

12/18/2011

**Meeting called by Gurparkash Singh**

**21 Signatures**

**Attendance - approx 40 people**

**Supporting documents:**

**Gurparkash Singh-Special Meeting December 18 2011.ppt**

**Harbhajan Nayar-Library Presentation-Open Meeting-Darbar Hall-December 18, 2011.ppt**

**Minutes**

Process followed-save minutes and keep presentation along with 21 signatures

**Opening statements - Dr. Gurparkash**

City only allowed library wall due to tejis relationship - no sprinklers and permission

Question asked in presentation

Why now

Where is in terms of priorities

Options considered incl moving wall

Approvals taken

**Response-Mr Nayar**

Structural changes required

Process followed

Institution is still maturing and systems not in place

Project - was under Gurpreet, Varjeet and Gulshan

Have been done by depts

Geeta-lead

4 phases

4 months

Cost \$2800

History

Constitution in Article II-aims - mention as a project (see presentation for correct info here)

Early in the year - was mention d by CJ at Divan

Oct-Geeta took lead

Geeta proposals - 4 phases, finish by Basakhi Day 2012 of high quality

Nov-60 emails exchange, Geeta

Talked to Principal and VP of Khalsa School

Contractors-\$2800 with 2 doors

Pillars - are in the middle and more space is needed

Order to contractor not issued to contractor due to this Petition

Timeline proposed  
Wall expansion - dec 31  
Tables changes by jan 31  
Sorting - feb 29  
Computerixairpn - mae 31  
Ann cement - Basakhi day

## **Q&A**

Gurparkash singh was not satisfied by answer

### **Baljeet singh**

Said process is being followed which is good  
Idea is good  
But no hurry

Mrs Puar

Against piecemeal soln  
Long term would like library in middle of old/new halls  
Do camp-which is higher priority. Need bathrooms/showers on topfloor for that

### **Karanjit Singh**

Agrees with Mrs Puar  
Against moving/removing - stage

### **CJ Singh**

Process was followed  
How will decisions made if we sped so much time on \$2800 of WC has to go

### **Gurpreet Singh**

Should be done  
Short term relief  
Do long term later

### **Gulshan Singh**

Rockland county lady who wants to study Sikhi during person illness-where will she get that info when no library  
Shed needed for gas - but no need for permission as WC should and can make decisions below \$10k as per Constitution  
Khalsa school said Yes

Middle space cannot be used for building Library as we need permission form Ctity and wqe are already over the limit for building halls

**Dr Puar**

Good process

No more camps due to no showers

Kids increasing

Thus a library in the middle is the solution

**Jasjit S. Bindra**

Think digital

No expansion needed just organization and ditizing

**Satbir Kaur**

Need to think longer term

No need to rush

Lets wait

**Mr. Kharbanda**

Pls do it ie go ahead with the expansion

Only \$2800 lets go with it

**Mandhir Singh**

Great to see meeting/process happening in open session

Governing council said 'yes' to expanding Library and if needed more space can be made by moving temporarily the stage

Timing is now because otherwise will disrupt classes

**Achint Kaur**

Mr Nayar consulted school

School had certain needs which were satisfied by WC

School Governing Counsel said Yes ot expansion

School/WC discussion included - work be done during winter break so as to not disrupt class, if needed more space can be made by moving statge (not permanentaly)

Now 200 kids enrolled so we need the middle of the old hall as well

**Email exchange**

12/19/2011

From Mandhir Singh

To Gurparkash Singh <gursingh2@yahoo.com>,

Harb Nayar <harb.nayar@gmail.com>

cc: CJ Singh <csingh\_softwareguru@hotmail.com>,

Tajinder Singh Jassil <jassil117@yahoo.com

SSA to all.

I had seeked S. Jassal's permission to take minutes of the meeting yesteday which I did.

I wanted to request S. Gurparkash ji and S. Harbhajan ji to to please sned me their presentations as I was not able to type fast enough to get some of the key points.

Once I clean up the notes will include the presentations and notes and send them to CJ to be archived on the website.

Feel strongly that we need to set precedent on the process and an audit trail for later on all meetings.

This one just happened to be the one.

Suggested timeline

By Wed evening - i will clean up my notes

By Wed evening - presentation to be sent to me

Friday - final notes along with presentation to CJ.

Before Sunday Divan end - CJ to post on to website

Sunday Divan-S Jassal lets Sangat know that the info is available on the Website.

Thanks all for your help.

Gur Fatih.

