dues are six months in arrears. Such members shall be entitled to no membership privileges or powers until membership is reinstated.

2.6.4 Any member can be expelled from the Mandir by a vote passed by the majority of the executive members for any cause that may be considered reasonable. Any member so affected shall have the right to appeal to the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting as provided in 3.2.1 of the bylaws.

**3. MEETINGS**

3.1 Annual General Meeting

3.1.1 The Mandir shall have its annual general meeting at least once a year on or before the second Saturday of November as determined by the Executive Committee.

3.1.2 Notice of the general meeting shall be given to all members at least 21 days prior to the meeting. Notice shall include U.S. mail, Federal Express, electronic mail (e-mail) or telephone.

3.1.3 The quorum for the meeting shall be at least 60% of all regular members.

3.1.4 The procedure shall be:

- (a) Confirmation of minutes of previous general meeting.
- (b) Acceptance of reports - general and financial.
- (c) Election of office bearers for the ensuing year.
- (d) Any other matter that should be discussed at the general meeting.

3.2 Special General Meeting

3.2.1 A special general meeting may be called at any time upon giving 10 days notice to discuss a specific agenda.

3.2.2 The quorum for such a meeting shall be at least 60% of all regular members.

3.2.3 This meeting can be called by the Executive Committee or can be requested by a signed petition by at least 10% of the membership setting forth the reasons for such a meeting.

3.2.4 Only matters specified in the agenda of 3.2.1 shall be discussed.

3.3 Executive Meeting

3.3.1 At least seven (7) days notice by U.S. mail, Federal Express, electronic mail (e-mail) or telephone shall be given by the Secretary or President to all members of the Executive Committee outlining the agenda. However the President is permitted to add to the agenda as long as the Executive Committee members, who are present at the meeting, approve the items for discussion at the meeting by quorum.

3.3.2 The quorum for an executive meeting shall be four.

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- 3.3.3 An executive meeting can be held without notice if a quorum of the Executive Committee is present. However, all business resulting from such a meeting must be ratified at the next regular executive meeting otherwise such business shall be deemed null and void.
  - 3.3.4 Any member of the Executive Committee shall have the power to invite any member(s) or non-member(s) to the executive meetings to discuss a specific issue, but such person(s) shall leave after the issue is discussed and shall not be entitled to vote on any issue in the meeting.  
“However, the President shall be notified by the Executive Member by U.S. mail, electronic mail (e-mail), telephone or in-person no less than 7 (seven) days in advance if a Non-Executive Member has been invited to attend the executive meeting, the name and title of that person and what that person intends to discuss or present at the executive meeting.
  - 3.3.5 The Executive Committee shall meet as often as necessary to carry out the business of the Mandir, but it must meet at least once every three months.
  - 3.3.6 It is the duty of the Executive Committee to ensure that members work harmoniously and at the end of the fiscal year, present a comprehensive report on the activities of the Mandir, its achievements and financial standing.
  - 3.3.7 Any vacancy occurring on the Executive Committee shall be filled by the Executive Committee as it deems fit. Such appointments shall be valid until the next annual general meeting.
- 3.4 Waiver of Quorum
- 3.4.1 An annual general meeting, special general meeting, or executive meeting may be convened without a quorum subject to the following conditions:
    - (a) The previous meeting was of a similar nature and was not convened due to the lack of a quorum.
    - (b) Members were given the specified notice for the previous meeting as set out in 3.1.2 or 3.2.1 or 3.3.1.
    - (c) The membership present votes to convene the meeting without a quorum. A vote may be taken if there is no quorum after fifteen minutes of the established start time has elapsed.

**4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- 4.1 Office Bearers
  - 4.1.1 The office bearers to be elected are:
    - (a) President
    - (b) Vice President
    - (c) Secretary
    - (d) Treasurer
    - (e) Five Committee Members
  - 4.1.2 Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, an assistant secretary can be appointed from the five Executive Committee members.
  - 4.1.3 The Mandir shall appoint an auditor.
  - 4.1.4 Any elected or appointed office bearer shall serve the Mandir and will not be entitled to any remuneration.
  - 4.1.5 The immediate past President as an ex-officio member with no power to vote.

