



## Chairman's Report for 2017

2017 started off with the sound of heavy machinery as January 3 began by raising the steel frame for the Phase 3 expansion. The other key event in 2017 was closing the center for 3 months, while we started renovations of the existing building. We greatly missed our annual Navroze function on March 21. Tension was high, as we had a hard deadline to finish by April 26th, as the FEZANA AGM was starting on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Our volunteers and the construction crews stepped up to the challenge and we were able to get our center ready for the grand opening of the Phase 3 and the reopening of our newly renovated center.

### **The New and Improved ZHCC 3.0 is finally here....**

We want to welcome all our members to come and visit and see the newly renovated center. It looks beautiful. This phase of the renovation included the following:

**Atrium:** New floor tile New ceiling grid and tile New LED lights and fans Walls repainted

**Main Hall:** New ceiling grid and tile New LED Lights and fans, New Soffits around the stage, Retractable stage lighting as well as a new curtain mechanism. We also had the entire hall and baseboards repainted.

**Bathrooms:** Totally renovated starting with completely gutting the bathroom and replacing with new floor tiles, new fixtures, sinks, granite countertop, hand dryer, new automatic flushing toilets etc. The ladies room was also redesigned to remove dead space and optimize usage, creating a new dressing area around the shower and an additional stall. All three bathrooms also have new decorative wall tiles with a glass tile edge treatment

**Library:** New floor tiles and paint

The main drain line from the kitchen to the bathroom was also replaced as that was the cause of the kitchen sink overflowing.

In addition, to make the outside of the ZHCC more appealing for the FEZANA AGM, we had the exterior power washed and the repainted the exterior as well. The damages to the parking lot caused by the construction traffic was also repaired.



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I want to thank our wonderfully dedicated, hard working renovations team, as none of this could be possible without their work. The team members are: Zia Anklesaria, Rohintan Deputy, Aspi Colah, Yezdi Engineer, Farokh Firozgary, Kamalrukh Gandhi, Arzin Italia, Yasmin Medhora, Pervin Sagar, Arnavaz Sethna, Farzana Sidhwa.

With a special thanks to Rohintan Deputy, who was onsite 6-8 hours a day, every day during the renovation. Rohintan was always there making sure the contractors were on target, and moving them along making sure that we would be ready for the FEZANA AGM.

The EC would like to thank our primary donor Sam Bhadha for the new renovations. In addition, we also want to thank our Vision 2020 donors as well. It is only with the support of our donors and volunteers that we can make these incredible changes.

### **Phase 3 A update:**

The newly completed Purvez S. Rustomji room and the middle group classroom were inaugurated by a ribbon cutting by the Rustomji family on Thursday April 27, 2017. This was followed by a benediction and then a short program by the Sunday school children. The new Purvez S. Rustomji room hosted the FIRES evening program with a talk by Aban Marker-Kabraji as its first event.

### **FEZANA AGM:**

The ZAH hosted the FEZANA AGM, along with the WZCC regional meeting and a FIRES evening at the ZHCC from 4/27-4/31. FEZANA was celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and congress2000 Legacy Scholarship its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. These two anniversaries were celebrated with a joint Gala event. The AGM went very smoothly, and the out of town attendees were very impressed with ZAH and our volunteers. The best comment heard was, "ZAH has set the bar higher than ever".

### **Atash Kadeh Update**

The final barrier to starting construction was obtaining the permit from the City of Houston. We received the final approval in late April. The Ground breaking was held on Navroze day, August 17, 2017. The evening started with a Jashan in the main hall (it was 92 deg outside), and then the congregation went out to the site and dug ceremonial holes at the 4 corners, and the center of the Kebla, at the location of the fire. Shernaz and Feroze Bhandara as the donors, got the honor of digging the central location and placed a ceremonial box filled with prayers and the other requisite items. This was followed by dinner hosted by the Bhandara Family. Construction started soon after, and the site is now buzzing with crews and equipment, and we have almost completed the



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steel structural skeleton. Completion is expected in Fall 2018.

### **Vision 2020**

We are now in the third year of our Vision 2020 program “To build a strong financial foundation that will sustain and grow ZHCC for present and future generations”.

As part of Vision 2020 our goal is to raise \$750,000 in 7 years. The treasurers report has more details on the actual amounts. The EC has created a Vision 2020 team to manage the V2020 plan. We want to encourage everyone to participate at the level that fits them best.

**Commit for 5:** We are very grateful to all the members who have signed up for the Commit for 5 program. For the ones who are a little behind in their payments, we urge you to please catch up. We would like to request all our members to join this program at whatever amount they feel comfortable with, or make a one-time donation.

With all this construction, the use of the center was limited from Jan – April. We missed having the March Navroze and the carnival. However, we swung back into action, and had the Ghambars, Library function, August Navroze and groundbreaking. Our 6th Annual ZCamp was a resounding success and we had over 85 kids and young adults participating in 3 days of fun and food. This is turning out to be a fun event, and when asked, all the participants want to not only come back next year, but also want it run longer than one weekend.

The ZAH is growing and we would like to thank each and every donor for their contributions. We would not be able to have many of the programs, events and fun without your donations, and we hope that you continue to assist the ZAH in the future.

Also, a very big thank you to all our volunteers and subcommittee members. It takes a dedicated group of people to manage, maintain and entertain at the ZAH. The success of our ZHCC and the sense of community is only possible with the hard work and dedication of this tireless crew. Without all their unstinting efforts behind the scenes, none of our events or functions would be possible, nor nearly as enjoyable. The EC would like to thank each and every one of you, for giving us the most precious commodity of all...your time!

Best Always,

Aderbad Tamboli  
Chair, ZAH Executive Committee