Reply/From Harb Nayar <harb.nayar@gmail.com>

To Mandhir Singh

cc Charanjit Singh <csingh\_softwareguru@hotmail.com>,  
Achint kaur <achintkaur.bwks@gmail.com>,  
Jasvinder Singh Oberoi <jasvinder@aol.com>,  
Geeta Kaur Ahluwalia <geetahl@hotmail.com>,  
Gurpreet Singh <gurpreet.dd@gmail.com>,  
Varjeet Singh <varjeet@gmail.com>,  
"Gulshan (Raja) Singh" <gulshan25a@hotmail.com>

Mandhir,

Attached is my presentation. You are welcome to use it any way you like.

Please note that I was substituting the role of Gulshan(Maintenance),Gurpreet (Sangat Welfare) and Varjeet (Children Welfare) (as they were not going to be continuously available from September onward-----As President I , as in past situations with all WC members, I became the facilitator by substituting the ones who were not available---the goal was to CONTINUE what needs to be done rather than wait)

Some places in the presentation, I have put CJ name and Geeta name. What that means is that that they know more than me that particular area. If need be, I with the help of Geeta and

others in WC or BKS can answer all 4 questions that Gurparkash feels were not answered. I need the 4 questions. Can you supply me the 4 questions?

As a side note: I do have the "good majority" vote of the WC which as per constitution is fully authorized to proceed with a project of this type and this amount with a good level of do diligence already done. I do not believe in "What is the rush" statement or "wait till the next committee" (Should the current committee stop working on October 1 each year until the next committee comes the following year?) or "he or they are doing for their glory and that is why they are in rush" etc. Gurparkash at the start of his presentation stated that the purpose why the petition was made was to get thoughts/opinions of all Sangat (Certainly all Sangat was not there). Now we, the 35-40 Sangat members, have heard. Speaking personally, I did not hear any solid or constructive option. I heard "no library" (because we are all in the digital age) or build a new building or keep the status Quo and puddle along. These are not good options. Where we go from here? Personally, I am struggling with 2-3 options----one being not to delay and proceed as planned and get the expansion done during X-mas holidays to meet BKS requirement of no or absolute zero interference with BKS school day. I DO NOT WANT TO WAIT. GEETA IS READY TO MOVE. ANY ONE, Give me one good reason why not to proceed immediately.

I do suggest the following to counter any argument that BKS loses space:

1. By just moving the existing stage closer to the Palki, you save enough space to put an extra class in the corner closest to the Nishan Sahib. Currently you have 5 class rooms on the walls on the new Darbar Hall side and 4 on the Parking lot side. By moving the stage toward Palki, you can have 5 on left wall and 5 on right wall. Right away gain of one. You can easily have at least 4 "back to back" in two rows in the center of the hall instead of currently two. This gives you another two classes. According to my sketch and dimensions taken, you can easily have 14 partitioned classes in the hall and still have lot of free space to roam around. Other designs are possible to accommodate even more class rooms ( more than 14 I just mentioned) within the 3100+ square feet remaining AFTER the library is expanded by 5 feet along the 35 feet of the 55 feet long wall. May be couple of people from BKS can be assigned to re-examine how best to utilize the available space in order to maximize the number of classes at one time.

It does not require a rocket scientist to see the gain of a good quality library (until the "new building" is constructed) without hurting all other current activities in the old Darbar Hall including BKS. Extra cost: \$2,800. We have the money from the project money dedicated to all needs of the library--including buying at least couple of computers and furniture and lighting if needed. All or most shelves are already in.

Actually BKS gains four things

1. A larger dedicated wall for BKS within the library as agreed with Achint and Jasvinder
2. Safer library when the two classes are held in the library---safer because it has two exit doors as compared to only one now. Also a metal frame rather than a wooden frame wall. Again more safe.

3. A place with tables, chairs, and computers to do research on a topic assigned by the teachers. This library will be similar to what kids are used to in schools. They can even bring their non-sikh friends from school any day any time to browse through books, newspapers or journals or reference books or even borrow books on Sikhi.
  4. Hold special mini seminars on Sunday or any other day in this smaller but private closed space.
  5. Have couple of permanent desk tops there to quickly go and do search on the internet if some special question needs to be answered on Sunday.
- Gur Fateh !!!!!

Reply/From Mandhir Singh  
To Harb Nayar <harb.nayar@gmail.com>  
cc Charanjit Singh <csingh\_softwareguru@hotmail.com>,  
Achint kaur <achintkaur.bwks@gmail.com>,  
Jasvinder Singh Oberoi <jasvinder@aol.com>,  
Geeta Kaur Ahluwalia <geetahl@hotmail.com>,  
Gurpreet Singh <gurpreet.dd@gmail.com>,  
Varjeet Singh <varjeet@gmail.com>,  
"Gulshan (Raja) Singh" <gulshan25a@hotmail.com>

Gur Fatih Uncle.

