

BY-LAWS OF SRI RANGANATHA TEMPLE

A Religious Corporation under Article 10 of the Religious Corporation Laws of the State of New York

Amended and Adopted as of November 25th, 2018

MISSION STATEMENT OF SRI RANGANATHA TEMPLE.

“ABSOLUTE SURRENDER TO LORD SRIMAN NARAYANA.”

ARTICLE I

RELIGIOUS PRACTICES:

Religious Practices. Sri Ranganatha Temple (herein after referred to as “Temple”) shall always follow religious practices based on the Visistadvaita philosophy as expounded by Sri Ramanujacharya and Sri Desikan and as practiced by Sri Ahobila Mutt of India in connection with religious worship, including but not limited to daily pujas, special holiday pujas and all other religious worship, inside or outside of the Temple premises or performed on behalf or by the Temple. The Temple shall preach “Absolute Surrender to Lord Sriman Narayana” to all the devotees without any discrimination based on gender, caste, religion or other beliefs.

Usage of the Hall. The Temple hall located in the lower level of the Temple premises located at 8 Ladentown Road, Pomona, New York shall be available to all the devotees as per the Hall Rental Policies established by the Board of Trustees from time to time, as to the rent, restrictions as to the religious practices, food and beverages, etc. Usage of the hall, exclusively for non-Visistadvaita philosophy is not permitted, however, said religious practices incidental to religious ceremonies such as a wedding ceremony, upanayanam, srimantham, naamakaranam, etc., will be permitted to accommodate the religious customs of the various devotees.

ARTICLE II

Members:

2.1 Membership. The Membership of Sri Ranganatha Temple shall be divided into three classes of members as follows (herein after referred to as "Members"). Any person is eligible to become a member, herein after referred as “Devotee”. Only Benefactors and Donors, who are defined later in sections 2.1.b and 2.1.c., who are of eighteen (18) years of age and above, shall be voting members. Membership dues once paid are non-refundable and non-transferable. All membership dues shall be by cash contributions and not based on donations in kind or services, except the market value of contributions in kind made from 1 January 2002 until 1 May 2005 shall be credited towards membership dues at the request of the devotees.

a. Life Members. Devotees who donate a sum of \$5,000.00, in one or more installments as established by the Board of Trustees (the "Board") are Life Members. Life Members shall be

entitled to a special ashtothra satanama archana service once a year on a date chosen by the Member.

b. Benefactors. Devotees who donate a sum of \$10,000.00, in one or more installments, as established by the Board, are Benefactors. A Benefactor shall be entitled to five special ashtothra satanama archana services each year on dates chosen by the Benefactor.

c. Donors. Devotees who donate a sum of \$20,000.00 in one or more installments, as established by the Board, are Donors. A Donor shall be entitled to ten special ashtothra satanama archana services each year on dates chosen by the Donor.

The board determined that if you choose to pay your membership in installments, all your installments must be received within two years of time. If not, your paid monies will be considered as donations and will not count towards life membership/donor/benefactor.

d. Determination of Voting Members: Every year, between February 1 and March 30, a written communication, either by first class mail or email, shall be sent to voting members address as shown in Temple records to confirm if they wish to continue as voting members. Members who elect not to continue as voting members and members from whom no response is received within 30 days from mailing shall be removed as voting members.

e. A member may request consideration to be restored to voting member status. The request may be sent either by first class mail to the temple mailing address (8 Ladentown Road, Pomona, NY 10567) or by an email to SRTLMS@RANGANATHA.org. The request must be received by the temple before the first day of May of the year and in order to be included in that years' eligible voting members list. The Board of Trustees shall review such request and restore the member to voting status.

2.2 Amendment to Membership Structure. The members of the Temple, at an annual or special meeting, have the power to alter or amend the Membership structure or amount of the dues based on the need for such a change, by a majority of the qualified voters voting thereon, a quorum being present.

2.3 Meeting and Voting. The annual meeting of the Members (the "Annual Meeting") for election of the Trustees of the Temple and for the transaction of such other business as may come before the Members shall be held on the Sunday before the Memorial Day observed in May of each year at the Temple premises, 8 Ladentown Road, Pomona New York, 10970 at 12 Noon, unless otherwise specified. Each voting member who has fully paid membership dues by the first day of May of the current year shall be entitled to one vote.

The annual reports of the Secretary and Treasurer shall be presented at the Annual Meeting for approval by a simple majority vote of the Members qualified and present to vote, quorum being present. Special meetings of the Members shall be held whenever called by resolution of the Board, or by the written demand or resolution to the Secretary by ten percent (10%) of the Members eligible to vote in the aggregate from any class of members. The Secretary, upon receiving the written demand or resolution, shall promptly give notice of such meeting as provided below, or if the Secretary fails to do so within fifteen (15) days thereafter, any Member signing such demand or resolution may give such notice.

2.4 Notice of Meetings. Written notice of the place, date and hour of the annual or special meeting shall be given to each Member entitled to vote at such meeting by posting at the Temple web site

or through e-mail to all the Members not less than fifteen (15) days and not more than fifty days before the date of said meeting; additionally a notice be given at the regular meeting of the Temple for public worship, at morning service, on each of two successive Saturdays immediately preceding such meeting by the priest of the Temple or by an officer of the Temple and by conspicuously posting such notice, in writing, upon the outer entrance to the principal place of worship of the Temple for a period of two successive Saturdays immediately preceding such meeting. Notices of special meetings shall indicate the purpose for which they are called and the person or persons calling the meeting.

