

Board Minutes, February 7, 2023

MBZC Board Meeting. Cherry Foundation 4:00 p.m.

Members present: Susan Nine, Sara Hunsaker, Diane Wells, Susan Brody, Clara Nieto, Robert Reese

Call to order and approval of minutes from November Meeting.

1. Introduction and summation of packet sent by Susan Nine, including information on “Becoming a Member,” a fundraising letter by Katherine Thanas, and updated Monterey Bay Zen Center By-laws.

2. Treasurer’s report (Diane). Diane provided an overview of current financial position, including budget update to allocate monies for Villa Angelica Sesshin. Discussion and concern regarding diminished funding and costs associated with sesshin at VA. \$9074 in funds raised through recent fundraising card. Clara noted that registration for VA sesshin had reached \$3500.

3. MBZC Event Form: Draft form provided by Sara for guest speakers. Sara said she was uncomfortable with current process for inviting guest speakers and said “a form would provide a uniform, consistent process” for bringing speakers, teachers and workshop leaders to MBZC. A motion was made, seconded and passed to adopt Sara’s form was approved.

4. Letter: Discussion of Katherine Thanas’ fundraising letter and “dharma

posited” of membership. Conversation focused on the spirit and practice of membership and giving at MBZC.

5. Web update: Clara presented “Commerce Plan,” for the website. The web changes would simplify and provide user-friendly shopping app for the web site, “so you know what you are paying for.” Call to order and approval of minutes from November Meeting. Minutes approved. The new Commerce Plan includes membership, classes, pledges and ACH components. (That is: electronic payments from one’s bank account).

6. Board Nominations: Discussion of current board member terms, recent vacancies and compelling need to nurture and recruit new board members. Suggestion of inviting potential board members to attend a meeting as an observer and guest. Clara will remain on the board through October, 2023, closing out her term on the board. Robert suggested the board might meet on quarterly basis. Motion to do so did not pass by consensus so a motion to carry Robert’s motion over to the next meeting was made, seconded and was and passed to carried the motion over to the next meeting. Dissenting board member, Sara noted that the current bylaws require a minimum of one meeting per year so the board already has authority to schedule them on an as needed basis.

7. Determination of who will chair the next and future meetings & who will serve as Secretary. A motion was made, seconded and passed to rotate the Chair position among all Board members (with the exception

of the treasurer) each meeting with the previous Chair assisting as needed Sara offered to chair the next meeting which the Board unanimously approved. Clara volunteered to fill the Secretary position through October. The Board unanimously approved Clara as Secretary.

8. Next Board Meeting: May 21st 9 to 11 a.m at McGowan House. A motion was made, seconded and passed to not meet again until May unless an emergency arises. The Board decided on the 21st since the 14th is Mothers Day.

--- Robert Reese,
July 17, 2023