**5. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

- 5.1 President
  - 5.1.1 Presides over all the Mandir's meetings whenever present.
  - 5.1.2 Has access to all documents, records and correspondence of the Mandir.
  - 5.1.3 Ensures that all members work harmoniously towards achieving the objectives of the Mandir.
  - 5.1.4 The President shall oversee the full operation of the Mandir which include the financial, religious, cultural and building functions.

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- 5.1.5 (1) The President shall present a proposed Budget Plan in writing for the entire term as President at the first meeting of the Executive Committee. The President shall present a proposed Event Roster and delegate specific roles, duties and responsibilities to all or certain Executive Members for each event listed in the Event Roster.
- 5.1.6 The President may make minor decisions without the Executive Board's approval so long as it will not financially impact the Mandir by more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars and will benefit the Mandir's premises, or the religious, cultural, and financial growth of the Mandir.
- 5.1.7 President shall provide the incoming President, in-person, with all administrative files and other documents at the end of the President's term. The President shall also provide the incoming President with a list of all business conducted with all governmental agencies, vendors and other business entities throughout the President's term. The President shall also provide the incoming President with a list of any incomplete business that is recommended or must be supervised, commenced, completed or followed-up with within the incoming President's term.
- 5.1.8 The President shall communicate with the Vice-President on a regular basis by U.S. mail, electronic mail (e-mail), telephone or in-person so the Vice-President is able to take over or assist the President with his/her roles and responsibilities at any time.
- 5.1.9 The President shall communicate with the Resident Pundit on a regular basis by U.S. mail, electronic mail (e-mail), telephone or in-person to ensure that events and weekly sermons run as planned and to inquire and work with the Resident Pundit to plan his events and sermons.
  
- 5.2 Vice President
  - 5.2.1 Assumes the duties of the president during the president's absence.
  - 5.2.2 Performs duties as directed by the president from time to time.
  - 5.2.3 The Vice President shall have access to all documents, records and correspondence pertaining to the Mandir.
  
- 5.3 Secretary
  - 5.3.1 Prepares and has custody of proper minutes of proceedings of meetings of the Mandir and of the Executive Committee and the confirmation of these minutes at every subsequent meeting.
  - 5.3.2 The Secretary shall timely communicate by U.S. mail, electronic mail (e-mail), telephone and in-person with all members of the congregation and the general public regarding past and future events and activities.
  - 5.3.3 Keeps a roster of all members.
  - 5.3.4 The Secretary shall maintain and keep in a locked cabinet all correspondence sent on behalf of the Mandir and all correspondence or documents relating to the Mandir's premises or the religious, cultural and/or financial aspects of the Mandir.
  - 5.3.5 Ensures that notices and arrangements are made for all activities of the Mandir.
  - 5.3.6 Keeps the seal of the Mandir and affixes same on all documents as required.
  
- 5.4 Treasurer
  - 5.4.1 The Treasurer shall handle and account for all incoming and outgoing monies of the Mandir and give and secure receipts for the same. The Treasurer shall maintain an accurate and up-to-date record of the Mandir's income and expenditures.
  - 5.4.2 The Treasurer shall keep a roster of all regular members. Treasurer shall collect all incoming mail of the Mandir; however, in Treasurer's absence Secretary shall collect all incoming mail. 5.4.3 Prepares and presents an audited balance sheet and an income and expenditure statement to the annual general meeting.
  - 5.4.4 Keeps the accounts of the Mandir in such a manner to facilitate periodic audit and presentation of financial statements.

