

**Indian Women Assosiation**  
**03/07/2009**  
**Camilles café, 10:30 a.m.**

**Board Members Present:** Asha Agarwal, Lakshmi Garimella, Kumari Govindraju, Padma Subramaniam, Shireen Hafeez, Tanuja Sheth and Aparna Puri

Meeting was called to order at 10:45.

1. Shireen Hafeez was asked to turn in the minutes of the last meeting. She agreed to do so.
2. Tanuja stated that she had taken care of some decisions regarding Holi cultural program while Aparna was in India. No body had any issues with that.
3. Tanuja and Aparna brought the board members up to date regarding IWA's earlier decision to allow non-member participation. Some IWA members had needed clarification. Tanuja pointed out that all the programs were first open to our member's children and that since there was space available, it was decided to open it to non-members. The only rule that applies strictly is that non-members and their families will pay non-member price of tickets regardless of whether they are participating or not. Board agreed.
4. Brief discussion about collecting dues from members. Padma expressed concern that Renu Bajaj may not like to collect money/checks throughout the year. Aparna will ask Renu if she is comfortable doing that. Board agreed that members should be able pay dues at any time, since they were used to doing that. Hopefully habits will change as IWA becomes more structured. The dues will not be prorated. The dues will be prorated only for non-members who become members after June 30. Padma requested that Renu be asked to maintain members lists by last name, not first and include husbands name. Aparna will communicate that to Renu.
5. **HOLI:** Overall in charge of the cultural program: Lakshmi and Kumari. They agreed to take responsibility for anything related to hall rental, rehearsals, setup at Harrison, and stage details. Their responsibilities include calling up all teachers and drawing up a list that would include: name of item/song, length of item, number of participants, names and ages of participants. They will finalize the length of the program before the next meeting. They will work out the details of the cultural program on the 18<sup>th</sup> April as well as the rehearsal on the preceding day at Harrison High School. They will give a timed slot to each group for practice. Some groups may require more than one rehearsal on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Aparna said that it should move efficiently so as to minimize the money spent on the 17th.
6. Rehearsal time at Harrison was set at 4:00 on 04/17/2009. Lakshmi to check the final time of reservation of facilities on the 18<sup>th</sup>.
7. **FOOD:** Instead of getting quotes from different restaurants, it was decided to give our business to Khana Khazana since they did an excellent job at the Diwali dinner, and since they are willing to work with us. Kumari pointed out that SASA is at Purdue on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Aparna and Tanuja to check with Anita Kumar if this

- constitutes a conflict for her and if she is interested in catering for IWA at the old rate of \$9/head. Padma asked if Anita will bring extra people to set up and clean up. Aparna pointed out that members, specially board members WILL need to help because Anita seems genuinely strapped for people as she does not have so many employees. Also, during Diwali, things ran smoothly because of volunteers help.
8. Decorations for Holi: discuss closer to Holi.
  9. Art Show: Aparna will include information to members through e-mail about our plan to do an arts/ crafts show to showcase the talents of children/youth/adults. Lakshmi will ask Harrison to set up tables in the hallway to display art. Discuss later how to collect art pieces.
  10. The discussion turned to the huge need for volunteers from the general IWA membership to fill many jobs. Shireen will draft a volunteer form and maintain the list. She was reminded by Padma that not many people may agree to help since we now have a Board which is expected to do everything. Padma was reminded that many people had promised to help verbally and on the survey. Shireen may have to call members to ask their help. Asha to help Shireen if needed.
  11. Sujatha Ramani will print the program for Holi.
  12. TICKETS: After much deliberation a timeline for ticket sales was established. Tickets will be sold from April 1-12. On the 13<sup>th</sup> (the following Monday) some late stragglers will surely arrive at Padma's door. Inform Anita of the final count of people on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Aparna to ask Anita the time until when she is willing to add people to the list. It was discussed that normally Anita guarantees no shortage of food if she takes her food back. The board sees value in this as we do not have to clean up. Also, this way we can sell dinner tickets for approx 15-20 people even at the door and we do not have to turn people away. Shireen proposed that we should increase the price of the tickets at the door to force people not to procrastinate buying earlier. Brilliant idea. Board agreed. Ticket prices will be decided on the next meeting by when we will have a better idea of Harrison price and food prices. We will also be able to better estimate the number of people attending since the list of participants/families will be drawn up. We will use stamps for separating show-only from dinner-included guests. Padma wants to hire at least two people to be present from an hour before the show till an hour after dinner starts to facilitate check in. They will be paid a total of \$30 each. Board agreed to hire because when the show starts, IWA volunteers want to see the show instead of checking in people. During the rush time initially, Board members (Padma, Aparna, Asha) will help check in. Aparna will draft a final e mail to IWA members and possibly use a format that Padma has to announce ticket sales.
  13. Next meeting time was decided after spring break --- Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 p.m. at Tanuja's house. Tanuja to send a reminder e mail.

Tanuja had to leave. Before she left she reminded members to warn all Board husbands to help!

14. MC: have a teens call out for MCs. Discuss with Tanuja as she trained them once for a Holi show.
15. Members Directory: Padma volunteered herself and Veena Saagi for the job. She will confirm with Veena. Aparna will get the final list of members and all their information to Padma by March 28<sup>th</sup>. Some members benefits should be included in the directory. Directory will have name labels and will be handed out at check-in. Check-in will be divided into at least 3-4 groups based on last names.
16. The board decided to solicit advertisements from local Indian businesses to include in the directory. \$10/quarter page, \$25/half page, \$50/full page. Aparna will call the following local businesses. Khana Khazana, Bombay, Taj Mahal, Masala Kitchen, Food Mart, Asia Market, Khyber Market, Eyebrows by India. Home businesses will have to pay similarly.
17. IWA Website: Board agreed to start planning after Holi

The meeting was adjourned at 12 p.m.

Minutes taken by Aparna Puri