

RESTATED BY LAWS (2014)

OF THE

HOUSTON MAHARASHTRA MANDAL

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

ORGANIZED UNDER THE TEXAS NON-PROFIT CORPORATION ACT

RATIFIED UNANIMOUSLY BY
MEMBERS OF THE
HOUSTON MAHARASHTRA MANDAL
May XX, 2014

UPDATED April 16, 2014

INDEX

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- ARTICLE I NAME AND ORGANIZATION
1. NAME
 2. ORGANIZATION
- ARTICLE II OBJECTIVES
1. RELIGIOUS
 2. EDUCATIONAL
 3. RESEARCH
 4. CULTURAL
- ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP
1. ELIGIBILITY
 2. APPLICATION
 3. TYPES OF MEMBERSHIPS
 4. MEMBERSHIP DUES
 5. CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP DUES
 6. MEMBERSHIP REFUNDS
 7. MEMBERSHIP PERIOD
 8. RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP
 9. VOTING RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES
 10. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS
- ARTICLE IV BOARD OF DIRECTORS
1. QUALIFICATIONS
 2. NOMINATIONS
 3. TERMS
 4. DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS
 5. DIRECTOR ELECTION PROCESS
 6. VACANCIES
- ARTICLE V GENERAL AND PROGRAMMING DIVISION
1. QUALIFICATIONS
 2. ELECTION/NOMINATIONS
 3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 4. TERMS
 5. DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS

6. VACANCIES
7. ASSET MANAGEMENT

ARTICLE VI MARATHI EDUCATION DIVISION

1. QUALIFICATIONS
2. NOMINATIONS
3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
4. TERMS
5. DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS
6. VACANCIES
7. ASSET MANAGEMENT

ARTICLE VII VASTU DIVISION

1. QUALIFICATIONS
2. NOMINATIONS
3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
4. TERMS
5. DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS
6. VACANCIES
7. ASSET MANAGEMENT

ARTICLE VIII MANAGEMENT

1. COMPENSATION
2. DISPUTES
3. DISPUTE RESOLUTION
4. RESIGNATIONS
5. REMOVAL
6. RESTRICTION ON HOLDING OFFICES
7. MANAGEMENT OF BREAKDOWN WITHIN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES
8. TRANSFER OF RECORDS

ARTICLE IX MEETINGS

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ATTENDANCE
2. MINUTES AND RECORDS

ARTICLE X AMENDMENTS

1. PROPOSAL OF THE AMENDMENT
2. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE
3. STUDY AND REVIEW
4. ADOPTION OF AMENDMENT

Updated 16 Apr 2014

5. TRANSITION PLAN FOR 2014

ARTICLE XI TAX EXEMPT PROVISIONS

1. LIMITATIONS OF ACTIVITIES
2. PROHIBITION AGAINST PRIVATE INUREMENT
3. DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS

ARTICLE I NAME AND ORGANIZATION

SECTION 1: NAME

- A. The name of the organization shall be HOUSTON MAHARASHTRA MANDAL herein after referred to as the "MANDAL".
- B. The permanent address of the HOUSTON MAHARASHTRA MANDAL will be P.O. Box 743, Houston, Texas 77001-0743
- C. The MANDAL shall be organized exclusively as a type of organization described in Section 501 (c)(3) and shall continue to remain tax exempt under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended(the "Code"). All the charitable contributions made by the general public to this organization shall be deductible under Section 170 of the Code.

SECTION 2: ORGANIZATION

- A. The MANDAL was originally incorporated under the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, and is currently governed by the Texas Business Organizations Code ("TBOC"). The MANDAL was incorporated on September 8, 1997.
- B. The purpose and activities of the MANDAL will benefit the people of common Maharashtrian heritage in general who are its members but are not intended to restrict the benefits to the members of the MANDAL only. The word Maharashtrian shall refer to the natives, descendants, or persons whose heritage is rooted in Maharashtra, a state of India and who are now residing in the USA and their spouses and children.
- C. The organization shall promote goodwill, understanding and appreciation of the culture of India among all persons regardless of age, gender, race, religion, color or national origin. It will facilitate interaction with any other group, organization or institution engaged in promoting an interest in the culture of India and specifically of the State of Maharashtra.

ARTICLE II OBJECTIVES

The Objectives of the MANDAL are as follows:

- A. Dedicated & consecrated place of worship for Hindus in the Maharashtrian-Indian tradition & facilitate holding of cultural and social festivals in connection therewith while promoting interfaith understanding & cooperation.
- B. To provide a venue to members to hold private religious, social and cultural functions in the Hindu traditional way within the rules & regulations of the MANDAL.
- C. To educate community about Maharashtrian/Indian culture and undertake various educational activities and promote various cultural events in the various fields such as Literature, Arts, Health, Religion, and other liberal humanities.