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- 5.5 Committee Members
- 5.5.1 Attend meetings and assist in the smooth and efficient running of the Mandir.
  - 5.5.2 Assist other executive members and work on any sub-committee.
- 5.6 Auditor
- 5.6.1 Shall have access to all financial records, minutes and records of the Mandir in order to report on the financial statements to the Mandir's members.
- 5.7 The incumbent Executive Committee of the North Texas Hindu Mandir for any year shall present a budget of income and expenditure for the incoming year to the North Texas Hindu Mandir Board of Trustees, and that Executive Committee shall serve that budget on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> day of January of that aforementioned incoming year for the consideration and approval of the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall meet within ten (10) business days on receipt of the budget for the consideration of the said Board of Trustees.

**6. FINANCE**

- 6.1 All incoming funds to the Mandir shall be kept in a checking, savings and/or other financial account held by a financial institution, except for:
- 6.1.1. Petty cash of \$150.00 used as start-up cash and change for the Mandir's events. All incoming and petty cash monies are under the custody and responsibility of the Treasurer.
  - 6.1.2. Bookstore operating account of \$100.00.
- 6.2 All incoming and petty cash monies are under the custody and responsibility of the Treasurer and the Treasurer shall maintain a proper record of all income and expenditures of the Mandir at all times.
- 6.3 All withdrawals from the Mandir's bank account may be signed by the following combination of signatories: Treasurer and President and Treasurer and Secretary.
- 6.4 A balance sheet and a statement of income and expenditure showing the financial position of the Mandir, duly audited, must be presented annually to the annual general meeting of the Mandir and must be circulated to all members of the Mandir at least 21 days prior to the annual general meeting.
- 6.5 The financial year for the Mandir shall end on the last day of August of every year.
- 6.6 All checks made payable to the Mandir or NTHM shall be made out to "Caribbean Hindu Association of North Texas"; "CHANT"; "North Texas Hindu Mandir"; or "NTHM".
- 6.7 The President may audit the bookstore and petty cash at any time in the presence of the Treasurer.
- 6.8 The Treasurer shall provide the President a detailed monthly income and expense report for review before it may be forwarded to any or all members of the Executive Committee and/or Board of Trustees.
- 6.9 The Board of Trustees Chairman, Auditor and President shall be given a Quarterly Financial Report of all incoming and outgoing funds, expenses, liabilities and assets. The Treasurer shall provide the Board of Trustees Chairman, the Auditor and the President the balance on all checking, savings and/or other financial accounts of the Mandir at the end of the 2nd and 4th Quarter.
- 6.10 Any member who seeks reimbursement for goods obtained on behalf of the Mandir must obtain approval for such goods prior to the time of purchase by the Treasurer and President. If approval is not obtained in advance of purchase, purchaser may not be reimbursed.

**7. AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS**

- 7.1 The Bylaws of the Mandir may be rescinded or added to by a resolution, passed by a majority of not less than 75% of the regular members present at a general meeting.
- 7.2 Twenty one days written notice of the resolution must be given to all regular members prior to the amendment to Bylaws.

**8. BORROWING POWERS**

- 8.1 For the purposes of carrying out the objectives of the Mandir, the Executive Committee may borrow funds or secure credit in any lawful manner as it thinks fit, subject to the issue of debentures which can only be issued with the sanction of a special resolution passed by 75% of the regular members at a general meeting.

**9. DISSOLUTION OF THE MANDIR**

- 9.1 In event of dissolution of the Mandir, its assets, after payment of liabilities, shall be donated to one or more recognized charitable organizations.

**10. CONSTITUTIONAL SUBCOMMITTEE**

- 10.1 The purpose of this Subcommittee is to review the official documents of the Mandir and report suggested changes to the Executive Committee.
- 10.2 Each Executive Committee shall, at its first meeting or immediately thereafter, elect three members of the Mandir to constitute the Constitutional Subcommittee of the Mandir for the then current year.
- 10.3 The three members of the Constitutional subcommittee may or may not be members of the Executive Committee.
- 10.4 That the Constitutional Committee as described by Article 10 of the By-Laws of the North Texas Hindu Mandir shall be vested with the authority to conduct elections of office bearers and committee members and that such authority to include the notification of such elections, the provision of ballots for such elections, the verification of a voters list for such elections, the conduct of such elections and such other functions as relate to the orderly conduct of such elections.