2.5 Nominations for Trusteeship: The Secretary shall mail the announcement for annual meeting and elections of trustees to all members by 1st April of every year, along with nomination forms. The nomination form shall specify the number of trustees to be elected and the term for which the trustees will be elected. Members seeking trusteeship shall submit the completed nomination forms post marked or fax transmittal by 1st May of every year. If nomination is submitted via a fax, the original nomination form shall also be mailed to the Temple. Members seeking election shall specify the term of the trusteeships for which the members are submitting the nomination.

2.6 Quorum; Adjournments of Meeting. The quorum requirements for all meetings of the voting members at annual or special meetings shall be at least 10% of the voting members or 100 voting members of those qualified to vote and are actually present, whichever is less. In the absence of a quorum, the Members present in person may adjourn the meeting. Notice of the new meeting is not required if the time and place for the new meeting are announced at the meeting at which the adjournment is taken, and a notice be given by posting at the Temple web site, or through e-mail to all the members; additionally a notice be given at the regular meeting of the Temple for public worship, at morning service, on each of two successive Saturdays next preceding such meeting by the priest of the Temple or by an officer of the Temple and by conspicuously posting such notice, in writing, upon the outer entrance to the principal place of worship of the Temple for a period of two successive Saturdays next preceding such meeting and at the new meeting any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting as originally called.

2.7 Organization. The proceedings of the Member meetings shall be presided over by the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson or Secretary or any office bearer of the Board. In the absence of all of the foregoing individuals at a duly called meeting of the Members, the Members present at such meeting shall themselves by majority vote appoint an individual Member to preside over such meeting. The Secretary shall act as secretary at all meetings of the Members and shall make a record of the proceedings. However, in the absence of the Secretary, the senior most Officer of the Board present at such meeting shall appoint any person to act as secretary of the meeting. The types of records of the proceedings include but not limited to audio, visual and written reports.

2.8 Action by the Members. Except as otherwise provided by the Statute of New York Religious Corporation Laws or Articles of Incorporation of the Temple or by-laws of the Temple, any Temple action authorized by a simple majority of the votes cast at a meeting of the Members at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Members.

2.9 Special Action Requiring Vote of Members. The following corporate actions may not be taken without approval of the Members:

a. 100% of the votes cast at a meeting of the Members is required for a petition for judicial dissolution; and

b. two-thirds of the votes cast at a meeting of the Member is required for a petition to obtain court orders to (1) disposing of all or substantially all of the assets of the Temple, (2) approval of a plan of merger.

ARTICLE III

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

3.1 Powers and Duties. All the trustees shall diligently exercise their fiduciary duties to promote and protect the interests of the Temple at all times. All the activities of the Temple shall be managed and controlled by the Board of Trustees by the powers vested in the board by the Articles of Incorporation, by-laws and the statutory powers pursuant to the Religious Corporation Laws of the State of New York. The Board of Trustees shall fix the salaries and other compensations of all the employees including the priests.

The number of Trustees constituting the entire Board shall be nine (9). To be eligible to contest as a Trustee, one has to be a Member in good standing for at least one (1) year as of the first day of May during the year of the election and shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age. Trustees must actively participate in all Temple activities and must uphold the Articles of Incorporation and Mission of the Temple. Trustees, during their tenure, shall commit themselves to the Temple to propagate the Mission of the Temple, and to volunteer their services to the fullest extent possible. Trustees shall actively participate through all of the following 4 ways: 1) financial support of donations; 2) physical support such as performing maintenance, purchases, assisting priests for 4 hours a week; 3) performing administrative tasks like data maintenance, mailing, events publicity and coordination 4) propagate the Mission, including through personal example.

3.2 Elections and Term of Office. To accommodate the reduction in number of trustees from 15 to 9, as approved by the General Body during its annual meeting in 2004, there will be 3 trustees elected (instead of 5) in May 2005 for three year duration, there will be 3 trustees elected (instead of 5) in May 2006 for three year duration and there will be 3 trustees elected (instead of 5) in May 2007 for three year duration. After that from May 2008 onwards, at least one-third of the Trustees (three trustees per year) shall be elected every year at the annual meeting of Members by a majority vote, quorum being present. The Board Chairperson shall appoint a maximum of three returning officers for this election, who shall not be current trustees or a person on the list of trustees to be elected or their family members. All newly elected Trustees will serve for a period of three years, unless filling a vacancy. All outgoing officers shall submit Temple records (the type of records may include audio, visual and written reports), in whatever form they may be, in their possession to the Chairperson or Secretary at least one day prior to the Annual Meeting. A signed letter receiving the records shall be provided to the officers/ trustees whose term has expired upon submission of said records. The officers who fail to turn over such records and are not provided with a receipt shall not be permitted to contest in the election.

