

Cedar Rapids Zen Center – Jikyouji

MINUTES – Sangha Meeting – January 22, 2017 – Convened at 10:43 AM

Called to order by President Eric Higgins-Freese

Present: President Eric Higgins-Freese, Vice President Douglas Gustafson, Treasurer Gina Kendall, Secretary Kelly Kruse, Resident Teacher Zuiko Redding, Courtney Cook, Travis Hunt, Christopher Lui, Devin Quinn

COUNCIL was held.

MINUTES of 18 December - Motion to approve by Gina – Second by Zuiko – Carries

PRACTICE REPORT – Zuiko Redding See Appendix A

TREASURER'S REPORT – Gina Kendall See Appendix B for proposed 2017 budget

- Motion to send proposed budget to the board by Kelly – Second by Travis – Carries
- Next meeting – Should we be paying Zuiko's mileage?

BUILDING AND GROUNDS REPORT – Zuiko Redding

If you see something that needs attention, let us know. If you'd like to do something about it, let us know that, too. Then do it. We need everyone's eyes out there.

Work Day – January 21 – Oiled kitchen cabinets and discussion room floor; cleaned kitchen appliances, counters, and pantry; cleaned windows; dusted and organized sun porch; repotted plants. Thanks to Annora, Chris, Devin, Gina, Kelly, and Lauren for all your work. Thanks also to Denny Novak for the pizza.

Next Work Day: February 11 - Possible work: cleaning the basement

Pending projects

- Basement sealing – Gina will call possible contractors.
- Flaking paint on stairway ceiling – Zuiko will call Restore to see if they know anyone who knows about traditional plaster.

Projects needing attention

- Computer – Take out password on laptop. Nadine and Zuiko have to change it each month and can't remember it.
- Eric will wipe two old computers and they'll be taken to Goodwill.

Finished projects

- Porch light replaced. Now works much better.

New Projects

- None

Pending long-term projects – Things that need to get done sometime

- Painting: woodwork & walls in library, hall, office, Zuiko's room, and stairwell / water-damaged areas in kitchen and stairwell – waiting for okay on these areas from Fitz / a few other places downstairs where paint is cracking / touch up garage.

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- Roof: Long-term plan is to put on a new roof in 2019 or 2020.
- Refinish floors – Would be nice to begin with the zendo and the entry.
- Possible finishing of basement corner into discussion/class space.

Did we miss anything?

If someone would like to take over as work leader, let us know.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Donation to Tenpyozan – Table until next meeting.
- Emergency fund thoughts: could have fenced fund that would be for emergencies or when a chance presents itself to do a project; table until next meeting.
- Recruiting new members to the board – many board members' terms are up in 2017 (need to look up exact number) – table/think about

ANNOUNCEMENTS for CRZC

Monday Night Dharma – February 6, 13, 20, 27

Introduction to Zazen - February 15

All-Day Sitting – February 19, 5 AM – 4:40 PM

Next Sangha Meeting – Sunday, February 26

ANNOUNCEMENTS of other events in the Cedar Rapids area

Intersections – Unpacking the Legislative Session – February 3 11:45 AM, First Presbyterian Church, \$10/person

Creating Welcoming Communities – January 24, Ladd Library, 6:30 PM

Interreligious Council of Linn County University of Religion – “The Life and Example of Prophet Muhammad” taught by Imam Hassan Selim, January 14 and 21, February 4 and 11, 2-4 PM, Kesler Lecture Hall, Hickok Hall, Coe College, \$30/person

NEXT MEETING: February 26

Meeting adjourned at 12:01 PM

Motion to adjourn by Zuiko – Second by Courtney – Carries

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Kruse

Appendix A:

Practice Report – January 22, 2017

General Impressions

We're in the middle of winter and the days are astoundingly gray. It's a good time to just sit. Also to just take the grayness moment by moment.

Center Activities

- Introductory evening – One person – Kelly did the evening.
- Sunday and daily sitting – Usually five people or so. It's good to see how everyone gets out tea things, shovels the walk, takes care of doan and jisha, and does other things that need to be taken care of before zazen.