Duly noted. And thanks for the presentation.

I did speak to CJ post the meeting and suggested (not unique I am sure) that

3 people (and not more!) - possibly one from WC, Gurparkash Veerji (who brought the issue forward) and One other - maybe from the School or any neutral party, meet for 45 minutes (and no more!) during the week and resolve this.

I would request CJ to pls do this right away as "not deciding" (ie waiting) in itself is a "decision" being forced upon the Sangat

I would like to offer any sewa to help facilitate to a quick end to this matter.

I feel terrible that so much valuable time (this is not to blame anyone) has being spent on this and we may let circumstances decide the outcome

Gur Fatih

Mandhir Singh

Reply/From Gurparkash Singh  
To Mandhir Singh <mandhir.singh@gmail.com>,  
Harb Nayar <harb.nayar@gmail.com>  
cc CJ Singh <csingh\_softwareguru@hotmail.com>,  
Tajinder Singh Jassil <jassil117@yahoo.com>

Veerjeo,

Wahegurujikakhalsa Wahegurujikifateh

Thanks for taking the minutes. Please find enclosed the presentation. I would like to review the meeting minutes before they are posted.

Many thanks.

With Regards,

Gurparkash Singh

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Gurparkash Singh <gursingh2@yahoo.com>

Date: Tue, Dec 20, 2011 at 12:21 AM

Subject: 7 member committee

To: Tajinder Jassil <jassil117@yahoo.com>

Cc: Harbhajan Nayar <harb.nayar@gmail.com>

Veerjeo,

Wahegurujikakhalsa Wahegurujikifateh

Thanks for moderating the meeting. As per your suggestion of 7-member committee, I will forward 3 names to you in few days. I think we should be able to find a mutually acceptable 7th person.

Thanks, again.

With Regards,

Gurparkash Singh

Reply/From Harb Nayar <harb.nayar@gmail.com>

To Mandhir Singh

cc Charanjit Singh <csingh\_softwareguru@hotmail.com>,

Geeta Kaur Ahluwalia <geetahl@hotmail.com>,

Gurpreet Singh <gurpreet.dd@gmail.com>,

Varjeet Singh <varjeet@gmail.com>,

"Gulshan (Raja) Singh" <gulshan25a@hotmail.com>

We already have a 7 member committee. It is called WC---elected by the constitutional election process and representing the entire Sangat. There is absolutely no need to have another 7 member committee selected by few people.

All seven members of the WC were already at the meeting. All seven heard every thing. They have constitutionally blessed authority to make the decision for this kind of project. Keeping in mind what we all seven heard, we are now in a higher state to make the final decision. I have been waiting to hear from Gulshan and Charanjit. I need to be sure that CJ, Gulshan, Gurpreet and Varjeet are willing to say yes to moving the wall by feet, Once I am sure, I like to send an e-mail to all members of the WC with some cost benefit information and officially asked every one to vote. 5 out of 7 members saying yes will give us the "good majority---70%" for me to hire the contractor. I still want to get the expansion done this month.

CJ and Gulshan, it is the 3rd reminder for you to respond Yes or No. Gurjeet and Varjeet have responded. Please respond with yes or no by morning---I will be very upset if you do not.

Thanks  
Harbhajan

Reply/From Mandhir Singh  
To Gurparkash Sinhg  
cc Harb Nayar <harb.nayar@gmail.com>,  
CJ Singh <csingh\_softwareguru@hotmail.com>,  
Tajinder Singh Jassil <jassil117@yahoo.com>

Veerji SSA.

Thanks you so much for sending this presentation. It will be included in the documentation.

Veerji I will put the notes together and send them to CJ (website). I would humbly request that the information is disseminated to all equally and at the same time. Mr Nayar and rest of WC will also only get the minutes after being posted on the website.

Idea is to have independence in reporting minutes and happenings at GSSA. CJ is only getting them as he plays the dual role managing the website. I will request CJ not to discuss the notes with other members until they are posted and announcement made to Sangat by S Jassal ji.

I am only reporting what happened and will absolutely try my best to not let my biases get into the report. Longer term this process will work out better I feel. Tajinder Singh Jassil <jassil117@yahoo.com>

Bhul Chuk Maaf.

Gur Fatih  
Mandhir Singh

Reply/From CJ Singh <csingh\_softwareguru@hotmail.com>,  
To Mandhir Singh  
cc Harb Nayar <harb.nayar@gmail.com>,  
Gurparkash Sinhg  
Tajinder Singh Jassil <jassil117@yahoo.com>

I will respect privacy of these notes till they become public. CJ Singh

=====End of Report=====