**11. EDITORIAL SUBCOMMITTEE *[rescinded]***

**12. ROSTER OF EVENTS *[rescinded]***

**13. PLACE OF WORSHIP**

- 13.1 The Mandir shall obtain and maintain a permanent place of worship of its own in which meetings and other religious and cultural functions can be held and where the Mandir's records and other property may be kept.

**14. ELECTION PROCEDURES**

- 14.1 Qualified Members: Only those persons who have paid their dues prior to the time of election and have been actively involved in the Mandir shall be entitled to be voted to any office or to become a Member of the Executive

Committee or Board of Trustees. The active involvement is herein described as the voluntary service or services on sub-committees to maintain the temple building, finance and fundraising, general upkeep of the temple premises, and any other activities to facilitate the weekly worship and other related religious activities of Mandir. The outgoing Secretary shall submit to the Returning Officer an up-to-date list of Qualified Members prior to the commencement of voting at all General Meetings. To hold the offices of President and Vice-President, nominees shall be active members as defined by section 14.1 and shall have served at least two (2) years as an elected Office Bearer as defined by section 4.1.1 of the Bylaws and/or shall be a member of the Board of Trustees. To hold the offices of Secretary and Treasurer, nominees shall be active members as defined by section 14.1 and shall have served at least one (1) year as an elected Office Bearer as defined by section 4.1.1 of the Bylaws and/or shall be a member of the Board of Trustees. To hold one of the remaining five positions on the Executive Committee, nominees shall be active members as defined by section 14.1 for at least one (1) calendar year and/or shall be a member of the Board of Trustees.

14.1.1 Procedures should there be no qualified members: Should no persons meet the criteria to serve as President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer the quorum present shall vote to suspend the qualifications (i.e., make a special exception) to allow nominations of those willing to serve in the office bearer posts. Should there be no nominees for President; the board of trustees can appoint a board member to serve as an acting officer. Shall there be no nominees for Vice-President, Treasurer or Secretary; those offices may be filled with members of the executive committee

14.1.2 Membership Qualifications for Office Bearers

Any person wishing to hold a position on the executive board must have paid their membership dues prior to the annual election and once elected, an office bearer shall pay their membership dues no later than January 31<sup>st</sup> of the year they are elected to hold office.

- 14.2 Returning Officer: Any Member may volunteer to be the Returning Officer who shall be responsible for collecting and counting the votes. The Returning Officer may also cast his/her vote and may also be appointed to Office. If the Returning Officer becomes a candidate for any office and does not decline the candidacy, he/she shall immediately resign as Returning Officer and another Returning Officer substituted immediately.
- 14.3 Voting By Secret Ballots: Only qualified members as defined by section 14.1 are entitled to vote. Voting shall be by Secret Ballots and all ballots shall be kept by the Secretary to be counted in the event of a demand for a recount; but there shall be no recount unless the demand for a recount is made by a Qualified Member and is seconded by another Qualified Member. Secret Ballots shall mean the following: (a) The Returning Officer will circulate to Qualified Members index cards or sheets of paper on which to indicate their votes for each of the nine positions of the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees; and (b) the index cards or sheets of paper shall be gathered by the Returning Officer and counted.
- 14.4 Election by Majority: If the majority of the votes cast by Qualified Members present in person or by proxy is for any person eligible for office, that person shall automatically be appointed to the office for which the votes are cast and the Returning Officer shall announce the name of that person, the office or position to which that person has been elected, and the number of votes for that person.
- 14.5 Run Offs: If no person is elected to the office in question pursuant to Subsection 14.4 above, then there shall be a run off of the two persons receiving the most votes (or if there is a tie among more than two persons receiving the most votes, the run off shall be among all such persons). In such runoff, the person receiving the most votes through re-balloting shall be appointed to the office in question and the Returning Officer shall announce the name of that person, the office or position to which that person has been elected, and the number of votes for that person.