Section 1: RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

These may include celebration of religious festivals, arranging lectures and seminars by renowned personalities from various religious faiths in accordance with the objectives of the MANDAL.

Section 2: EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The objective of this activity is to preserve and promote Marathi, which is the native language of Maharashtra. This shall include teaching Marathi language through instruction and training for developing or improving the language skills to those interested. It may include literary and cultural activities to enhance the learning experience.

Section 3: RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

These may include technical, scientific, linguistic, cultural, and social research, and investigations in various fields of Arts, Sciences, Business, and International Studies for betterment of mankind.

Section 4: CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

These may include plays, dramas, songs, music, dance, poetry, essays, and any artistic endeavors for expression of ideas, values and entertainment that meet the objectives of the MANDAL.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section1: ELIGIBILITY

The membership of the MANDAL is open to any person who has an affinity for Maharashtrian- Indian culture whether by birth, domicile, or for any other reason and is willing to uphold the objectives of the MANDAL.

Section 2: APPLICATION

All applications for membership shall be made on an official form of the MANDAL along with the appropriate dues.

Section 3: TYPES OF MEMBERSHIPS

1. Life Member: This membership can be secured in the following ways and will be exempt from paying the annual membership but will have to pay the event fee as applicable for specific events. This membership is entitled to one vote by the member. :
 - a. Those who have been accorded life membership previously will continue to be life members.
 - b. Those who donate a stipulated amount in the same year either for the general funds of the organization or specifically for the Vastu project will become life members

- c. By pledging a stipulated amount per year towards the general operating expenses for the next contiguous period of 10 years with the stipulation that in case the pledge is not honored the life membership will be suspended till such time the arrears are paid & they will have to apply for annual membership as applicable.
2. Student Member: is defined as any person above the age of eighteen, who is a full time student , and is not working and or not supported by a spouse who may be working full time.. He / She must provide valid student identification to show enrollment in any institution of higher education as full time student for the current school year. Membership will be free of charge to this student. This membership is not entitled to have any dependents on the membership.
3. Single Member: is defined as any single person above the age of eighteen paying annual dues of stipulated amount. This membership shall be entitled to one vote by the member. This membership shall include up to two dependent parents of the member.
4. Family Member: is defined as a married couple or head of the household paying annual dues of stipulated amount. This membership shall include member's unmarried dependent children under the age of eighteen and up to two dependent parents of the couple This membership is entitled to one vote by the member.
5. Senior Citizen: is defined as any single person or married couple above the age of sixty-five, who shall pay annual dues of stipulated amount. This membership shall be entitled to one vote by the member. This membership shall include up to two dependent parents of the member.
6. Honorary member: is defined as a person recommended by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. This membership may be conferred on eminent and outstanding individuals who, by their actions have promoted the objectives and goals of THE MANDAL.

Section 4: MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership dues are for each calendar year and are payable by 31st January of the same year. While no penalty attaches for late payment, members in default will not be able to participate in the activities of the MANDAL as members till such time the dues are paid. Members joining in at any time of the year shall pay the full year's membership.. Membership in the MANDAL shall not be transferable or assignable to other persons, however the membership can be transferred to a different type of membership.

Section 5: CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP DUES

Once a year, by a majority vote of The Board of Directors, the membership dues for various membership types may be increased by not more than 20%, (rounded off to the closest dollar amount). Such increases shall become and remain effective for subsequent years until altered. Any increases in membership dues in excess, as described above must be approved by the General Body by a single majority vote to become effective. Any decreases in any membership dues may be recommended by majority vote in the Board of Directors..

Section 6: MEMBERSHIP REFUNDS

. The paid annual membership is non refundable..

Section 7: MEMBERSHIP PERIOD

Annual membership period shall be from January 1 to December 31. As indicated in Section 4, dues will be paid ahead of time.

Section 8: RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP

All members shall abide by the rules and procedures stated in these By Laws, and shall maintain decorum at all committee meetings and the General Body meetings.

Section 9: VOTING RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

Voting referred to in this article shall apply to all matters pertaining to the activities of the MANDAL and requiring voting by the members. Unless otherwise explicitly permitted elsewhere in these by laws or the voting request for a particular election, voting in absentia or by proxies is not allowed.