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- Baika practice – Two or three people these days. Next meeting is January 26.
- Study class – Meets on Monday evenings at 6:30. We do thirty minutes of zazen, then an hour of discussion. We have begun *The Six Perfections* by Dale Wright. We're reading and discussing just a few pages at a time. At the moment we have five people who come regularly.
- All-day sitting – We had three people and a fine sitting.
- Zen Practice and Tradition – We have three people, including two returnees.
- World Peace Ceremony – Let's begin doing this again on February 5.

Special Events

- New Year's Eve sitting – We had five people and a fine time sitting and welcoming in the year.
- New Year's Day – We filled the zendo for the sitting and the ceremony and had around 30 people at the open house.

Sangha Members' Activities

- Tim Macejak and Tim Yukl visit the Anamosa group.
- Gina is serving as our representative to the Inter-Religious Council.
- Eric is managing our webpage.
- Gus writes thank-you notes to donors.

Zuiko's Activities

- January – Sitting at Anamosa.
- January 22 – Talk at St. John's Episcopal Church
- January 26 – Sitting at Ft. Madison.
- Editing translations for the Sotoshu website and writing for Facebook page and monthly newsletter.

Announcements

- February 2-4 – Zuiko will be at national meetings in LA.
- May 1 – Ashok Chawla will begin a six-week series on Hinduism and Buddhism at the dharma group.
- July 8 – Gina's ordination.

Communications Report: December

Facebook

Six posts were made to the CRZC page in December, down from 13 in November.

Page likes as of 31 December stand at 543, up from 541 on 30 November.

The best-performing post in terms of reach

- New Year - Reached 843 people, 24 likes, 13 loves, 1 comment and 9 shares
- Happy and Safe - Reached 475 people, 8 likes, 1 love and 3 shares
- Celebrate birth - Reached 455, 6 likes, 1 love and 4 shares.

1,435 people worldwide were reached by at least one post this month, up from 1,190 in November.

CRZC Currents

The December issue of *Currents* went to 310 subscribers, down from 311 in November. One hundred six recipients (34.5%) opened the publication, as compared to 110/35.9% last month. The current average open rate for religious publications at MailChimp is 24.0%.

Appendix B:**Cedar Rapids Zen Center
2017 Proposed Budget**

	Full Year	Full Year	Full Year
Income	2016 Actual	2016 Budget	2017 Proposed
Bookstore/Library - UR	\$415.07	\$200.00	\$300.00
Contributions - UR	\$13,770.51	\$13,500.00	\$13,500.00
Fundraising - UR	\$8,179.94	\$5,000.00	\$6,500.00
Teaching Engagements - UR	\$1,372.00	\$800.00	\$800.00
Practice - UR	\$1,060.00	\$900.00	\$900.00
Prison Fund - TR	\$70.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous Income (rebates) - UR	\$15.28	\$100.00	\$100.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$24,882.80	\$20,500.00	\$22,100.00
Expenses			
Housing			
a. Mortgage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
b. Maintenance	\$1,614.80	\$1,500.00	\$1,700.00
c. Renovation	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Insurance (house/org./work comp.)	\$1,633.00	\$2,100.00	\$2,000.00
Utilities	\$2,859.13	\$3,200.00	\$3,000.00
Personnel (health ins./wages)	\$4,512.79	\$4,900.00	\$4,600.00
Office Supplies & Service	\$2,340.64	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Fundraising	\$609.85	\$600.00	\$650.00
Bookstore/Library (inventory)	\$439.83	\$300.00	\$450.00
Practice	\$2,236.88	\$2,300.00	\$2,300.00
Dharma School	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Prison Practice (reimburses bookstore)	\$497.95	\$500.00	\$500.00
Community Support	\$270.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Teacher Savings (transfers to savings)	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$21,814.87	\$25,300.00	\$25,100.00
Net Budget Excess (Deficit)	\$3,067.93	-\$4,800.00	-\$3,000.00

TR = Temporarily Restricted

UR = Unrestricted