

Cedar Rapids Zen Center – Jikyouji

MINUTES – Sangha Meeting – October 22, 2017 – Convened at 10:40 AM

Called to order by President Douglas Gustafson

Present: President Douglas Gustafson, Vice President Eric Higgins-Freese, Treasurer Myoho Kendall, Secretary Kelly Kruse, Resident Teacher Zuiko Redding, Tina Lenton, Chris Lui, John Rathbun, Julie Shaw

COUNCIL was held.

MINUTES of 27 August – Motion to approve by Chris – Second by Eric – Carries

- Thanks to Eric for leading the meeting

MINUTES of 24 September – Motion to approve by John – Second by Myoho – Carries

PRACTICE REPORT – Zuiko Redding - See Appendix A

TREASURER’S REPORT – Myoho Kendall

Accounts as of 10-21-17

Checking (Hills)	\$2,549.67			
Savings (Hills)	\$7,228.55			
				\$9,778.22
N. T. F. Savings (LACCU)	\$7,323.14			\$7,323.14
CD	\$10,523.84	07/16/18		\$10,523.84
CD	\$22,977.63	04/12/19		\$22,977.63
CD	\$29,509.40	05/25/19		\$29,509.40
CD	\$22,030.21	06/03/19		\$22,030.21
Mutual Funds (ING)	\$35,100.90			\$35,100.90
			Grand Total	\$137,243.34

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 – None this month because of sesshin. Thanks to Shoryu, Eric, and Myoho for their work at sesshin.

Next work days: November 4, December 16. In November, we’ll finish cleaning out the gardens. In December, we’ll be cleaning for New Year’s.

Pending projects

- Need to get work done on the backup sump pump. The control panel seems to be broken. Zuiko will call Grainger about this in November.
- Garbage disposal – need to look into replacement. It was agreed that Zuiko will call Valenta Plumbing and ask for estimates for a new disposal and for simply re-piping.

Projects needing attention

- Installing our new thermostat – Eric volunteered to do this in the coming week.

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Finished projects

- New thermostat purchased.
- Backsplash installed behind hand washing sink, retrieved compost from worms, cleaned windows, fridge, ironed oryoki linens, cleaned baseboards, and sewed setsu tips

New projects

- It was agreed to add a new top for our outside stairway railing.

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

- Painting – Woodwork and walls in library, hall, office, Zuiko’s room, and stairwell / touch up garage / touch up porch.
- 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.
- Sealing of basement against moisture

Did we miss anything?

We are still in need of people to help with this area or to take it over.

Communications report – Lauren Manninen

Mailchimp (Currents Stats)^{[1][1]}October 2017^{[1][1]}352 Recipients (+11 from previous month)^{[1][1]}22.5% Opened the email (+2.5% from previous month)

Facebook Activity (September 22, - Oct 19, 2017) **Page views:** 78 (+21 from previous month)^{[1][1]} **New page likes:** 19 (+12 from previous month)^{[1][1]} **New page followers:** 20 (+11 from previous month) **Page Reach:** 2,164



Engagements with our posts: 750^{[1][1]} **Most popular post this month** – Reached 783 people, 25 reactions, comments, & shares

Other things of note

– Our 2018 calendar design has been completed, and will be posted on Facebook the beginning of November. [L]
[SEP]

– If you have any art you'd like to share and perhaps have published in the *Currents* or our print newsletter, send it on over!

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[SEP]

OTHER BUSINESS – Strategic Plan

- Keep discussion to 15-20 minutes due to potluck/sewing
- Where are we going?
 - Myoho – page 2 of old plan is practical vision
 - Take 1 column each meeting to start?
 - Zuiko – check off what we've already done, look at last meeting's minutes to keep idea of what we've talked about
 - Gus' engineering background – LSS, Kaizen, etc. Do we want this to turn into an ongoing continuous improvement process? Not “measuring performance”, but do need some long-term planning
 - Facilities is best example, would take a lot of advance planning
 - Consensus: Start next month with Facilities column. Send notes to people on what we discussed in August.

ANNOUNCEMENTS for CRZC

Monday Night Dharma – November 6, 13, 20, 27 6:30 PM

Baika Practice – November 9, 23

Introduction to Zazen - November 15 7:30 PM

Sangha Meeting – Sunday, November 26 following dharma talk

ANNOUNCEMENTS of other events in the Cedar Rapids Area

Inter-Religious Dialogue: Religion and Ethnic Pluralism in America – October 29 2-4 PM, Mt Mercy University, Basile Hall, Flaherty Community Room

Inter-Religious Thanksgiving Service – November 20 7 PM, Mt Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 6621 C Ave NE

NEXT MEETING: November 26

Meeting adjourned at 12:02 PM

Motion to adjourn by Kelly – Second by Zuiko – Carries

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Kruse

Appendix A:

Practice Report – October 22, 2017



General Impressions

Life has been much slower in September and there's been time to relax and tend to the layer of items that usually get overlooked. October looks to be quiet, too, and I am looking forward to that.

Center Activities

- Introductory evening – no one came. Kelly will be gone in November and Myoho will do the evening.
- Sunday and daily sitting – Good attendance on Sundays and noon zazen.
- Sesshin – Two people sat along with Shoryu and Zuiko. Only one person came to Sunday sitting and talk. We should specifically invite people when there's a guest teacher. Otherwise, the sesshin was quiet and good.
- Baika practice – Three people these days. Next meeting is October 26.
- Monday night dharma – We have three to five people at the moment.
- Rakusu sewing – We have three people sewing at the moment. Everyone is invited to help.

Special Events

- Sesshin – Shoryu Bradley came from Arkansas to lead and he'll be back next year. It was really small, but that gave us a chance to learn things like doan, jisha, and other duties. Thanks to Eric, who took on a lot of new things.

Sangha Members' Activities

- Myoho Kendall, Tim Macejak, and Tim Yukl visit the Anamosa group.
- Kelly does the introductory evening.
- Lauren is managing our Facebook page and the two newsletters.
- Myoho is our representative to the Inter-Religious Council. She also helped Zuiko in Bloomington-Normal.
- Eric is managing our website.
- Gus writes thank-you notes to donors, supplies sayings for the website, and mows the lawn. Maybe it's time to change the web saying.

Zuiko's Activities

- October 1 – Sitting with the group in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois
- October 8 – Sitting at Anamosa
- Editing translations for Sotoshu and writing for Facebook page, monthly newsletter, and *Ancient Way*

Announcements

- September 24 – Rakusu sewing 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. – potluck lunch beforehand – will usually be on the fourth Sunday of each month for several months
- We need people to write for the newsletter. If you have a story or thought, we'd love to have it. Also, pictures and drawings.
- Possible date for Precepts Receiving Ceremony – July 7, 2018