

Meeting of the Board of Directors of Zen Community of Oregon // 12.18.16

In attendance (*Directors): Larry Fuho Trussell (President), Patrick Bansho Green, Hogen Bays, Roshi, Chozen Bays, Roshi*, Nancy Kodo Conover, Patrick Kenyo Dunn, Tegan Roche, Nan Kyoko Whitacker, Darah Shonin Ashton*, Douglas Onkatsu Kagel*, Adam Jogen Salzberg, Jemma Walcott-Green, Amy Kisei Costenbader*, Sara Shinei Monial, Julie Weiss *, Laura Jomon Martin*.

Meeting location: Heart of Wisdom Zen Temple

Intro

Opened at 3:36 with Zazen and a reading from Dogen's "Bodhisattva's 4 methods of guidance"

Minutes of the previous meeting had not been previously approved, copies were circulated to board members for review

- Jomon makes motion, Kisei seconded and they were approved.

ZCO Administrator Update // Bansho

- Have a new bookkeeper at Great Vow, Onshin
- Our member system has been updated as Bansho discovered some on our list weren't getting emails
- Over 95% of pledges are in from the annual dinner
- Bansho wants to put together fundraising strategy meeting to create a plan for the organization
- Using Square for Tenzen Wangyal went well. This was also helped by allowing people to pay full price and not just a deposit, which made registration very efficient.
- Zenworks is on Etsy

Financial Report // Bansho

- General donations are up
- Event fees are up
- Sesshin remains stable
- Income at Zenworks is up
- TO DO: Bansho will look into priest fees as there was some question if they were accurate with Shinei's new class she is teaching.
- Expenses are also up, but overall we are in the green
- TO DO: Suggested that the monastery look at old training position sheets to

figure out a census of residents over time

Donations (Bansho and Nan)

- Nan requests donation of \$300 per year for backpack lunch program
 - Chozen makes motion to approve and Kisei seconds
 - Motion is passed
- Corvallis Zen circle asked for a donation for building of new center. Onkatsu makes motion to donate \$1500. Shonin seconded. The motion passed

Social Justice Committee (Jomon)

- Group of Sangha members have been meeting for 6 months around racism and racial issues.
- They have created a working mission statement:
 - 1) We will seek to embody interdependence and to promote the Bodhisattva Vow of mutual liberation of all beings.
 - 2) We will provide a means within the Zen Community of Oregon to increase awareness of, and respond to suffering -- including but not limited to, race, sex, class, age, ethnicity, national origin, religion, political expression, ability, sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression.-- through the lens of the Dharma.
 - 3) We will take action informed by the Dharma, and by our own deep personal practice.
 - 4) We will encourage white Sangha members to be responsible for increasing their own awareness of systems of oppression, making the ongoing work of understanding an integral part of Sangha life, rather than relying on People of Color for this work. We regard this work as an imperative in our practice. This requires the investigation of suffering, and clarifies our response to suffering.
 - 5) We will recommend responses and actions to the leadership and Sangha of the Zen Community of Oregon
 - 6) We will treat one another with words and actions humbly grounded in the precepts. We will speak from our own experience. We will be generous with one another, always giving the benefit of the doubt. We will hold confidences, and hold one another with compassion and lovingkindness.
- Created ongoing reading and materials list in a Google doc
- Have attended local events around racial justice
- On January 9th, there is an open Sangha conversation around these issues
- January 29th, "Awakening to Whiteness/ White Awake" a monthly affinity group on Sundays from 3:30-5:30. This first date is an orientation followed by 6 following dates. People will meet with their groups and discuss materials they have viewed between meetings.
- More plans are being developed on ways to connect with the Woodlawn community and bring in teachers to speak to this topic
- TO DO: An inclusivity statement is being developed that will be displayed in the front window. This needs to be finalized and approved by the board before it's displayed.

Proposed Board Dates for 2017

The board dates are as follows.

- Sunday, January 22
- Sunday, April 16
- Sunday, May 14 (Annual Meeting)
- Sunday, September 17
- Sunday, November 5

TO DO: Need to determine date for board retreat

minutes submitted by Jim Hornor, Secretary