

Townhall Meeting for Community Center Building

2/11/2018/ 1:00PM/ University Heights Building/ Room no 109

Attendees

1. Shree ram Dahal
2. A.C. Sherpa
3. Pashupati Pandey
4. Som Ghimire
5. Ruby Shrestha
6. Prakash Thapaliya
7. Yadav Bhattarai
8. Hari B. Gurung
9. Krishna Gurung
10. Bipin Giri
11. Buddhi Jung Kunwar
12. Dasharath Budhathoki
13. Subash Prajapati
14. Suroj Kumar Dangol
15. Ujwal Joshi
16. Iswor Khosin
17. Tek N. Shrestha
18. Prakash Dhamala
19. Gagan Chetry
20. Jagu Dahal
21. Pushpanjali Basnet/Hamal
22. Santosh Hamal
23. Bishesh Acharya
24. Janesh Devkota
25. Ujjwal Khadka
26. Krishna Sapkota
27. Durga Shrestha
28. Nabin Khanal
29. Lila Shrestha
30. Mukunda Bam Malla
31. Gyan Bade
32. Sameer Bam Malla
33. Ayog Bam Malla
34. Krishna B. GC
35. Jeeten Shrestha
36. Ganesh Shiwakoti
37. Nitin Thapa
38. Arjun Adhikari

39. Mohan Shrestha
40. Madhab Bhandari
41. Saurav Kakshapati
42. Neelima Poudyal
43. Deepesh Ale
44. Richa Thapa Magar

Agenda

- To present the proposed project plan for the Nepalese Community Building among the stakeholders, i.e (Nepalese in WA State)
- To obtain the opinion and voices of all the community members regarding the initiation of the project
- To discuss and identify the important steps, guidelines, blockers, if any, during the process and to ascertain relevant measures, expertise to materialise the proposed plan into action
- To gather community support and commitment for making the project possible.

Items Discussed

- This meeting is a kick off meeting for the project. Presentation by Richa Thapa and distribution of brochure. QR code for additional resource access. Discussions on immediate and long term plans.
- Community building can be taken as the one stop for the cultural functions, platform for several communal activities, knowledge sharing, symbol of identity and pride,
- Looking for appropriate venues in consideration with several legal, financial, real estate conditions. (Please refer to this [LINK](#) for further information on the possible identified conditions for project sustainability)
- Several SMEs have been consulted and still need more consultation thus asking for the support/reference from the community for rigorous knowledge sharing. With the onset of the project, NSS will be the owner of the property and in the future there could be an independent entity who would own the property. (This statement is just based on the preliminary discussions and it can be further elaborated and modified on the legal grounds. Suggestions are highly welcomed.)
- Identifying core SMEs, City/State Outreach, Identifying area wise coordinators.

Resources Shared (Please refer to this [LINK](#)):

- ★ Brochure
- ★ Presentation
- ★ English Project Charter with Appendix
- ★ Nepali Translated Project Charter

Feedback/ Suggestions

Queries:

- Ownership and Management: What sort of ownership will NSS have and what is the transition period for the handover of the project to an independent agency?
- Do we need independent agency or should we continue with management by non-profit?
- To avoid future conflict why not to start the project with the new entity?
- Can the organization be registered on religious basis?
- Is Public Private Partnership viable?
- What is the wind down plan for the building/ project in case things don't work out as planned?

Suggestions:

- Further discussion with the legal advisor will be needed to understand the legalities of owning such property by non profit
- To keep the momentum going, let this committee work for now and also in the process, identify common agendas among all other Nepalese based organisation in WA and integrate them . Decide later if the separate entity is necessary or not. All the organisation can help in fundraising. Use the NSS 501(c)(3) status as per now and let the ownership be with NSS.
- If an independent organization has to be formed then with the common consensus, the current Nepali School can be registered as a separate organization and the community building can be taken as its agenda.
- Mass voting can be done to decide if the project is to be continued by NSS or separate entity. 12/40 attendees were in support of forming separate organisation in first round of voting but after relevant discussion on this matter, 0/40 attendees were in support for separate entity in the second round of voting.
- Study the condition if public private partnership is feasible. Involve more Nepalese entrepreneur to generate more business ideas in helping raise fund & to help with sustenance of the project.
- Try to gather Case studies from the other states where they have similar projects or already established Centers. If materials like Project plan, charter can be obtained.
- Find out ways for State/City Outreach and in what ways they can help if not direct funding.
- Approach the bigger organizations, government funding agencies with the better grant proposals and for this we need good grant writer.
- Find ways to attend state fairs so as to generate income.
- To go with mortgage system we need a concrete plan of use of funds and repayment. Lenders will not provide the fund without some type of collateral.

Next Meeting Agenda

- Follow up with community leaders & representatives on Friday, 2/23, 6:00pm (Location: TBD)
- Identify potential area wise coordinators, form fundraising committee and involve SMEs for success of this project.
- Review the revised charter with the team & incorporate any additional feedback