All elected trustees shall be given an orientation about the Temple's mission by the outgoing Chairperson or a designee, and will be administered an Oath-of-Office to uphold the Articles of

Incorporation and the Temple mission. (this is amended in 2018 as “Any Trustee who fails to attend 3 meetings in a year starting in the month of May of each year, shall cease to be a member of the Board of Trustees) .No two immediate members of the same family or closely related family members can be on the Board of Trustees or any other committees at the same time. (amended at GBM in 2006)

3.3 Vacancies. Vacancies of Trusteeships for any reason may be filled by nomination by the Chairperson and vote of a majority of the Trustees then in office, and in the event of a tie, the Chairperson shall have an additional vote and the Trustees so elected shall serve until the next annual meeting for election of trustees by the Members.

For any vacancies in the Board, the duration of the term for the newly elected Trustee will be for the un-expired term of the vacant board seat.

3.4 Resignations. Any Trustee may resign from office at any time. Such resignation shall be made in writing, and shall take effect at the time specified therein, and if no time be specified, at the time of its receipt by Temple or the Board Chairperson. Acceptance of a resignation by the Board of Trustees is not necessary to make it effective, but no resignation shall discharge any accrued obligation or duty of a Trustee. Said Trustees shall turn over all the Temple’s documents in their possession within seven (7) days of the submission of the resignation and the Chairperson shall send to the Board a letter of receiving the documents for record keeping.

3.5 Removal. Any Trustee may be removed at any time with cause by a two-third of the Board of Trustees then in office at any special meeting of the Board called for that purpose, provided that at least fifteen (15) days’ notice of the proposed action shall be given to the entire Board of Trustees then in office. Said board action could be vetoed by two-third vote of the Members in a special meeting or annual corporate meeting. Any Trustee can be removed at any time with or without cause by a two-third vote of the Members in a special meeting or in annual corporate meeting.

The afore mentioned removal for cause by the Board of Trustees shall take place e in any one of the following events:

- (a) a serious misconduct or violation of the Oath-of -Office;
Trustee’s actions in violation of the Temple Mission Statement and or Articles of Incorporation or bylaws of the Temple;
- (c) the Trustee is convicted of a criminal offense;
- (d) bad moral character of the Trustee;
- (e) if six meetings are missed in a year.

3.6 Meetings. Meetings of the Board shall be held at the Temple premises on the second Saturday of the month, as posted on the Temple web site, or as shall be specified in the notice or waiver of notice thereof. The first meeting of the Board of Trustees in each year shall be held immediately following the annual meeting of the Members and the election of the trustees. An additional eleven (11) meetings of the Board shall be held in the Temple until the following annual meeting but not to exceed the duration of one year.

Special meetings of the Board shall be held whenever called by at least two trustees, in each case at such time with at least twenty-four (24) hours of actual notice, personally or by mail at the Temple premises by the person or persons calling the meeting. All resolutions passed by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees shall be considered as official and authorizing. Proceedings

of the Board of Trustees meetings shall be presided over by the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson or Secretary or Joint secretary in the order of their presence. In the absence of all of these foregoing Office bearers at a duly called meeting, the board of trustees present at such meeting shall themselves by majority vote appoint an individual board of trustee present, to preside over such meeting. In the event of a tied voting of a resolution, at any board of trustee meeting, the presiding board of trustee shall have an additional vote and shall break the tie.

In case of emergencies, only where an action needs to be taken before the next board meeting, an emergency meeting may be held at the Temple with 24 hours of notice. Such emergency meetings of the Board shall be called by at least two trustees. Notification of such meeting may be through phone calls and/or e-mail based on trustees' preference stated at the first meeting. Trustees who cannot physically attend the meeting can participate in a teleconference through a phone bridge set up at the Temple premises. All resolutions passed at such teleconference meetings can be implemented immediately, however, said resolutions shall be ratified at the next board meeting.

3.7 Quorum and Voting. Unless a greater number is required by law, a simple majority (51% of the Trustees) of the entire Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business or of any specified item of business. Except as otherwise provided by the statute or Articles of Incorporation or by these Bylaws, the vote of a majority of the Trustees present at the time of the vote, provided a quorum requirement are met, shall be the act of the Board. In the event of a tied voting of a resolution, at any board of trustee meeting, the presiding board of trustee shall have an additional vote and shall break the tie. If at any meeting of the Board there shall be less than a quorum present, the Trustees present shall adjourn the Meeting until a quorum is realized.

3.8 Actions without a meeting. Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board or any committee thereof may be taken without a meeting if all Trustees (100%) of the Board or the entire committee consent in writing to the adoption of resolution authorizing the action and waiving the notice and meeting. The resolution and the written consents thereto by the Board of Trustees or committee shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board or committee.

3.9 Notice of Meeting for Board of Trustees. Notice of the time and place of each regular meeting of the Trustees, together with a written agenda stating all matters upon which action is proposed to be taken and, to the extent possible, copies of all documents on which action is proposed to be taken, shall be sent by regular mail to all Trustees of the committee, addressed to their residence or usual place of business or at such other address as the member may have designated in a written request filed with the Secretary, or through electronic medium Fax, E-mail, Web access, etc. at least fifteen (15) days before the day on which the meeting is to be held. Dates of the regular meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be posted on the Temple web site by fourth Sunday of every June for the meetings to be held until the annual meeting.

