



Minutes of Floating Zenjo Business Meeting 5/19/15 8:20 pm

In attendance: Angie, Marie B, Samia, Carolyn, Karen B, Judy, Wendy

Samia passed around a plate of delicious date nut rolls.

Treasurer's report:

2014 was a good year for the Sangha's finances in that we received many generosityes. Sesshin dana and other dana totaled \$2,168. This total excludes weekly expense dana, and includes dana-in-kind. Our large expense for the year was the new website build after the crash of our one hosted by Yahoo. We hired a Web Designer for \$761 and paid for 3 years of hosting by Go Daddy (through 2017). The Dana being unpredictable, Treasurer (Wendy) is not expecting the same income for 2015. Marie asked if our Weekly expense dana paid the rent to the Friends. Yes it does! It was suggested that we gift the Friends at the end of the year, if we have the funds. The rental terms we receive from them are very generous. Treasurer also recommended that donnalynn chase be deleted as a signer on the bank account, as she has moved out of area. This move was accepted by those present.

August Sesshin:

Wendy explained that the goal of Sesshin fees was to break even. Recommended fees were presented that were the same as last year: \$400 for all 7 days, \$60 per overnight and \$38 per day only. Last year's Sesshin had a surplus of \$930, after granting \$550 in scholarships, thanks to generous dana totaling \$1394. This surplus could be applied to the scholarship fund for this year. Since Jikoji's rates are the same this year, and food prices have not inflated too much, the treasurer recommended to continue 2014 fees. There were no objections.

The Sesshin Coordinator, Carolyn, reported on Contract negotiations with Jikoji (Bryan Grayson, treasurer; John Flood, Shika) and continuing our discounted rates. Although the contract is not signed, there is agreement on the terms. She announced that Chris Brancinni has accepted the Tenzo position, Samia is Shika. Ino and Fukuten are not final. Anyone who would like a role serving the sesshin is invited to contact Carolyn. Wendy requested a volunteer to edit the 2015 flyer that Ellie has created in Adobe Acrobat. Marie offered. Samia has contacted Dennis Powell, former Shika, for an e-mail list of Sanghas to send the flyer to. Of course it will also go out to the Yahoo group, website and list-serve. A discussion of the dates for Sesshin in 2016 was opened by Carolyn. The consensus was that a mid-August week worked best, with a Friday – Friday format. As an educator, Karen B favored this change. Carolyn will submit a request for August 19-26, 2016 to Jikoji.

Misc Business:

Wendy announced an open position with the Sangha for an Ino. Our current Ino, Ellie, is taking over many of Hisayo's tasks recording Angie's talks and posting them to the website. Thank you Hisayo, for 2 years + of consistent recording. The job description for Ino is attached, but basically they are the "keeper

of the spirit of the zendo.” It is the responsibility of the Ino to make sure the zendo has an opener and Doan each week, and also to liaison with the San Jose Friends.

Marie is working on an update to Angie’s Bio on Wikipedia. This includes a new portrait taken by Ellie. She has not heard a reply from Sweeping Zen regarding an update of their Bio. Donations to these sites, which are always solicited, are on hold.

The usefulness of the Yahoo group was questioned by Marie. Why aren’t people submitting posts to Yahoo about our current study texts or other Sangha/Zen related topics? Wendy wondered if posts to the Yahoo group would include those on the supplementary contact list. Probably not. The website is more suitable for periodic posts on study and activities, not dialogs. Facebook appears to be a viable option for Sangha dialog. Angie said other Zen groups have a Facebook page. At one time the Floating Zendo had a page, but it has been inactivated due to lack of input. We’ll give it another try; Marie and Angie will work on it.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.