

Minutes

Vipassana Santa Cruz Board Meeting 7/21/2009 @ 6:30PM

Lael's House (La Selva Beach)

ATTENDANCE

Mary Grace, G Schultz, M Carver, Chris B, Lael A, Ann Z, Leslie T, Val, Jason
(no guests)

1. Meditation
2. Check In
3. Approval of Minutes from June 2009 Meeting – Approved as revised via email; add Henry to those attending as guests (distinguish between guests and Board members); request to have “Action” section in future minutes
4. Consent Calendar – No action required; no commitment from Peter on donation
5. Teachers Council Report
 - a. Vision Statement presentation by Mary Grace (see email from MG forwarding Vision Statement) (Attached)
 - b. Discussion – “training and practice;” mentors can be invited to be part of the council; full lineage transmission can be done only by MG and Bob; executive director needed to deal with administration?; some meetings are more in the purview of the Board (e.g. Community Meetings; appreciation dinners); need to clarify that Teachers Council will be solely responsible for dana to visiting teachers; need to make clear to teachers that all checks get made out to VSC, not to individual teachers; dana v. salary – host of issues with IRS, plus cultural bias against salary model; how many teachers (min and max) would serve on Board at any one time?; how would council communicate to Board; do we still have a guiding teacher once the vision is adopted (replaced by collective)
6. Dana Altar Discussion
 - a. Martin presents his ideas on dana altar
 - b. Discussion – could be dealt with in stages (e.g. better bowls for now, maybe in a better location); what does TC think about dana

altar inside the main hall and on the altar; we'll wait for input from TC and then move forward

7. Board Retreat and Celebration for departing Board members
 - a. Two separate events
 - b. Bonnie and Marlow may be invited (1st week in October); day of council training open to the entire community, then 2nd day for Board vision retreat with inner circle and witness circle (with only limited input)
 - c. Weekdays does not work for Ann Z; maybe Friday starting at 3:00 pm.
 - d. Celebration as part of next Board meeting
 - e. To be continued via email

8. Announcing Carla's events at regular sits – there has been a request to announce Carla's events at regular sits
 - a. Some teachers have expressed a desire to not announce Carla's events, but that anyone in the audience can announce Carla's or anyone else's events; her talks on website will be moved to "visiting teachers" section of website
 - b. Board decides [to go with the above]

9. Sangha Care Committee (proposal for Bob Stahl and Nancy Gil)
 - a. Jason reads the proposal (attach to minutes)
 - b. Can VSC ask for volunteers?
 - c. Can VSC print out flyer? (part of attachment)
 - d. Must be clarified that service is contingent upon available volunteers

10. Community Meeting
 - a. Martin gives report
 - b. Community Meeting should also be held at Dharma Punx sit on Sunday evening
 - c. Can the community have a say in decision making?
 - d. Lots of talk about cushion arrangement
 - e. Should we schedule future community meetings? Yes G and MG will do this and post for community information

11. Program
 - a. MG reviews upcoming program events
 - b. Mark Leland and Christine King are offering event on wise speech using principles of non-violent communications (September 12)

12. Team Design
 - a. Carol and G went to Ikea for library refurbishment ideas

13. Facilities Coordinators

- a. Combo lock on back door is quoted \$625 to \$1,000 for installation; do we proceed? \$800 is range to budget. Approved. Jason will look at one other vendor to see if he can find a better price
- b. New space – MG reports on new space possibility

14. Check out

- a. Time keeping worked well
- b. Teacher visioning and Sangha care were important
- c. New members thought it was a well run meeting

15. Adjourned at 9:05 pm

16. Next Meeting

- a. Next board meeting September 14, 2009 (Martin's House)

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

- Celebration as part of next Board meeting
- Teachers Council to discuss dana altar ideas
- Hold community meeting at Sunday night Dharma Punx meeting; G and MG will schedule future community meetings and post for community information

[From previous meetings]

- Revise Bylaws so that the VSC Annual Retreat would fully satisfy the required retreat experience for Board member nominees