

BRIGHT WAY ZEN BOARD MEETING – Minutes of the Meeting April 15, 2020

Meeting called to order via zoom at 6:30 pm

PRESENT AT MEETING: Domyo Burk, Executive Director; Jeff Young, Chair of the Board; Jinryu Janna Allgood, Vice Chair; Jim Lewinson; Zack Bartel, Treasurer; Joan Maurer, Secretary and Bob Kempter.

MINUTES APPROVED: The first thing the board did was provide a copy of the minutes from the last meeting for review by those that had not seen them. The minutes were approved by all.

ZAZEN AND COUNCIL PROCESS: Members observed 5 minutes of zazen and a held a brief council process.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

REPORTS:

First Quarter Budget Report –January through March

Domyo reported that the final budget will be sent to the Board soon for review. The delay is due to the fact that Marcia had taken over compiling this information. That is in process and close to being completed. Domyo reported that her sense of the status is that everything is fine, pledges are stable and there have been no unusual expenses.

Membership and Pledges

Current membership consists of 65 pledging members. Two remote members discontinued their membership and pledge. Other than that, membership and pledges remain stable. There are currently about 55 regular participants, the average monthly pledge is \$53 (in January this was \$50).

Attendance

Attendance at Bright Way meetings since changing to zoom format has been very good, the same or better than it was before the change.

Contributions

Since we are not meeting in-person, the donation box is not available as a source of income. This income source has been made up for with random donations from people who join via zoom.

Survey Results

Zack Bartel shared the preliminary results of the survey, to include graphs, which were very positive. 40 members responded with each person answering all the questions. The results are:

97.5% of the respondents feel acknowledged and appreciated

92.5% feel connected

61% of the members responded.

These are Awesome Results! With regard to the individual comments, it was decided that board members would review these on their own and be prepared to discuss any findings at the next board meeting, along with any insight about the purpose and usefulness of the survey.

STRATEGIC PLANNING:

Status

The consensus is that the rollout of the strategic plan has been completed. There are two items to address currently, which are,

1. Hold a training with Thomas Bruner about fundraising for Buddhists
2. Hold a board retreat to implement this knowledge in accordance with the Strategic Plan

Training with Thomas Bruner

The meeting with T. Bruner was cancelled due to Covid-19. There was discussion about whether this could be effective if held in a virtual format. T. Bruner has been very positive about doing this training virtually. It was decided that Jeff would reach out to T. Bruner to find out more specifically what this would look like and possibly find dates in the not too distant future. The plan would again be to invite others to attend.

Board Retreat

There was discussion about whether or not the board should hold a retreat, meaning most of a day set aside for discussion and planning with regard to the Strategic Plan and, specifically fundraising. It was decided that, initially, discussion about the Strategic Plan will be an item on the agenda at the next meeting. Members are expected to come prepared by having reviewed the Strategic Plan.

BUILDING OWNERS REPORT

In January, the lease was renegotiated for two more years. It currently extends to June 2022.

The owners also checked in via email to see if we anticipate trouble paying the rent. They are aware that we are not currently meeting at the site.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Maurer, Secretary to the Board of Directors, Bright Way Zen