Section 10: DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

- A. Any member failing to maintain decorum or causing disruption at a meeting or any event of the MANDAL (which shall be determined in the sole and absolute discretion of the Board of Directors) shall be subject to disciplinary action(s) as approved by majority vote of such Board.
- B. Any member against whom disciplinary actions have been taken shall not be eligible to be a candidate for any election or appointment on the MANDAL bodies for a minimum of one year and a maximum of three years. The decision in these regards by a majority of the Board of Directors shall be final.

ARTICLE IV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

There shall be at least nine members of the Board of Directors. Every year the nine Directors shall by simple majority elect one of the Directors as a Lead Director for a term of one year to coordinate the activities of the Board of Directors. Out of the nine members, the presidents of three HMM divisions shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Director. The Treasurer of HMM Vastu Division will be an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors and shall function as Lead Treasurer of all HMM accounting and financial functions. The five members of the Board of Directors who are not ex-officio members are called non-Executive members.

The Board of Directors shall be responsible for maintaining the integrity of the MANDAL. This shall include but not be limited to the activities such as setting of long term objectives, management of external affairs of the MANDAL, including annually appointing

representatives to other organizations; as well as assisting and cooperating with the other bodies. The Board of Directors should be responsible for performing their duties of directing the divisions of the MANDAL to achieve the individual objectives of each division and the collective goal of the MANDAL. Board of Directors must approve borrowing any amount from any source or for any internal transfer of funds in excess of \$1000.00 among various elected bodies and divisions of the MANDAL. The Board of Directors shall do the final review and approve the accounts of the outgoing governing bodies, and shall see to the fact that all taxes are paid on time by the appropriate bodies of the MANDAL, and that all the tax returns are filed on time by the Lead Treasurer. The Board of Directors shall be responsible to review and take action on all financial, constitutional and legal matters pertaining to the MANDAL.

Section 1: QUALIFICATIONS

- A. All members of the Board of Directors shall be at least twenty-one years of age, and be a member of the MANDAL for at least for one year. He/ She should have served in official capacity in any tax-exempt Indian organization in USA for at least one year during last five years; or must be a member of the MANDAL for at least two years.
- B. Additional considerations in selecting a new member of the Board of Directors shall be as follows:
 - a. ability, knowledge and willingness to perform the required work,
 - b. consistency of beliefs with the MANDAL mission and direction demonstrated by making a donation to the MANDAL,
 - c. membership for at least five years in the MANDAL (or equivalent organization in North America), and
 - d. attending at least 50% of the HMM programs in the previous year.

Section 2: NOMINATIONS

Directors shall be elected through the Director Election Process as per provisions of these BY Laws.

Section 3: TERMS

Once elected, the Directors will serve for a period of three years, and no member of the Board of Directors shall hold the office of the Director for more than two consecutive terms in a ten year period.

Section 4: DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS

- A. The Lead Director shall preside over all the meetings of the Board of Directors. Any Director may attend the Division meetings. At least three Directors shall be required to attend the General Body events, functions and meetings.

- B. The Board of Directors shall meet all other obligations and discharge its duties specified elsewhere in these By Laws. The Board of Directors shall play supervisory role in functioning of the MANDAL affairs.
- C. The Lead Director shall (a) be the official spokesperson of the MANDAL; (b) preserve, protect and defend the provision of the Articles of Incorporation and the By Laws; (c) be the official custodian of the MANDAL By Laws, the State Charter and the relevant document for IRS tax exempt status; (d) file the periodic report with the secretary of state; (e) maintain sound financial status of the MANDAL and; (f) cast a tie breaking vote to facilitate the process at any and all the meetings of the Board of Directors.
- A. The Lead Treasurer under the direction of the Lead Director shall (a) have custody of the MANDAL funds, and securities of THE MANDAL other than those related to individual divisions and shall manage them efficiently; (b) When requested by a member in writing, allow the member, within three weeks, with consent from the Lead Director, to examine the MANDAL accounts and to make copies thereof at a predetermined time and place mutually agreeable to both the parties; (c) Prepare annual financial reports of the MANDAL and present them to the Board of Directors for approval; (d) Prepare and file IRS returns if necessary annually at the end of the MANDAL year, (e) Have the MANDAL accounts reviewed by the Trustees or designated professional (f) Make annual financial report available to all the members of the MANDAL at the General Body meeting, (g) Present financial report at the next Board of Directors meeting as required (h) Monitor the activities of the treasurers of each division, (i) Make every effort to settle all the accounts related to the individual expense within one month; and, (j) Report all accounts receivable and payable on a quarterly basis to the Board of Directors.

