

**Vipassana Santa Cruz  
Board Meeting  
5/24/2010 @ 6:30PM at Lael's House**

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE**

G S, Martin C, Chris B, Lael A, Ann Z, Leslie T, Bill C, Bob S., Mary Grace, Jason M.

**MEDITATION**

**BRIEF CHECK-IN**

**APPROVAL/DISCUSSION OF THE MINUTES:** January and April Minutes approved

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

- None

**FOR DISCUSSION:**

- Open Board Positions
  - The following persons have agreed to join the Board
    - Andrea Wells
    - Diana Dure-Biondi
    - Hanna Meara
    - John Roevekamp
  - The seasoning process will begin for these persons starting in June; if no objections, they will be seated in July
- Planning for Council work; how we handle related expenses; developing a vision statement
  - Council weekend for the Board and Teachers Council now planned for December 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> with Bonnie and Marlow
  - VSC needs to decide what things it wants to discuss at the Council Weekend. One item identified was to look at Mary Grace's transition to "Guiding Teacher Emeritus" – Board agreed to discuss, and if possible finalize, agenda for Bonnie and Marlow at September Board meeting
  - Board agreed to discuss how to cover for expenses related to Council Weekend at its August meeting

- Regarding a Vision Statement, Board agreed that developing a vision statement for VSC was an important thing to do and decided to discuss this at the Board's September Retreat
- Need for volunteer assistance with library
  - It was reported that a volunteer is needed to replace Phyllis to keep track of materials checked out from the VSC lending library. No Board member volunteered, but it was suggested that the committed students could be asked to volunteer. (As a side note, it was suggested that that committed students could be asked to volunteer for any one of a number of duties as a condition for joining the committed students group).
  - The Board went on to discuss the need for a Volunteer Coordinator. There were no volunteers from the Board
  - It was suggested that a cleaning day could be held after the Sunday sits periodically.
- Information and plans re inter-sangha events:
  - Martin requested \$200 from the VSC Treasury to help IMC defray food costs associated with the upcoming Intersangha Event in late August. The Board declined to give money, but a generous Board member, who plans to attend the event, offered to donate \$200 to cover the costs.
- Board should acknowledge and express appreciation to the community for its positive response to the fundraiser
  - It was reported that Julia had agreed to prepare a Thank-You card. It was suggested that the Thank-You letter already posted on the website could be used as a template for the card. Jason agreed to contact Julia and work with her to get the card produced and sent out.
- Updates from Teachers Council
  - Board was updated on the recent Teachers Council discussion regarding how to respond to community needs, particularly issues around violence in the community
  - As a side bar, it was noted that there has been some preliminary discussion about Dharma Punx formally joining the VSC organization
- Space Planning
  - The Board briefly reviewed the need for a schedule and goals for lease renewal.
    - The Board agreed to take this up starting at its July meeting, with the intention to finalize Board instructions to the negotiating team by September and to begin negotiations in October.
- Email Correspondence between Board Members
  - Bob Stahl announced that he was going to be at Bookshop Santa Cruz on Monday, July 26 at 7:30 for a signing of his new book entitled: "A Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Workbook." Bob asked if it would

be appropriate if VSC could announce this in a email blast? All people responding said it was a great idea.

- Celebration for Retiring Board Members
  - Lael agreed to host the June Board meeting, which would mostly be devoted to a celebration for departing Board members. Board agreed to have the celebration between 6:30 and 8:00 pm and then have a very brief business meeting between 8:00 and 9:00 pm.

**BRIEF CHECK-OUT:** what worked and didn't work at this meeting.

**TO DO LIST:**

1. Season new board members
2. Jason agreed to work with Julia on thank you notes to donors
3. July Board meeting agenda item: discuss Board instructions to the negotiating team for lease renewal
4. August Board meeting agenda item: discuss how to cover expenses for the Council Weekend in December
5. September Board meeting agenda item: plan Council Weekend with Bonnie and Marlow, including development of a vision statement
6. September Board meeting agenda item: finalize Board instructions to negotiating team for lease renewal
7. Martin agreed to undertake parking survey (held over from previous to-do list)
8. Consider recommending to the Teachers Council that committed students be asked to volunteer for some VSC duty as a part of their committed students work
9. Cleaning days after Sunday sits
10. Discuss inviting Dharma Punx to formally join VSC organization
11. Have great fun celebrating the service of departing Board members