**15. MISCELLANEOUS**

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- 15.1 The activities of the Mandir are to be mainly carried out in the Dallas/ Fort Worth Metro Area.
- 15.2 The fiscal and operational year of the Mandir shall begin on the first day of September and end on the last day of August.
- 15.3 The Mandir may seek affiliation with national and international organizations, subject to keeping exclusive control over the administration, finance, and progress of the of the Mandir, without in any way sacrificing it's autonomy.
- 15.4 All books and records could be inspected by any regular member at the annual general meeting, providing that at least five days notice is given to the Secretary or Treasurer.
- 15.5 All complaints must be lodged in writing and must be signed by the complainant.
- 15.6 It is grounds for any office bearer to lose his/her office upon failing to attend three consecutive meetings, except in certain extenuating circumstances approved by the Executive Committee.

**16. BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

- 16.1 There shall be a Board of Trustees to prescribe policies and to be vested with all properties including real property, or chattel movable and immovable property owned, rented and or leased by CHANT d/b/a The North Texas Hindu Mandir.
- 16.2 The Board of Trustees shall comprise of eleven (11) members of which four (4) shall be permanent members.
  - 16.2.2 The Board of Trustees meetings should include the President; Vice President, Treasurer and Legal Counsel.
- 16.3 The members of the first Board of Trustees shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of CHANT d/b/a The North Texas Hindu Mandir to include four (4) investors to serve for a period of five (5) years. Thereafter, the general membership, at the annual general meeting shall elect the members of the Board of Trustees other than the Permanent Members, every five (5) years.
  - 16.3.1 Membership Qualifications for the Board of Trustees
    - Any person on the board of trustees shall pay their annual membership dues prior to January 31<sup>st</sup> of any calendar year which they sit on the board.
- 16.4 An investor is defined as a person who has invested in and holds a lien to the purchased temple property situate at 10309 Baronne Circle, Dallas, TX 75218.
- 16.5 The permanent members shall be:
  - Joshua Chowritmootoo
  - Arnold Kanhai
  - Krishna Singh
  - Dilip Sukhu
- 16.6 The other seven (7) members appointed to serve on the first Board of Trustee shall be:
  - Parbatee Deorajsingh
  - Das Gokul
  - Vishnu Maharaj
  - Amal Mukherjee



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Budbeer Naraine  
Doreen Narine  
Jay Singh

- 16.7 The non-permanent members of the Board of Trustees shall serve a term of five (5) years.
- 16.8 The Board of Trustees must give 14 days notice to the general membership, including weekends and holidays, to call a meeting. At such meeting, a quorum shall constitute seven (7) members. In the absence of a quorum, the board shall meet again in another 7 days and the Board members in attendance thereat shall constitute a quorum to discuss and vote the agenda of the meeting.
- 16.9 Members are automatically removed from the Board in the event of death or incapacity to perform duties. Incapacity is decided by a quorum vote of the Board of Trustees. A member of the Board of Trustees may resign from the Board at any time by giving written notice to the Chairman of the Board. The Chairman shall disseminate the resignation letter to each member of the Board of Trustees within (14) fourteen days. Resignation is effective the following day after the notice is delivered to the Chairman of the Board and by all members of the Board of Trustees. Any Board member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Board without any excuse shall be deemed to have resigned by a quorum meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- 16.10 The Board of Trustees shall appoint two (2) alternate Board Members at its inaugural meeting. In the event of death, incapacity or resignation of any Board of Trustee member one of the alternate members will be appointed by a quorum vote to the Board. Both alternates shall be eligible to attend Board of Trustee meetings but possess no voting powers.
- 16.11 The President of CHANT d/b/a The North Texas Hindu Mandir shall not be the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.
- 16.12 There shall be no more than five (5) members of the Board of Trustees on the Executive Committee of CHANT d/b/a The North Texas Hindu Mandir.
- 16.13 There shall be no more than four (4) permanent members at any time on the Board of Trustees. Any vacancy of a permanent member of the Board of Trustees shall be replaced by the general membership at its Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting.
- 16.14 The Board of Trustees shall make available to the investors the financial accounts, books, bank statements and any other financial documents that pertain to, or may impact their investments. In the event an investor is dissatisfied for any reason with the information the pertinent financial documents reveal, that person shall give the Chairman a written request to convene a special meeting of the Board within 21 days to discuss his/her concern. At the meeting the investor must be given ample time to voice concerns, and the Board shall address and resolve all relevant questions heretofore requested by that investor.
- 16.15 Members of the Board of Trustees shall be vested with the authority to acquire property or properties and to finance and or mortgage property or properties, to disburse any or all sums of money for the repayment of any debentures, mortgages, or other debts relating to the borrowing of such money for the acquisition of chattel or properties, and to set all policies relating to the management of all assets of CHANT d/b/a The North Texas Hindu Mandir.
- 16.16 The Board of Trustees is entrusted with the responsibility to oversee the financial growth of CHANT d/b/a The North Texas Hindu Mandir, to approve all funding, and to have the right to examine and inspect the financial accounts at all times.