Section 5: DIRECTOR ELECTION PROCESS

- A. The open positions on the Board of Directors shall be filled by the process of election each year. The routine vacancy arising due to end of term on the Board of Directors shall be identified by the 31 January of the preceding year and announcement shall be made to General Body. If a vacancy arises due to resignation or other causes, a similar process will be followed, within a reasonable period of time.
- B. Self-nominations from qualified HMM members to the Board of Director shall be accepted as long as one member of the current Board of Directors has endorsed the candidature. Alternatively, two or more current members of the Board of Directors would be able to nominate a qualifying HMM member to the board of directors.
- C. By 30 April each year the current Board of Directors shall publish a list of candidates who meet the qualifications to the General Body. If more candidates are identified than the number of vacancies, then the Board of Directors shall announce the requirement of an election.
- D. It is desired that the election shall be conducted at MANDAL event where more than 100 members attend the event and it could be conducted in conjunction with electronic voting.

The new member to the Board of Directors shall be elected by a simple majority for each open position among the voting HMM members.

- E. The Board of Directors has the responsibility of conducting the election and announcing the results. In case of a tie, the deciding vote shall be cast by the Lead Director.
- F. The presidents of three individual divisions shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Directors. Duration of their term shall be the shorter of the two following criteria: 1: term as division president, 2: non-executive director's term as defined above.

Section 6: VACANCIES

Vacancy for any one of the non-executive board of directors shall be filled by the Director Election Process within a reasonable amount of time. If for any reason it is not possible to complete the process in a reasonable amount of time, the Board of Directors will select qualifying member of the MANDAL by majority vote. Vacancy for the President who is ex-officio member shall be filled by the Vice-President.

ARTICLE V GENERAL AND PROGRAMMING DIVISION

The General and Programming Division shall be responsible for annual programs organized by the MANDAL. This shall include but not be limited to the activities such as: membership drive, maintenance of membership records and accounts, arranging of all the programs, fund raising to support the programs, and developing and maintaining relationships with other organizations

Section 1: QUALIFICATIONS

- A. All members of the General and Programming Division shall be at least twenty-one years old and be members of the MANDAL at least for one year.
- B. The President of the General and Programming Division (a) must have served for at least one year in last five years as a member of the Executive Committee of General and Programming Division of the MANDAL or, (b) must be a member of the MANDAL for one year and should have served in official capacity in any tax-exempt Indian organization in USA for at least one year during last five years; or, (c) must be a member of the MANDAL for at least two years.

Section 2: ELECTION/NOMINATIONS

- A. The Executive Committee of General and Programming Division shall be nominated or elected once a year at the annual election by the MANDAL members. If there is competition for positions on the Executive Committee, then elections will be called by the Board of Directors. The election shall take place at the Ganapati function of that year. However the Board of Directors can move this date forward or backward by up to four weeks. It is desired

that the event when the election takes place should be attended by at least 100 HMM members.

- B. The General Body shall elect or nominate required Executive Committee of General and Programming Division for the following year, depending on the turnover of the current members of the Executive Committee of General and Programming Division. Volunteers will cooperate with any existing members of Executive Committee of General and Programming Division to fill any vacancies as stated in Section 6.

Section 3: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF GENERAL AND PROGRAMMING DIVISION

Shall consist of the following five officers

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Web Administrator

Section 4: TERMS

The Executive Committee of General and Programming Division will take charge of office on January 1 of each year. Once elected, no member of the MANDAL shall hold the same position in the Executive Committee for more than two consecutive terms.

Section 5: DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS

- B. The President of General and Programming Division shall (a) preside over all the Executive Committee meetings; (b) be in charge and shall supervise all the activities of the Executive Committee of General and Programming Division; (c) perform all the tasks assigned by the General Body and the Board of Directors; (d) promote the objectives of the MANDAL; (f) provide guidance and leadership to members in regards to the annual programs; and (g) maintain sound financial status of the yearly programming work.
- C. The VICE-PRESIDENT of General and Programming Division shall perform the duties of the President and shall assume his / her powers at his/ her request or during his/her absence or inability to perform the duties.
- D. The SECRETARY of General and Programming Division shall (a) attend and keep the minutes of all the Executive Committee meetings ; (b) call meetings and send appropriate notices to the members with advice and consent from the President; (c) help the President in executing the decisions of the Executive Committee; (d) do the necessary correspondence; and (e) perform all the duties reasonably assigned to him/her by the Executive Committee.
- E. The TREASURER of General and Programming Division shall (a) have custody of the General and Programming Division funds, (b) deposit all the funds with the bank and/or savings and loan association within two weeks after they are received, (c) make every effort to settle all

