

BRIGHT WAY ZEN BOARD MEETING – Minutes of Meeting October 17, 2018

Meeting called to order at 6:30PM

PRESENT AT MEETING: Domyo Burk, Executive Director; Jinryu Janna Allgood, Chair of the Board; Shoketsu Ellen Carlin, Jim Lewinson, Joan Maurer, Zack Bartel and Jeff Young, secretary to the board.

Zazen and council process review: The meeting began with 3 minutes of zazen and a brief council process.

Prior Meeting Minutes: Minutes of the July 19, 2018 Board Meeting were reviewed and approved. During minutes approval, Jinryu reminded the group that the Board unanimously approved the 2019 board meeting schedule. Board meetings have moved to Wednesdays and for 2019 are January 16, April 17, July 17, October 16.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session was held. Confidential minutes, if there was anything to be reported or discussed, are dealt with and filed separately.

REPORTS:

Budget report by the Executive Director deferred until upcoming member's meeting.

1. Membership Report by Executive Director:

About the same, with some turnover. We haven't seen growth since July, although there are three term students who have not yet become formal members (should probably ask this along with registering for term student... but they'll probably become members sometime soon). Total active members (participating or pledging regularly), year to date:

1/18/18: 49 (10 of them donor-only, the rest regular participants)

4/19/18: 51 (5 donor-only)

7/19/18: 51 (6 donor-only)

10/17/18: 49 (5 donor-only)

Average monthly donation of participant members has gone up slightly, to \$57

2. Sangha Stewardship Report by Executive Director and Board Chair: New member welcome packets being considered. The contents would include: An introduction to Bright Way Zen, member privileges and responsibilities and Buddy system. Also considering the creation of a forum for discussing issues that arise in the Sangha. A poetry group is also under consideration.

UPDATES:

1. Children's Program: Marcia reports that this fall, three aspects of the children's and family program have started:

- On Wednesdays from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., a meeting for parents with children focusing on mindfulness and meditation practices has started. Attendance is regular but small at this point and is expected to grow with time.

- Every fourth Sunday a children's program is scheduled from 10:20 AM. To 11 AM. The first fall meeting was very exciting and successful with nine children attending. Attendance for this part of the program is also expected to increase.
- On the first Tuesday of each month there is a scheduled parents meet and greet from 6:30 until 7 p.m. Its purpose is to get parents together and gather input on what would make the best children's and family program that fits their needs.

As well, there is a new page on the website for the children's and family's program which outlines all of these aspects and hopefully will engage a new group of people that are interested in having the whole family participate at Bright Way Zen.

2. Fundraising

Frankie provided high level details about the BWZ "fun raising" event to be held on March 24th at McMenamins Grand Lodge in Forest Grove, 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Pizza/snacks and one wine/beer per guest will be included. Space is reserved and the deposit has been made.

3. Long Term Planning

Jinryu reported that based on a meeting she had with Domyo, she is completing another draft of a strategic planning vision. That draft, to be completed within the next week, will be shared with Joan and Domyo. The goal is for it to be ready to share with the board at the January 2019 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Updates from Executive Director: current thinking about BWZ-ZSP relationship – BWZ pledging members can be part of ZSPS for free, so that simplifies things a little. Will work on a newer version of relationship policy and get an attorney to review, hopefully before the next board meeting (will send drafts to board before sending to attorney).

NEW BUSINESS:

Soto Zen Priests' Conference update: Diversity, equity and inclusion at BWZ – If it works for Shintai, 2nd Saturdays starting in Jan 2019 (for six months), 4-6pm. (Could be 3-5pm.) Also will be an intro session people can attend between now and beginning to learn more about it.

Annual membership meeting: Sunday November 11th. Jinryu presented a draft for this meeting and the Board thanked her for her hard work on this important meeting plan. The agenda of the meeting was discussed and Jinryu will make some adjustments and send out the new draft and ask for volunteers to help present the agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Young,

Secretary to the Board of Directors, Bright Way Zen