- 16.17 The Board of Trustees must approve all expenditures of one thousand, two dollars (\$1,002.00) and more in any one (1) calendar month, other than the mortgage and organization salary payments.
- 16.18 The Board of Trustees shall vote by a quorum majority to sell, lease, rent or otherwise dispose of all real moveable and immovable properties vested in CHANT d/b/a The North Texas Hindu Mandir in the event of insufficiency of funds to pay the investors and any other creditors of CHANT d/b/a The North Texas Hindu Mandir.
- 16.19 The Board of Trustees shall approve by a quorum majority to purchase, to acquire or to lease property or properties for CHANT d/b/a The North Texas Hindu Mandir.
- 16.20 The Board of Trustees shall oversee the fair maintenance of all properties of CHANT d/b/a The North Texas Hindu Mandir. In the event the property and/or properties is/are not maintained or has/have fallen into disrepair, the Board of Trustees shall call an emergency meeting to vote by a quorum majority to allocate funds for the upkeep of the property and/or properties and shall allocate all necessary funds to maintain the aforesaid property and/or properties.
- 16.21 In the event of sale, bankruptcy or repossession of the vested property and/or properties of CHANT d/b/a The North Texas Hindu Mandir, the Board of Trustees shall distribute the sum or sums acquire there from as follows:
- Pay all taxes
  - Pay legal or professional fees
  - Pay any other governmental entities, such as outstanding violations or tickets
  - Pay all utility bills
  - Pay off creditors of real moveable property/chattel that CHANT d/b/a The North Texas Hindu Mandir has acquired by purchase agreement
  - Pay all investors based upon a ratio of investment as per investment as outlined in relevant legal document(s); such sums shall be distributed at one and the same specified time within one (1) month of the disposal of property and or properties.
- 16.22 **16.22 Signature Power of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees**  
The Chairman of the Board of Trustees, shall be vested with the power to sign agreements on behalf of the mandir which would bind the mandir for six months or more. This binding power will be given upon the consent of a simple majority of the members of the Board of Trustees. Such agreements include, but are not limited to, agreements to lease, buy, sell, mortgage property or assets, contracts for services, affidavits, and settlement agreements. In all other contracts the proper signators will be the current NTHM President and Secretary or Treasurer as allowed by standard business practices.

## **17. PUBLICATIONS ISSUED BY THE ORGANIZATION**

17. The Resident Pundit shall have the authority to create and revise the format for all religious worship, celebrations and observances. Resident Pundit will consult with the President for the dissemination of any material(s), or the discussion of any topics that do not pertain to religious scriptures.
- 17.1 Religious publications must be reviewed by the Resident Pundit for content approval. If it is determined by the Resident Pundit that the publication is inappropriate for religious and cultural purposes, the publication may not be published.