- the accounts related to the event within one month; and, report all accounts receivable and payable on a quarterly basis.
- F. The WEB ADMINISTRATOR of General and Programming Division shall (a) have custody of the MANDAL web site; (b) coordinate with other divisions and ensure that the content designed by the other divisions is displayed on the MANDAL web site; (c) coordinate the membership data and membership discount with the Treasurer of General and Programming Division.
 - G. The MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AT LARGE shall (a) attend all the Executive Committee meetings and participate in the decision making process; (b) act responsibly to protect the image of THE MANDAL; (c) perform the duties assigned by the Board of Directors; and (d) shall work closely in cooperation with the President to attain the objectives of THE MANDAL.

Section 6: VACANCIES

Vacancy for any one of the members of the executive committee shall be filled by nominating any member of the MANDAL by the President and approved by the remaining executive committee. Vacancy for the President shall be filled by the Vice-President. Vacancy for Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer shall be filled by any one of the remaining members of the Executive Committee with approval by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 7: ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The AMC shall be made of three persons including the Secretary from the executive committee. The AMC will be responsible to collect, inventory, store, repair, and take actions to preserve and protect the assets and records of the General and Programming Division of the MANDAL. The AMC will also be empowered to rent appropriate storage space where these materials will be stored.

The AMC will provide a semiannual report (in the first week of June and December) to the Executive Committee. This report will contain a list of all of the MANDAL assets and records. The report shall explain any gains, losses, and expenses. The December report will also contain a projected budget for the following year.

The Secretary will serve as a liaison between the AMC and the Executive Committee. The other two members shall serve for one year term but no more than two terms in a ten year period. No more than one members of the AMC can be under twenty-one years of age and all members must have been members of the MANDAL for at least one year.

Vacancy arising on the AMC shall be filled by nominating any qualified member of the MANDAL by majority vote of the Executive Committee and the remaining AMC members.

Nomination for this vacant position shall come from any member of the Executive Committee and/or the AMC members. This member shall be nominated for the remainder of the term of the vacancy.

ARTICLE VI MARATHI EDUCATION DIVISION

The Marathi Education Division shall be responsible for Marathi Education activities of the MANDAL. This shall include but not be limited to the activities such as: operating Marathi Shala (school) at various locations in Houston and surrounding areas, recruiting students and teachers for the School, creating Marathi education curriculum, and collecting the required fees to pay for the expenses of operating Marathi Shala (school).

Section 1: QUALIFICATIONS

- A. All members of the Marathi Education Division shall be at least twenty-one years old and be members of the MANDAL at least for one year.
- B. The President of the Marathi Education Division (a) must have served for at least one year in last five years as a member of the Executive Committee of Education Division of the MANDAL or, (b) must be a member of the MANDAL for one year and should have served in official capacity in any tax-exempt Indian organization in USA for at least one year during last five years; or, (c) must be a member of the MANDAL for at least two years.

Section 2: NOMINATIONS

- A. The Executive Committee of Marathi Education Division shall be nominated by the Board of Directors.
- B. Volunteers will cooperate with any existing members of Executive Committee of Marathi Education Division to fill any vacancies as stated in Section 6.

Section 3: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF Marathi Education Division

Shall consist of the following four officers

- 1. Principal
- 2. Curriculum Manager
- 3. Secretary
- 4. Treasurer

Section 4: TERMS

The Executive Committee of Marathi Education Division will have tenure of two years and take charge of office on June 1 of the year. Once selected, no member of the MANDAL shall hold the same position in the Executive Committee of Marathi Education Division for more than two consecutive terms.