The notice of special meetings shall contain the information as to what purpose the meeting is called, and by whom the same is called, along with the time, date and place and be served as set forth in Section 3.6 herein.

3.10 Compensation. No compensation shall be paid to Trustees. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the foregoing, Trustees shall be entitled to reimbursement of out-of-pocket costs and expenses incurred by such Trustee in the conduct of Temple related services, with prior approval of the board and subject to submission to the Board of documentation of such costs and expenses

reasonably acceptable to the Board. Trustees shall submit their estimate of expenses for Board approval prior to the incurrence of the expenditure, except for official routine and operational expenses such as payroll, postage, utility bills, and grocery. Unauthorized expenses shall not exceed \$100.00 per month per trustee.

3.11 Any new project (other than repairs or maintenance projects on existing structure and installation) submitted by a Trustee involving an expenditure, can be taken up for discussion at a BOT meeting, only if the expense is off-set by the Trustee by way of fund-raising, donation or individual responsibility. After the BOT approves the project, the expense has to be approved by LMC as per applicable laws. (this was amended by the GBM 2007, as there is NO more a Loan Management Committee in existence).

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, AND AGENTS:

4.1 Officers and Qualifications. The officers of the Temple shall be a Chairperson, one Vice Chairperson, a Secretary, a Joint Secretary, Treasurer, a Joint Treasurer and / or any such other officers as the Board of Trustees may appoint. One person may not hold more than one office in the Board. All officers shall be Trustees of the Temple.

4.2 Elections and Term of Office. The officers of the Temple shall be elected at the first meeting of the Board of Trustees held immediately following the annual meeting of Members and the election of the trustees. The outgoing Chairperson or Vice Chairperson or Secretary or Treasurer (in the order listed) shall act as the presiding officer until the new Chairperson is elected. Each such officer, whether elected at the first Meeting or to fill a vacancy or otherwise, shall hold office until the close of the election of officers at the first Meeting next held after Trustees' election.

4.3 Removal. Any Officer may be removed with cause by a vote of the majority (two-thirds of the trustees) of the entire Board of Trustees.

4.4 Vacancies. In case of any vacancy in an office, a successor to fill the unexpired portion of the term of the Officer may be elected by the Board of Trustees.

4.5 Chairperson: Powers and Duties. The Chairperson shall preside at all Meetings of the Members and of the Board of Trustees. The Chairperson shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Temple, and shall keep the Board of Trustees fully informed and the Trustees also keep the Chairperson fully informed, about all the activities of the Temple. The Chairperson shall delegate the duties to the officers. The Chairperson and the Secretary together shall sign and execute in the name of the Temple all contracts authorized specifically by the Board of Trustees. The Chairperson shall perform all the duties usually incident to the office of the Chairperson, including the casting of a tie-break vote, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Trustees.

4.6 Vice-Chairperson: Powers and Duties. The Vice Chairperson shall, with the help of the Secretary or a designated officer or any designated Trustee conduct and oversee the day-to-day affairs of the Temple and shall have such other powers and duties as maybe assigned by the

Board of Trustee. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson, in the order designated by the Board of Trustee, shall perform the duties of the Chairperson.

4.7 Secretary: Powers and Duties. The Secretary shall keep all the official records of the Temple, the minutes of the Annual Meeting and the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Trustees. The Secretary shall prepare minutes of the board meetings and publish to Trustees of the Board within fifteen (15) days. If the Secretary cannot post in two weeks, the Secretary shall give a reasonable date to post the minutes. In no circumstances, the Secretary cannot exceed 30 days from the BOT meeting date. The Secretary shall also be in charge of the maintenance and upkeep of the Temple, as assisted by the Joint Secretary. The Secretary shall also be responsible for the giving and serving of all notices of the Temple and shall perform all the duties customarily incident to the office of the Secretary, subject to the control of the Board of Trustees, and shall perform such other duties as shall be assigned by the Board of Trustees.

4.8 Treasurer: Powers and Duties. The Treasurer, assisted by the Joint Treasurer, shall keep or cause to be kept full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements of the Temple, and shall deposit or cause to be deposited all moneys, evidence of indebtedness and other valuable documents of the Temple in the name and to the credit of the Temple in such banks or depositories as the Board of Trustees may designate. The Treasurer shall also be part of all fund-raising activities of the Temple. At the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees and on a monthly basis to the Board of Trustees, the Treasurer shall render a statement of the Temple's accounts. The Treasurer shall at all reasonable times exhibit the Temple's books and accounts to any officer or Trustee of the Temple and shall perform all duties incident to the position of Treasurer subject to the control of the Board of Trustees, and shall when required, give such security for the faithful performance of the Treasurer duties as the Board of Trustees may determine.

4.9 Joint Secretary: The Joint Secretary will assist the Secretary in all activities and in the absence of Secretary, shall perform the duties of the Secretary.

4.10 Joint Treasurer: The Joint Treasurer will assist the Treasurer in all activities and in the absence of Treasurer, shall perform the duties of the Treasurer.

4.11 Compensation: No officer of the Temple is authorized to receive a salary or other compensation for services rendered to the Temple. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the foregoing, Officers shall be entitled to reimbursement of out-of-pocket costs and expenses incurred by such officers in the conduct or Temple related services, with prior board approval and subject to submission to the Board of documentation of such costs and expenses reasonably acceptable to the Board. Trustees shall submit their estimate of expenses for Board approval prior to the incurrence of the expenditure.

