

## Community Meeting Minutes

Nov. 8, 2015

Introductions were done with everyone sharing what Buddhist/meditation literature they've been reading recently. Several people participated in the on line Awake series from Shambala.

Mariko asked for volunteers to help set up the room for the Sunday sitting when she's unable to do so. If interested, please contact her directly.

Board Report- Jim MacBain

No volunteers for the 3 open positions on the Board. Jim will send out another email to the community. He noted that the workload is not heavy and would be an opportunity for people to share in the work of the sangha. A Board of a non-profit is required by law and it is hoped some new people will step forward.

Treasurer's Report- Hugh Danville

Retreat costs- approximately \$1800 (includes \$1450 lodging and about \$360 for food)

Retreat income approximately \$2800

Total balance in SM account approximately \$3000.

Teacher's Council Report- Dave Lawson

1. Retreat went well. Thanks especially to Sara Ross, retreat manager and the teachers Bilha Birman-Rivlin and Dave Lawson.
2. Call to White Buddhist. Teacher's Council discussed and endorsed supporting the national movement to explore white privilege. No further information from the national movement on other groups as yet. Much discussion and clarification ensued. Some concerns about the title 'white only', some people feeling excluded, etc.

The planning group will prepare a presentation for the next community meeting on the issue of racial justice including sharing by the teachers and others who have participated in experiential learning at Omega or Upaya on this topic.

3. Announcing a new class offering probably beginning in January before the Sunday sitting. Open to all. Meditation instruction will be provided. Teachers will lead the class on a rotation basis.

4. Chaplaincy- Discussed how to identify appropriate activities. Several ideas were proposed.
- a. Ideas can be proposed by anyone and will go to the Teacher's Council who will discuss, prioritize and approve activities.
  - b. Teacher's Council will accept ideas from the community, 'reflect' on them with questions coming back to the community for further discussion. This would take more time but engage the wider community.
  - c. Teacher's Council will send out a request for proposals from the community. Ideas will be brought to the community meeting for prioritizing and recommendations.

Question was raised of who is the 'sangha' vs who is on the mailing list. Not everyone on the mailing list (which includes past students or anyone who wants to get information about Still Mountain activities) actively participate in the sangha. Will need to keep this in mind in future discussions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Erica Dutton