Section 5: DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS

- A. The Principal of Marathi Education Division is considered the President of Marathi Education Division in other parts of the By Laws. The Principal of Marathi Education Division shall (a) preside over all the Executive Committee meetings; (b) be in charge and shall supervise all the activities of the Executive Committee of Marathi Education Division; (c) perform all the tasks assigned by the General Body and the Board of Directors; (d) promote the objectives of the MANDAL; (f) provide guidance and leadership to members in regards to the annual programs; and (g) maintain sound financial status of the Marathi Education Division.
- B. The Curriculum Manager of Marathi Education Division is considered the Vice President of Marathi Education Division in other parts of the By Laws. The Curriculum Manager of Marathi Education Division shall perform the duties of the President and shall assume his / her powers at his/ her request or during his/her absence or inability to perform duties. The Curriculum Manager shall (a) create the curriculum of Marathi education; (b) train the volunteer teachers; (c) decide yearly tests.
- C. The SECRETARY of Marathi Education Division shall (a) attend and keep the minutes of all the Executive Committee meetings; (b) call meetings and send appropriate notices to the members with advice and consent from the President; (c) help the President in executing the decisions of the Executive Committee; (d) do the necessary correspondence; and (e) perform all the duties reasonably assigned to him/her by the Executive Committee.
- D. The TREASURER of Marathi Education Division shall (a) have custody of the Marathi Education Division funds, (b) deposit all the funds with the bank and/or savings and loan association within two weeks after they are received, (c) make every effort to settle all the accounts related to the event within one month; and, report all accounts receivable and payable on a quarterly basis.
- E. The MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AT LARGE shall (a) attend all the Executive Committee meetings and participate in the decision making process; (b) act responsibly to protect the image of THE MANDAL; (c) perform the duties assigned by the Board of Directors; and (d) shall work closely in cooperation with the President to attain the objectives of THE MANDAL.

Section 6: VACANCIES

Vacancy for any one of the members of the executive committee shall be filled by nominating any member of the MANDAL by the Principal and approved by the remaining executive committee. Vacancy for the Principal shall be filled by the Curriculum Manager. Vacancy for Curriculum Manager, Secretary, or Treasurer shall be filled by any one of the remaining members of the Executive Committee of Marathi Education Division with approval by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 7: ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (AMC)

The AMC shall be made of three persons including the Secretary from the executive committee. The AMC will be responsible to collect, inventory, store, repair, and take actions

to preserve and protect the assets and records of the Marathi Education Division of the MANDAL.

The AMC will provide a semiannual report (in the first week of June and December) to the Executive Committee. This report will contain a list of all of the Marathi Education Division assets and records. It shall explain any gains, losses, and expenses. The December report will also contain a projected budget for the following year.

The Secretary will serve as a liaison between the AMC and the Executive Committee. The other two members shall serve for three year terms but no more than two terms in a ten year period. No more than one members of the AMC can be under twenty-one years of age and all members must have been members of the MANDAL for at least one year.

Vacancy arising on the AMC shall be filled by nominating any qualified member of the MANDAL by majority vote of the Executive Committee of Marathi Education Division.

ARTICLE VII VASTU DIVISION

The Vastu Division shall be responsible for building permanent building(s) and complex for the MANDAL. This shall include but not be limited to the activities such as: project planning, raising funds, acquiring land and design, construction and maintenance of the building.

Section 1: QUALIFICATIONS

- A. All members of the Vastu Division shall be at least twenty-one year's old and be members of the MANDAL at least for one year.
- B. The President of the Vastu Division (a) must have served for at least one year in last five years as a member of the Vastu Division of the MANDAL or, (b) must be a member of the MANDAL for one year and should have served in official capacity in any tax-exempt Indian organization in USA for at least one year during last five years; or, (c) must be a member of the MANDAL for at least two years.

Section 2: ELECTION/NOMINATIONS

- A. The Executive Committee of Vastu Division shall be nominated by the Board of Directors.
- B. Volunteers will cooperate with any existing members of Executive Committee of Vastu Division to fill any vacancies as stated in Section 6.

Section 3: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF Vastu Division

Shall consist of the following four officers

- 5. President
- 6. Vice President

7. Secretary
8. Treasurer

Section 4: TERMS

The Executive Committee of Vastu Division will have tenure of three years and take charge of office on January 1 of the first year. Once selected, no member of the MANDAL shall hold the same position in the Executive Committee of Vastu Division for more than two consecutive terms.

Section 5: DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS

- A. The President of Vastu Division shall (a) preside over all the Executive Committee meetings; (b) be in charge and shall supervise all the activities of the Executive Committee of Vastu Division; (c) perform all the tasks assigned by the General Body and the Board of Directors; (d) promote the objectives of the MANDAL; (f) provide guidance and leadership to the individual committees formed to support the building complex project; and (g) maintain sound financial status of the Vastu Division.
- B. The VICE-PRESIDENT of Vastu Division shall perform the duties of the President and shall assume his / her powers at his/ her request or during his/her absence or ability.
- C. The SECRETARY of Vastu Division shall (a) attend and keep the minutes of all the Executive Committee meetings; (b) call meetings and send appropriate notices to the members with advice and consent from the President; (c) help the President in executing the decisions of the Executive Committee; (d) do the necessary correspondence; and (e) perform all the duties reasonably assigned to him/her by the Executive Committee.
- D. The TREASURER of Vastu Division shall (a) have custody of the Vastu Division funds, (b) deposit all the funds with the bank and/or savings and loan association within two weeks after they are received, (c) make every effort to settle all the accounts related to the event within one month; and, report all accounts receivable and payable on a quarterly basis.
- E. The MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AT LARGE shall (a) attend all the Executive Committee meetings and participate in the decision making process; (b) act responsibly to protect the image of THE MANDAL; (c) perform the duties assigned by the Board of Directors; and (d) shall work closely in cooperation with the President to attain the objectives of THE MANDAL.