ARTICLE V

RELIGIOUS COMMITTEE:

5.1 Powers and Numbers. The religious affairs and religious activities of the Temple shall be coordinated by the Religious Committee (herein after referred to as "RC"), as may be appointed by the Chairperson and approved by the BoT, for the purpose of promoting the practice of the

principles outlined in the Temple Mission and the articles of incorporation of the Temple. The RC shall make recommendations to the Board and the Board shall give reasonable consideration for the recommendations made by the RC provided the same are in the best interest of the Temple. The Board's decisions shall be final in all religious and Temple matters, and shall be in accordance with the Temple Mission and the Articles of Incorporation of the Temple. The RC shall consist of a minimum of five members and two-thirds of said members shall follow Sri Ahobila Mutt sampradayam.

The Religious Committee of the Temple (RC) has a unique role to play in the conduct of the affairs of the temple pertinent to the propagation of the mission of this temple: Absolute surrender to Lord Sriman Narayana. Hence, in all religious matters including the conductance of the worship consistent with the temple mission, selection of priests and cooks, evaluation of their performance on a quarterly basis from internal and external inputs, renewal of contract or otherwise up to and beyond two years in exceptional cases, the RC shall make the appropriate recommendations to the Board of Trustees (BOT) for review and approval. BOT shall provide written response if there is non-concurrence with the recommendations of the RC. In such cases the RC shall take into account the suggestions of the BOT and respond in writing. If the non-concurrence persists between the RC and BOT after three rounds of recorded exchanges, the final recommendations/decisions of the RC are final.

The Religious Committee shall have the following functions, among others, that may from time to time fall within its arena, as may be decided by the BoT:

- (a) Recommend the Religious Days to be observed and the Religious Festivals to be celebrated.
- (b) Prepare Annual Srivaishnava Religious Calendar for publication.
- (c) Provide two-month religious calendar and special religious functions to be celebrated by 20th of every month.
- (d) Ensure that the key religious events of Visistadvaita followers are taken into account and recommended for celebration.
- (e) Establish and oversee performance of daily service, rituals, festivals and Utsava and ensure steady supply of needed materials.
- (f) Arrange periodically religious functions in various parts of North America to promote the Temple Mission, to increase membership and to raise funds.
- (g) Ensure that the priests perform the religious services at the Temple and in the homes of the members of the community in accordance with the Temple mission.
- (h) Ensure necessary items, such as flowers, fruits, camphor etc., for archanas and key functions are provided to the priest before the functions.
- (i) Evaluate prospective candidates for priests and cooks and make recommendation to the Board for selection.
- (j) The candidates must have undergone Pancha Samskara and Bhara Nyasa (Prapatti/Saranagathi) under a bonafide Srivaishnava Sadacharya. The candidates must have demonstrated the practice of Sri Vaishnavism and follow Visistadvaita philosophy, including the performance of Nithya and Naimithika karmas as ordained by the Sasthras, daily Thiruvaradhana (Pooja), and Goshti recitation of Divya Prabhaandha and/or Veda Parayana, exclusive worship of Lord Sriman Narayana according to the tenets of Visistadvaita philosophy. The appointments of priests and cooks by the BOT shall be only from the list of recommended candidates provided by the RC. (this was later amended in a 2005 BOT meeting unanimously that Saranagathi for Priests and cooks is on their own accord and may not be mandatory).

- (k) Review and make recommendations for any religious text material to be used within the Temple Complex.
- (l) Arrange Special Pujas to be performed by the Children and Youth of the community.
- (m) Ensure the incorporation and the Mission of Temple are upheld.
- (n) A quarterly, tele-conference meeting may be held with the Jeeyar Swamy of Sri Ahobila Mutt of India to inform the Jeeyar Swamy of the activities of the Temple and to obtain religious guidance and blessings. The Religious committee chairperson shall within three (3) days after said conference, send a letter to the Jeeyar Swamy in writing confirming the conversations over the telephone with the Jeeyar Swamy, to avoid any misunderstandings. A copy of said letter shall be copied to the Board of Trustees. Copies of any correspondence received from the Jeeyar Swamy shall be provided to the Board of Trustees on a regular basis, at least, quarterly.
- (o) Establish a Kitchen Policy and ensure that only the priests, the cooks and devotees who have undergone pancha samskara and display Srivaishnava Svaroopam (Kaccha, Madisaar and Pundras) enter the kitchen.
- (p) The selection of the priests and cooks will be made only from the candidates identified, screened and recommended by the RC.

5.2 Qualifications. Devotees must meet the following qualifications to be eligible for becoming a member of the RC.

Must have undergone Panca Samskara and Bhara Nyasa (Prapatti/Saranagathi) under a bonafide Srivaishnava Sadacharya. Must demonstrate the practice of Sri Vaishnavism and follow Visistadvaita philosophy. This includes the performance of Nithya and Naimithika karmas as ordained by the Sasthras, daily Thiruvardhana (Pooja), and Goshti recitation of Divya Prabhaandha and/or Veda Parayana, except for women, exclusive worship of Lord Sriman Narayana according to the tenets of Visistadvaita philosophy. Followers of any one of the various schools of Visistadvaita philosophy as expounded by Sri Ramanujacharya and Sri Desika are eligible, provided they meet the requirements set forth in this Article. Must maintain a standard of practice of the religion so as to be able to help the priest during special celebrations, religious practices, festivals, etc.

