BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SOUTHERN ALBERTA
Annual General Meeting
March 7, 2010 – BTSA Temple, following Sunday service

Present: Yasuo Izumi sensei; **Board:** Akira Ichikawa, Robert Takaguchi, Gordon Saruwatari, Roland Ikuta, Jack Nagai, Renae Barlow, Tak Okamura, Noris Taguchi, Nobby Sudo, Joe Tomiyama, Brenda Ikuta. **Others:** Sylvia Oishi, Pat Sassa, Roy Sassa, Keiko Gordon, Toshiko Tanaka, LaVerne Hamabata, David Major, Sway Nishimura, Totsy Nishimura, Sam Taniguchi, Tak Oga, Joy Saruwatari, Judy Takaguchi, Denise Takao, Gaye Takao, Sachi Izumi, Tak Tsujita, Yoko Tsujita, Mas Sunada, Miyo Sunada, Jim Tsukishima, Sumie Tsukishima, Harry Sugimoto, Reiko Takeyasu, Lorita Ichikawa, Mac Nishiyama, Reyko Nishiyama, Lilly Oishi

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1, The meeting was convened by Akira Ichikawa at 12:10 p.m. Sensei leading in gassho.

2. **Adoption of the Agenda**: Additions to the agenda: student membership and a 12th board member for the remainder of the 2 year term (to 2011 AGM).

3. **Minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting** were moved by Joe Tomiyama, seconded by Mac Nishiyama to be approved as presented.

Carried

4. **Chairman's Report.** (See attached report prepared by Akira Ichikawa). Mas Sunada moved that the Board Chair's report be accepted as presented. Seconded by Jack Nagai.

Carried

5. **Treasurer's Report.** (See attached report prepared by Ken Moriyama and Co., accounting firm) The Review Engagement Report was presented by Robert Takaguchi who noted / clarified the following:
   - The BTSA is mortgage free due to generous donations, fundraising activities, and a donation from Coaldale Buddhist Temple (which will be reported in the 2010 Financial Report).
   - The Long Term Investment of $80,865 (maturity date of September 17, 2012) was purchased by a BTSA member, so it is no longer an asset of the BTSA.
   - "Service Expenses" was totalled at $28,508. This category was intended for naijin repairs (approx. $1,400) but the accountant included expenses such as ABC expenses, Dharma School activities and Youth Activities.
   - The projected operating budget for BTSA for 2010 is estimated to be between $170,000 and $180,000 based on the first year of operations.
   - Utilities costs for 2009 cover the entire year whereas utilities costs for 2008 (year of construction) were for a portion of the year.
   - Donation revenue includes both Building Donations (approx. $320,000) and regular donations.
   - BTSA accepted approx. $1.3 million in donations which was over and above the assets of the amalgamating temples.

   Robert moved that the report be adopted as presented. Seconded by Jim Tsukishima.

   Carried

MOTION: David Major moved, Mac Nishiyama seconded that Ken Moriyama be retained to review the temple financial records for the year ending Dec. 31, 2010. Carried

6. **Minister's Report.** (See attached report prepared by Reverend Yasuo Izumi). Izumi Sensei moved that the Minister's report be adopted as presented. Seconded by Noris Taguchi.

Carried

7. **Committee Reports:**

a. **Membership Committee.** (See attached report prepared by David Major) David presented the report. The committees recommendations were acted upon in the following ways

MOTION: David Major moved, Roland Ikuta seconded that membership dues be set at $100 for 2010. Carried

- The Board will create a policy that permits the BTSA to have Student Members. This form of membership will not change the bylaws (i.e. not entitled to vote at AGM or hold office in BTSA, does not include membership in the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada) and therefore, will not have to be brought to the AGM.

- The Board will discuss the creation of a category of Associate Membership. This form of membership will not change the bylaws (see above) and will not have to be brought to the AGM. Suggestions were made that a) the fees cover the cost of mailing the Hikari such as $25 b) a donation to the temple automatically entitles you to the temple newsletter c) associate membership is available to people outside a 200km radius.

MOTION: Reiko Takeyasu moved, Sylvia Oishi seconded that the Membership Committee be disbanded. Carried

- The Board can establish new terms of reference for the Membership Committee and appoint committee members who will focus on the new directives.

b. **Religious Committee.** (See attached report prepared by Renae Barlow) Renae Barlow moved that the religious committee report be adopted as presented. Seconded by Sumie Tsukishima.

Carried

(Sub-Committee) Funeral Committee. (See attached report prepared by Pat Sassa) Pat Sassa moved that the funeral committee report be adopted as presented. Seconded by Roland Ikuta.

Carried

- Question regarding the number of funerals held in the new temple. The Board did not have the answer to this question. However, 23 members were listed in the Hikari since the temple opened. Some of these funerals were done at a funeral home. Sensei was asked to officiate a service in Calgary for a few.

c. **Program and Operations Committee.** (See attached report prepared by Lorita Ichikawa) Lorita presented the report and noted the extensive temple activities in the past year. Lorita moved that the program and operations report be accepted as presented. Seconded by Reiko Takeyasu.

Carried

d. **Dharma School Report.** (See attached report prepared by Lorita Ichikawa) Lorita noted that temple members will continue to be encouraged / invited to share their time and ideas with the Dharma Class. Lorita moved that the dharma school report be accepted as presented. Jim Tsukishima seconded.

Carried

1. **Other Reports:**

a. **Building Committee.** (See attached report prepared by Tak Okamura) Tak noted the activities in the first year of temple operations regarding maintenance and upgrades. He moved that the building report be accepted as presented. Seconded by Sway Nishimura.

Carried

b. **Fund-Raising Committee.** (See attached report prepared by Roland Ikuta) Roland noted that the building is now fully paid and the mortgage retired. As a result, the notice in the Hikari will be withdrawn. The Donors Board (currently under repair) will continue to be updated as long as donations continue to be received. There is currently a committee which advises the Board on how the casino funds could be utilized (David Major, Robert Takeguchi, Gordon Saruwatari, Brenda Ikuta). Roland moved that the fund raising committee report be accepted as presented. Mac Nishiyama seconded.

Carried

c. **Donation from Nikkei Culture Society.** Tak Okamura announced the receipt of a $5,000 donation from the NCS which is earmarked for BTSA youth activities.

9. **Resolutions.** (See Motion following Member Committee report)

10. **Other Business**

a. **12th Board Member.** Akira Ichikawa inquired if there was anyone interested in filling a vacant position on the Board for the remainder of the 2 year term.

- Joe Tomiyama nominated Jim Tsukishima. Jim declined the nomination.
- Point was made that the Board did not need to fill the vacancy with an elected candidate; it could be an appointment by the Board according to the bylaws.
- Sylvia Oishi's name was put forward to fill the vacancy. Sylvia stated that she would be willing to sit on the BTSA Board of Directors. The Board will discuss this further at the next board meeting.
- Question regarding the length of terms of the current directors. Some of the members thought that a portion of the Board would be ending their terms this year so that there would be staggered 2 year terms. The 2009 AGM minutes were referred to: "MOTION: Lorita Ichikawa moved, Jan Okamura seconded that all directors be elected to two-year terms, i.e., from the 2009 AGM to the 2011 AGM. Carried".

11. **Adjournment.** There being no other business, the AGM was adjourned at 1:27 p.m., on a motion by Jim Tsukishima. Akira Ichikawa closed the meeting by asking Izumi sensei for gassho.