Section 6: VACANCIES

Vacancy for any one of the members of the executive committee shall be filled by nominating any member of the MANDAL by the President of Vastu Division and approved by the remaining executive committee. Vacancy for the President shall be filled by the Vice President. Vacancy for Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer shall be filled by any one of the remaining members of the Executive Committee of Vastu Division with approval by a majority vote of the executive committee.

Section 7: ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The AMC shall be made of three persons including the Secretary from the executive committee. The AMC will be responsible to collect, inventory, store, repair, and take actions to preserve and protect the assets and records of the Vastu Division of the MANDAL.

The AMC will provide a semiannual report (in the first week of June and December) to the Executive Committee. This report will contain a list of all of the Vastu Division assets and records. It shall explain any gains, losses, and expenses. The December report will also contain a projected budget for the following year.

The Secretary will serve as a liaison between the AMC and the Executive Committee. The other two members shall serve for three year terms but no more than two terms in a ten year period. No more than one members of the AMC can be under twenty-one years of age and all members must have been members of the MANDAL for at least one year.

Vacancy arising on the AMC shall be filled by nominating any qualified member of the MANDAL by majority vote of the Executive Committee of Marathi Education Division.

ARTICLE VIII MANAGEMENT

Section 1: COMPENSATION

No member of any of the managing bodies shall receive any compensation in any manner for serving on these managing bodies.

Section 2: DISPUTES

Disputes among the managing bodies shall be resolved by a majority vote at a joint meeting of all members of the Executive Committee(s) of concerned Division, Board of Directors, and any HMM member , with each person casting only one vote. The balloting shall be through secret ballots.

Section 3: DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- A. At such time as the MANDAL acquires its own real property and improvements thereon, the allocation of dedicated space for each activity of the MANDAL, the time allocation of common space for each activity of the MANDAL, and any and all similar decisions with respect to the use of such real property and improvements shall be governed by policies and procedures adopted by the VASTU DIVISION and approved by the Board of Directors, and such policies and procedures shall be binding on all members.

- B. As and when the MANDAL gets to own its own premises it may issue rules & regulations regarding use thereof including proscribed activities in certain section of the premises which shall be binding on all members and users of the premises and no dispute may be raised in relation thereto.

Section 4: RESIGNATIONS

Any member of any managing body wishing to resign shall give a three week notice to the Board of Directors via the Executive Committee of concerned Division. A member of the Board of Directors wishing to resign from the office shall give a three weeks written notice to the Chief Director or Lead Treasurer.

Section 5: REMOVAL

Any member of any managing body who is consistently absent from regularly scheduled meetings without proper approval from the majority of the members of that body, such that it affects the successful operations of the MANDAL, is subject to automatic removal from that managing body. If a member of any managing body cannot fulfill his or her commitments as a volunteer for a temporary period not to exceed three months, he or she must submit in writing a request for written approval from the majority of that body to permit the absence. Thereafter he or she should be provided a dated approval for when the member can rejoin the managing body. No more than one three month period may be approved for any member during one calendar year.

Any member of the Asset Management Committee functioning in a manner detrimental to the MANDAL may be removed from the AMC with a majority of the Board of Directors and the remaining members of the AMC.

Section 6: RESTRICTION ON HOLDING OFFICES

- A. Any member of any managing body may not hold more than one office in the MANDAL except for a temporary period with the approval of the majority of the members of that managing body.
- B. Any of the elected office bearers of the four managing bodies of the MANDAL shall not be a current office bearer of any other Indian organization, but may represent the interests of the MANDAL to another organization as part of his/her duties to the MANDAL, such as the India Culture Center, the Hare Krishna Temple, the Brihan Maharashtra MANDAL, etc.