5.3 Election and term of Office. The RC members shall be nominated and elected at a regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees with a simple majority of trustees present and voting.

5.4 Term. RC members shall serve for one year. They may concurrently serve in the Board of Trustees if duly elected by the Members.

5.5 Organization. The Board Chairperson may nominate the RC Chairperson. The RC Chairperson shall preside over all the RC meetings and shall make a record of the proceedings of all the meetings. The types of records of the proceedings include audio, visual and written reports. A copy of the minutes of the meetings shall be provided to the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all the procedural requirements are met by said meetings.

5.6 Meetings. Meetings of the RC shall be held at the temple. The annual meeting of the RC Members in each year shall be held after the annual meeting of the Members within a reasonable period of time. The RC shall hold twelve (12) regular meetings, including the annual meeting. Special meetings of the RC shall be held whenever called by a majority of the RC Members, or the Chairperson of the RC, or the Chairperson of the Board, in each case at such time and place as shall be fixed by the person or persons calling the meeting. At the discretion of the RC members,

these meetings may be held by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all RC members participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting,

5.7 Quorum and Voting. Unless a greater proportion is required by law, a majority of the entire RC shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business or of any specified item of business. Except as otherwise provided by statute or by these Bylaws, the vote of a majority of the RC Members present at the time of the vote, provided quorum requirements are met, shall be the act of the RC. If at any meeting of the RC there shall be less than a quorum present, the RC Members, present may adjourn the Meeting until a quorum is realized.

5.8 Resignations. Any RC Member may resign from office at any time. Such resignation shall be made in writing addressed to the RC Chairperson, and shall take effect at the time specified therein, and if no time be specified, at the time of its receipt at the Temple address or the Board Chairperson. The acceptance of a resignation by the RC of RC Members shall not be necessary to make it effective, but no resigned member of RC shall discharge any accrued obligation or duty of a RC Member.

5.9 Removal. RC Member may be removed for failure to continue to meet the qualifications specified in paragraph 5.2 and render the duties specified in paragraph 5.1 and for cause as specified in 3.5 (a) to (d) of the subject By-Laws, by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees. Any member of RC who misses SIX meetings conducted at the Temple Premises in a year, ceases to be a member of the RC.

5.10 Notice of Meeting. Notice of the time and place of each regular or special meeting of the RC, together with a written agenda stating all matters upon which action is proposed to be taken and, to the extent possible, copies of all documents on which action is proposed to be taken, shall be sent by regular mail to each RC Member, addressed to RC member's residence or usual place of business (or at such other address as the RC member may have designated in a written request filed with the RC Chairperson), or through electronic medium (Fax, email, web access etc.), at least seven (7) days before the day on which the meeting is to be held; provided, however, that notice of special meetings to discuss matters requiring prompt action may be sent to RC member by electronic mail, telegram or cablegram or given personally or by telephone, no less than forty-eight (48) hours before the time at which such meeting is to be held, unless the meeting must be held within forty-eight (48) hours. Notice of a meeting need not be given to any RC Member who submits a signed waiver of notice to RC Chairperson whether before or after the meeting, or who attends the meeting without protesting, prior thereto or at its commencement, the lack of notice to RC member. No notice need be given of any adjourned meeting.

5.11 Compensation. No compensation shall be paid to RC Members. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the foregoing, RC Members shall be entitled to reimbursement of out-of-pocket costs and expenses incurred by such RC Member in the conduct of Temple related services, subject to Board of Trustees approval and to submission to the RC of documentation of such costs and expenses reasonably acceptable to the RC. RC Members shall submit their estimate of expenses for Board approval prior to the incurrence of the expenditure.

ARTICLE VI

COMMITTEES:

6.1 Committees of the Temple. The Board, by resolution adopted by a majority of the Board of Trustees, may establish and appoint committees, without contradicting any of the Articles. The Board Chairperson may nominate a Trustee as the chairperson of each committee and the Board Members shall approve the nomination. Each committee so appointed shall consist of at least three (3) Members of the Temple and shall have only the powers specifically delegated to them by the Board in the resolution establishing it. All members of the committees shall be Members of the Temple. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the foregoing, in no event shall such committees have any power with respect to any of the following matters:

- a) fixing compensations for any employees of the Temple,
- b) filling vacancies in any committees,
- c) making any representations as an agent of the Temple in any capacity.

The Chairperson of the respective committee shall coordinate all the committee activities. All the committees established pursuant to the subject Bylaws are recommending bodies. The Board of Trustees shall give reasonable consideration to the committees' recommendations.

