

DZOGCHEN COMMUNITY WEST COAST
Board of Directors Meeting
Dondrub Ling
2748 Adeline Street, Berkeley, CA 94703
10/07/2013

Minutes

Call to Order: Monthly meeting of the Dzogchen Community West Coast called to order at 7:20 pm .

Board Members Present: Dawa Lorien, Laurel Bellon, Lee Rome, Gene Kim, Chad Harris, Monica Hernandez

Community Members Present: Kathleen MacDougall, Luke Karamol, Carisa O'Kelly (via Skype)

Next Gakyil Meeting: the next regular Board meeting is scheduled for 11/17/2013, 2:30-4:30

Minutes: for the Board meeting of 09/08/2013 were corrected by Gene Kim to state that the steering committee members were in place, not merely nominated as originally stated. Also stated ~~it is a fundraising committee, not a strategic planning committee~~

AMENDED: stated it will start as a fundraising committee, then transition into strategic planning. It reports to the gakyil for approvals-functions to come up with a long term plan for fundraising. It reports to the gakyil for approvals.

1st item on agenda: **Luke's bookstore report**

- 1) L.A. projected more attendance than actually appeared, the community ordered on that projection, resulting in overstocked books.
- 2) Luke has contacted Anna Bartenstein regarding the overstocked books. She will purchase them back. DVDs sent from Italy have the wrong region code for the U.S. Luke has contacted Shang Shung Italy about this. After Fabio's retreat Luke will return overstock-mostly "Precious Vase" and "Yantra Yoga" books, and the DVDs. Worth is approximately \$600-\$800.
- 3) Gene moved to have inventory of books ordered for the retreat. How much sold, what remains. Luke will send the Square report to the center.
- 4) Luke is retiring from the bookstore for many reasons, part of which is his experience working with Shang Shung Italy - the DVDs with the wrong region code, the length of time & difficulty with communication.

Open Discussion

Luke mentioned a discussion with Sadat and Jacob Winkler regarding the programs in Europe where members directly support the lings. There have been six people consistently for Yantra Yoga. Luke put a question to them about donating to the ling and the response was very positive.

Dawa also suggests a pledge drive specifically highlighting ling membership.

Carisa suggested a survey of the local community to find out who is ready to step up and work toward keeping the center running.

Kathleen stated we have been getting less donations every year, hence the need to be proactive, and we should have a community meeting to get energy and ideas moving. We need long term goals and short term action. We need to draft a fundraising letter to present at the meeting.

Monica stated that we need bodies as well as money. We also need a survey to list what is needed and find out what people are willing to do for the center.

We will address this with SurveyMonkey but also a form will be distributed at the meeting.

Luke suggested using Evite to figure out how many people will attend, in advance. This was voted down.

Carisa suggested a three question survey.

Kathleen Then we need a followup with the information given to determine if we can really go forward.

Gene suggested an open discussion part of the meeting among attendees.

Monica feels we are working against each other a lot.

Motion for a paper survey to present at the meeting with a list of need. Motion carried.

Motion for a pre-meeting survey via SurveyMonkey. Motion carried.

Laurel will invite people to community meeting via Facebook.

Agenda Items:

Blue Gakyil [Items]

Dawa- Steve Landsberg's retreat was very well attended—there was approximately \$300-\$400 profit. Four or five new people came.

Fabio Andrico retreat: He is coming in the 21st, staying at Craig and Marta's until the 27th, then at Heather and Earle's. Luke will help out with the breathing and Kumbhaka retreat as much as possible. Dondrubling is responsible for teacher care while Fabio is teaching at Yoga Tree.

Elio Guarisco retreat: Elio is staying at Carol Fields house with his doctor. November 6th is the public talk on “Awakening Upon Dying: Teachings from the Tibetan Book of the Dead”, Closed retreat November 8th-10th: “Longsal Equalizing of Behavior”.

Elio asked that all gakyil members attend.

Lecture and Performance series: People have volunteered their services for these, including Silvia Nakkach, Steven Goodman, and Dawa Lorien; all to be implemented in 2014—to be discussed in future meetings.

Gene-status of community retreat in Somerset: 14 people signed up. There is a schedule.

Chod Ganapuja is scheduled with Tara Mandala for Halloween at 8 PM—need a leader.

Carisa on Full moon Puja October 18th: Suggests a long Ganapuja including long chants—Carisa will coordinate with Chad to set up CD so we can do the chants.

Yellow Gakyil [Items]

Financial Report:

\$11, 278 in checking

\$2610 in savings

In September we had more expenses than income.

Michael Katz brought in \$1643 in August

Steve Landsberg made \$1100 gross. He donated \$1000 to us. Airfare was \$400.00—we need to send him a donation acknowledgement letter.

We paid \$1186.51 for Elio's airfare. We will get partially reimbursed by Baja.

Carisa proposes giving a scholarship to two community members to represent Dondrubling to participate in the February retreat in Tenerife. This was not put to a vote.

Chad: update on rentals. We have had an increase in rentals - five scheduled for October.

Red Gakyil [Items]

Monica volunteered to facilitate the community meeting.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40