

Monterey Zen Board Meeting - January 24, 2021, Zoom

Bowed in at 10:05 a.m.

Present: Robert Reese, Susan Nine, Jana Clark, Mark Orrisch, Clara Nieto, Dina Stansbury, Kathy Whilden, Diane Welles
Sara Hunsaker, Susan Brodey

Absent: June Poe

1. Consensus

- Agenda
- Minutes from 12/20/20

Moved, seconded and accepted

2. Donations

- The Board acknowledged and appreciated numerous donations
- There is a place online where donors can designate how their donation be used

3. Soto Zen Buddhist Association

- Created a letter condemning the January 6 violence inviting signatures
- Okay to sign the letter personally as a Practitioner at MBZC, not as a representative of MBZC

4. Systemic Racism

- MBZC has a statement which is posted on the webpage. Appreciations and thanks to TC and Media Team

5. Board Retreat

- Compassionate Communication workshop - first formal Board Retreat
 - a. Board agreed communication is broken; Sangha needs guidelines on how to communicate
 - b. Sara reports that Patricia okayed scheduling a 2 hour Compassionate Communication workshop any Sunday or Friday afternoon in March. Workshop scheduled for March 7, 2021 contingent on Patricia's confirmation
 - c. When asked about an honorarium Patricia responded that she was pleased to be asked to present the workshop making no mention of money.. Following discussion the Board decided to offer the workshop as a donation in the spirit of community, just as other sangha members offer their services
- Organization of the Retreat Discussion
 - a. TC as its own entity should be treated as a subcommittee developing proposals for agenda retreat topics
 - b. All other topics should be handled sequentially by subcommittee whose function it is to prepare topics and recommend the agenda. Each subcommittee sets its own ground rules e.g whether or not to include others, deal with anything contentious that might arise. Our responsibility is to progress with Right Speech
 - c. Not necessary to take positions
 - d. All grateful for the work of the Location Subcommittee
- Sangha Interests and Concerns Subcommittee - Second Board Retreat

6. Update Board Officers Directors Insurance (BOD)

- Robert reported that he contacted the Travelers Representative, Ben Jonas, for BOD insurance. They discussed financial information, completion of a questionnaire about MBZC, and MBZC concerns. Ben estimated \$600-\$1000 a year and will provide a written proposal. Robert suggested and Ben agreed to meet with the Board once everyone has a chance to see the policy and the quote. (Sundays are okay). He will answer our questions at that meeting.
 1. TC and subcontractors will be included in the policy
- Thanks to Robert for gathering all of the information Ben requested, a great deal of work. He will send out the proposal and quote as soon as he gets it. Board will schedule a meeting to discuss.

Discussion:

- BOD policy discussion should be part of the regular Board meeting
- Urgent we get something in place
- A separate meeting might allow for more questions
- Prepare questions ahead of time, then set BOD for first topic at the next Board meeting. Leave process open so once we get quote the Board can review them individually and submit questions to Robert who will consolidate them for submission to Ben
- If the Board wants to meet sooner than the next meeting, we can set up a separate meeting

7. Poetry Breakfast

- Board agrees the video from the Breakfast should be available for all to see, free of charge, if technically possible. Referred to John Light

8. What Diane's been doing

- San Francisco Zen Center sewing group meets and studies history & philosophy of robe sewing. Diane Riggs writing a book. Berkeley Zen Center is doing a 3 month practice period on the topic.
- Diane bringing MBZC into the historic robe journey
- Suggestion: Diane do a Tuesday evening talk on this sewing journey

Appreciations

Next Board meeting 2/28/21 10-noon

Bow out 11:46