The designation of such committees shall not operate to relieve the Board of Trustees, or any individual Trustee, of any responsibility imposed on the Board of Trustees or such Trustee by law. All Committees will adhere to similar guidelines with respect to:

- a) Term of membership
- b) Number of meetings
- c) Attendance to meetings
- d) Removal from committee

No two immediate members of the same family or closely related family members can be on any committee at the same time

6.2 Term of Office. Each member of a committee shall continue as such until the next annual meeting of the Temple or until new committee members are appointed, unless the committee is sooner terminated, or the member is removed from such committee or shall cease to qualify as a member thereof. Members shall serve for one year. They may concurrently serve in the Board of Trustees if duly elected by the Members

Any member of BOT, RC, MC etc. (except LMC) any committee who misses three (per amendment 2018) meetings conducted at the Temple Premises in a year, ceases to be a member of that committee.

Removal. Committee Member may be removed for failure to continue to meet the specified qualifications and render the duties specified and for causes as specified in 3.5 (a) to (d) of the subject By-Laws, by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees

6.3 Appointments Committee. The Appointments Committee shall oversee the employment affairs of the Temple subject to board approval. The Appointments Committee shall consist of the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer of the BoT. The Appointments Committee may appoint from time to time such employees and other agents as shall deem necessary, each of whom shall be employed at the pleasure of the Appointments Committee, and who shall have such authority and perform such duties as the Appointments Committee may from time to time determine. No such

employee or agent need be a Trustee of the Temple. Any employee or agent of the Temple may be removed with cause by a majority (two-thirds) vote of the Board of Trustees, recognizing the applicable laws. The appointments of priests and cooks may only be from a list of recommended candidates provided by the RC.

6.4 Appellate Committee. The Appellate Committee shall oversee and investigate Temple employee grievances. The Appellate Committee shall consist of the Vice Chairperson (s), Joint Secretary and Joint Treasurer and make recommendations to the Board of Trustee.

6.5 Finance Management Committee. The Finance Management Committee shall oversee the financial affairs of the Temple. The Committee shall consist of the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer of the BoT, and may include three or more individuals who must be Members of the Temple and experienced in business and finance. The Chairperson of the Committee shall work closely with the LMC. The Committee will be responsible for all fund-raising activities, capital projects and ensure that the same shall be conducted in full compliance with the Mission of the Temple, and applicable Federal, State and Local laws, rules, regulations and orders. No fund-raising contrary to the Mission shall be conducted. The function of this Committee will be to advise the Board on all financial matters of the Temple, Priest's residence and other acquisitions of the Temple. The Committee shall have the following functions, among others, that may from time to time fall within its area, subject to approval of the Board.

- (a) Receive and evaluate the budgets submitted by various Committees and recommend a master budget for the consideration by the Board;
- (b) Recommend investments to the Board of Trustees;
- (c) Recommend allocation of funds to the Board;
- (d) Maintain an updated list of Members including monthly donors at all times;
- (e) Ensure that the non-donor community members are contacted on a regular basis;
- (f) Hold meetings as required and provide copy of the minutes to the Board;
- (g) Assist the Treasurer in day-to-day finance related matters;
- (h) Ensure that the monthly pledges that are made are followed up and collected on timely basis; Increase the monthly pledges by fund raising activities.

6.6 Maintenance and Construction Committee. The Maintenance and Construction Committee shall oversee the maintenance and construction matters of the Temple. The Committee shall consist of the Chairperson, who may be appointed by the Chairperson of BoT, who is a member of the Board and is approved by the Board, and include three or more individuals who must be Members of the Temple and experienced in design, engineering and construction activities. The Chairperson of the Committee shall work closely with the BOT and LMC. The Committee will be responsible for managing all approved capital projects and ensure that the same shall be conducted in full compliance with the Mission of the Temple, and applicable Federal, State and Local laws, rules, regulations and orders. The Committee shall advise the Board on all maintenance and construction matters of the Temple, Priest's residence and other acquisitions of the Temple. The Committee shall have the following functions, among others, that may from time to time fall within its area, subject to approval of the Board.

- a) Prepare, coordinate, obtain BOT approval and issue statement of work to qualified contractors.
- b) Receive and evaluate the offers submitted by contractors and recommend for the consideration by the Board;

- c) Hold meetings as required and provide copy of the minutes to the Board.
- d) Manage the approved capital improvement projects and provide status on a monthly basis to the BOT
- e) Present recommendations on: Proposed works, pending works, expected dates of Completion of all pending works, alternate arrangements for long-pending projects, Expenditure involved to complete pending works and a complete site visit report of the Temple Property, etc. to BOT and for any needed approval.

ARTICLE VII

Loan Management Committee: (abandoned at GBM 2007)

7.1 Purpose. In view of financial discipline of and in consideration of the need to have the loans to be paid on time by the Temple, and to raise additional funds in the future as needed, a Loan Management Committee (hereafter "LMC") shall be established so as to ensure that the revenues and the expenses of the Temple are budgeted and monitored on a regular basis. The LMC ceases to exist after all loans have been cleared and the applicable functions of the LMC shall transfer to the Finance Management Committee. (this is amended and LMC is no longer in place, as adopted in GBC of 2007).

7.2. Eligibility: The eligibility requirements for membership in the LMC are:
Member of Temple and lent a loan of at least \$50,000.00 to the Temple,
Any Corporation of creditors or group of creditors who has loaned minimum of \$50,000.00 to the Temple provided the representative of the creditors is also a Member of the Temple,
Each LMC member shall have one vote for each \$50,000.00 loan. The member continues as a member of the LMC until the loan to said member is paid in full. The eligibility requirements for becoming a member of LMC shall not be changed without the approval of the Board of Trustees. The Chairperson of the LMC must be a Trustee and shall be elected by the members of the LMC for a term of one year.