Section 7: MANAGEMENT OF BREAKDOWN WITHIN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

- A. When a no confidence motion against the President is carried by a majority vote of the relevant executive committee, the Board of Directors or the General Body, then the Vice-President shall assume the duties and powers of the Presidency. In case of his/her non-

availability, the Secretary and then the Treasurer, in that order, shall assume the role of the President, or by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, or the General body.

- B. When the President or the majority of executive committee shall report in writing the inability of the executive committee to carry out its functions and request its dissolution, the Board of Directors shall hold separate hearings of all the parties by giving them a minimum of ten days notice. After these hearings with a majority of the Directors voting in favor of dismissal of the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors shall take over the function of the executive committee and control the affairs until a new executive committee is determined. In such an event the Board of Directors shall nominate or elect new executive committee members in accordance with the election/nomination procedure previously outlined.

Section 8: TRANSFER OF RECORDS

- A. The Presidents of each division shall ensure a smooth transition of all the documentation of the MANDAL to the new committee or to the President in the following term.
- B. The Secretary shall assist the President to hand over all the relevant documents of the MANDAL to the new committee or the President.
- C. The Treasurer shall hand over all the relevant documents of the MANDAL to the new Treasurer and President, and the completed accounts for the completed year, in a timely manner.

ARTICLE IX MEETINGS

Section 1: ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ATTENDANCE

All members of all the managing bodies will conduct meeting as necessary to perform the operations of the MANDAL. The meetings will be announced sufficiently ahead of time so that all members of that managing body are able to participate. Every attempt will be made to create and distribute the meeting agenda at least one day prior to the meeting. Attendance will be recorded in the minutes. The minutes will be available to any member of the Managing Bodies or the General Body. Minutes will also be maintained for meeting for the conditions for maintaining a Tax Exempt status, and may be demanded by the Internal Revenue Service.

Section 2: MINUTES AND RECORDS

The officers and members of every managing body will issue minutes after every meeting and maintain them in permanent records to be stored for a minimum of five years. The minimum that minutes must record are the following for any meeting: date, location, participants, absences, issues and action to be taken. Minimum records shall include: applications for membership, annual membership lists, meeting minutes of all managing bodies, bank statements, financial statements, receipts of expenditures, budgets, record of all assets, legal; or tax related correspondence, invitations,

publications, photographs of events, and evidence that the organization is open to the public.

ARTICLE X AMENDMENTS

Section 1: PROPOSAL OF THE AMENDMENT

Any proposed amendments to the By Laws may be presented in writing to the Lead Director by at least twenty members of the General Body or by any three members of the Board.

Section 2: APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE

Upon receiving the proposed amendments, the Lead Director shall appoint a By Laws committee, consisting of no less than three members.

Section 3: STUDY AND REVIEW

The Bylaws committee with the advice of the Board of Directors shall review the proposed amendments, determine their merits and legality, study their impact on the rest of the bylaws, assess the effect of the amendments and its consequences and make its recommendations, draft the amendments, if necessary, suggesting related changes in appropriate Articles of the By Laws. The Lead Director shall convene a General Body meeting for the purpose of presenting the amendments to the membership.

Section 4: ADOPTION OF AMENDMENT

The proposed amendments shall be made available on request prior to the General Body meeting and shall be submitted to vote at the General Body meeting. Any modifications to the proposed amendments, which may be presented from the floor, shall be discussed and voted upon. A majority affirmative voice vote of members present shall be required for adoption of an amendment.

Section 5: TRANSITION PLAN FOR 2014

In order to facilitate the transition to these restated bylaws, the members of the board of trustees under the previous bylaws will become members of the newly defined board of directors. The dates of their start of term will carry forward and the terms will expire upon completion of three years from the start of their term as trustees. Since two new divisions are being formed, certain exception will be made for the first set of office holders to these (Vastu and Educational) divisions, related to the requirement of previous membership in the volunteer committees of such divisions.

ARTICLE XI TAX EXEMPT PROVISIONS

Section 1: LIMITATIONS OF ACTIVITIES

No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall be carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence the legislation, and this corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to , any candidate for public office.

Section 2: PROHIBITION AGAINST PRIVATE INUREMENT

No part of the net earnings of this corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, Directors or officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay any reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes of this corporation.

Section 3: DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS

Upon dissolution of this corporation, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this corporation shall be distributed for one or more tax-exempt purposes within the, meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or shall be distributed to the federal government, or distribution shall be made in accordance with all applicable provisions of the laws of this state.

These Bylaws were adopted at a meeting of the membership held on the XXth day of May 2014.

Megha Ozarker

President, Houston Maharashtra Mandal

____ May 2014.