

Board Meeting Minutes

Chair: Elizabeth

Minutes: Kenneth

- Call to order at 11:35.
- Attendance: Elizabeth, Kenneth, Lisa, Judi, Karen, Walter
- Approved minutes from last meeting.
- Reports:
 - President - no report
 - Treasurer
 - Retreat deposit account is \$1500
 - Scholarship account is \$3009
 - Checking account is \$6180
 - Savings account is \$10,000
 - PayPal account is \$525
 - Teacher Council (Karen)
 - Regarding outside retreats, we decided to send a survey to the sangha.
 - The Shaila Catherine retreat option will be considered with results of the survey.
 - Judi: There may be more people interested in our retreats because IMA2 is not doing as much teaching internally.
 - There will be a retreat in mid July about right effort.
 - Tech Liaison (Kenneth)
 - Website change report sent via email
 - The in-house StillSocial seems to be working well except for ongoing deliverability issues with med.umich.edu. Judi and Ken continue to look for resolution. It only affects two people in our group.

Sunday, May 2, 2021

- List of Community Meeting minutes is getting long, but there does not appear to be any reason to restrict access to “archived” minutes either.
- **Ken will reformat Community Meeting Minutes and list archive on website.**
- Zoom Best Practices Guide is still in progress.
- Hybrid meeting planning committee (Lisa)
 - Carol B., Arlene, Sunil, and Lisa were at the last meeting.
 - Focus: how will Sangha feel about a hybrid model? This was identified as at least as important as technical issues.
 - Carol brought summaries of other groups that have used a hybrid model. There are many drawbacks. There are no clear-cut ways to make it work well. Some but not all people may be visible in a single camera lens. That makes it hard to know who is talking. It also is hard to see facial expressions. Not all people in person can see a TV screen. In person people tend to dominate the conversation; remote people may feel as if they are watching a video of a meeting happening, rather than participating.
 - Turner does not know when they will start in-person meetings again, but they will require social distancing which means their largest room will hold about 12 people. They intend to facilitate hybrid meetings but do not have details figured out yet.
 - Some technical ideas: computer connected to zoom, wide angle video camera, big bright TV screen
 - A facilitator is even more required than with fully remote or in person meetings.
 - Bottom line is that it will not be the same as it was. Meetings will not be in a circle format identical to fully in person meetings. How do you facilitate people attending through different channels?
 - We would like to bring a discussion to the sangha about these issues. (Possibly the 16th)
 - We also talked about generosity. What do “I” want and what do others want?
 - Elizabeth: It makes sense to talk about sangha and the value of meeting before diving into specific technological needs.

Sunday, May 2, 2021

- Walter: I have been looking at interactive immersive environments. There is a large demand for this kind of thing.
- Judi: if it is not possible to gather at Turner once we are all vaccinated, maybe Zoom is good enough.
- Lisa: How do we relate to each other as a sangha? Even when we are all remote, it can be challenging for everyone to feel like they are able to speak because of the format. Rather than asking what can technology do, we want to focus on what the sangha needs and desires regarding meeting together.
- Ken: As a stepping stone, we could encourage people who are comfortable doing so to “be on Zoom together”
- June 13 we will have a hybrid meeting discussion focusing on the needs of the sangha. **Lisa will have the workgroup work on an agenda and format.** We would like to utilize breakout rooms so everyone has a larger opportunity to speak.
- Ongoing issues:
 - Giving Project
 - There is a small group. Ken M. will call the first meeting. David Lawson, Elias, Judi P., and Judi G. will meet.
 - The group will bring ideas/a plan to the Board, then to the Sangha.
 - job descriptions are on the table
 - Discussion is May 9. David has a plan for the discussion.
- Next meeting is Sunday, June 6, 2021.
- Meeting adjourned at 12:38.