7.3 Delegation of Vote: An LMC member who is unable to attend a meeting can delegate his/her votes to another LMC member.

7.4 Functions of the Loan Management Committee:

- (i) Meet on a regular basis as needed to evaluate the financial performance of the Temple. Such meeting may also be conducted using telephone conference facility. The LMC meeting report shall be presented to the Board by the Chairperson of the LMC
- (ii) Evaluate and approve the various bids for the construction of the Temple and other projects recommended and approved by Board of Trustees. No contract above \$5,000.00 can be executed without the approval of the LMC.
- (iii) Evaluate and approve any project that involves expenses that exceed \$5,000.00 per project. The Board of Trustees or any other body of Temple cannot enter into any financial obligation on behalf of the Temple in excess of \$5,000.00 per project. Expenses in ordinary course of the Temple's day-to-day operations such as utilities, routine maintenance, puja expenses, etc., are exempt from LMC review.

7.5 The Board of Trustees shall not borrow any amount in excess of \$50,000.00 without the approval of LMC.

ARTICLE VIII

CONTRACTS, CHECKS, BANK ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS:

8.1 Checks, Notes and Contracts. The Board of Trustees is authorized to select such depositories as it shall deem proper for the funds of the Temple and shall determine who shall be authorized on the Temple's behalf to sign bills, notes, receipts, acceptances, endorsements, checks, releases, contracts and documents.

8.2 Source of Funds. The source of funds for the Temple shall be from voluntary donations, membership dues, loans, Hundi collections, plate collections inside and outside of the Temple, charges for religious and cultural activities such as pujas, dance, drama, music concerts, etc. and any other closely related activities. The Board of Trustees shall approve all fund-raising activities to ensure that the same shall be conducted in full compliance with the Mission of the Temple and applicable Federal, State and Local laws, rules, regulations and orders. No fund-raising contrary to the Temple's Mission shall be conducted.

All collections, including but not limited to Hundi and Plate collections, except as provided in paragraph 8.3 heretofore, made on behalf of the Temple shall be deposited to the Temple account on a regular basis. All the cash collected in the Hundi and the Plate collections shall be counted according to the established procedures of counting the cash, by two (2) trustees and at least two (2) devotees who are attending the Temple on the day of counting.

8.3 Acharya Sambhavana. The 44th Jeeyar of Sri Ahobila Mutt, who is the Founder-Acharya of the Temple, and the successor Jeeyar Swamy of Sri Ahobila Mutt of India who provides religious guidance to the Temple shall be honored with Acharya Sambhavana. A hundi with the sign, "Acharya Sambhavana to Sri Ahobila Mutt," shall be placed in front of the sannidhi of 44th Jeeyar Swamy, Sri Mukkur Azhagiya Singar. Said notice shall be conspicuously posted on this Hundi to inform all the donors that the collections from said Hundi will be donated to Sri Ahobila Mutt of India. All the donations pursuant to this section shall be in compliance with all the regulations of the Internal Revenue Services of USA and India. The Board of Trustees are authorized to continue the Hundi, limit the time during which the Hundi will be placed or remove the Hundi after certain amount is collected in each year, taking into consideration the best interest of the Temple, financially or otherwise.

8.4 Investments. The funds of the Temple may be retained in whole or in part in cash or be invested and reinvested from time to time in such property, real, personal, as the Board of Trustees may deem desirable, but in all events such funds shall be used for the purpose set forth in the Mission of the Temple.

ARTICLE IX

OFFICE AND BOOKS:

9.1 Office. The office of the Temple shall be located at 8 Ladentown Road, Pomona, New York.

9.2 Books. Current and accurate books of account of the activities and transactions of the Temple which shall contain a copy of the Certificate of Incorporation, a copy of Bylaws, and all minutes of meetings of the Members and of the Board of Trustees, all bank and accounting documents, committee meetings shall be kept at the office of the Temple. And the same are made available for review to all the members at request.

ARTICLE X

FISCAL YEAR:

10.1 Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Temple shall be January 1st to December 31st of the calendar year, or, as determined by the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE XI

AMMENDMENTS:

These By-laws may be amended or repealed by the affirmative vote of a two-third of the Members of the Temple present at an annual meeting or a special meeting duly called for the purpose of altering these by-laws, with fifteen (15) days' prior notice, providing notice of the proposed alteration has been included in the notice of the meeting and subject to the notice requirements of an annual or special meeting for Members set forth in these by-laws. No amendment shall ever be made in violation of the Temple Mission Statement and Articles of Incorporation of the Temple.

SRI RANGANATHA SEVA SAMITHI, INC., a Not-For-Profit Corporation formed under Section 402 of the Not- For-Profit Law of the State of New York shall adopt and follow the by-laws of the Sri Ranganatha Temple until it is dissolved. The Board of Trustees elected for Sri Ranganatha Temple shall serve as the Board of Trustees of Sri Ranganatha Seva Samithi, Inc.