

MINUTES – Sangha Meeting – October 26, 2014 – Convened at 10:45 am

Called to order by Secretary Jen Yuki

Present: Courtney Cook, Suisan Goldberg, Travis Hunt, and Troy Hunt
 Directors – Treasurer Gina Vavra and Secretary Jen Yuki
 Resident Teacher – Zuiko Redding

TOTAL PRESENT: 7

COUNCIL was held.

MINUTES: Motion by Zuiko to approve the 9/28/14 minutes with one addition to Building & Grounds
 – Second by Courtney Cook – Carried.

PRACTICE REPORT – Zuiko Redding See Appendix A

TREASURER’S REPORT – Gina Vavra

Accounts as of 10/24/14:

Checking (Hills)	\$644.65			
Savings (Hills)	\$412.70			
Other Savings (UICCU,LACCU)	\$13.13	Working Accounts		\$1,070.48
* N.T.F. Savings (LACCU)	\$4,898.70	New Teacher Fund Savings		\$4,898.70
36 mo. CD (LACCU)	\$15,523.30	06/12/15	1.492 % [1.5 % APY]	\$15,523.30
48-59 mo. CD (Hills)	\$21,542.42	02/15/16	1.99 % [2.0 % APY]	\$21,542.42
36 mo. CD (LACCU)	\$21,164.14	07/19/16	[1.3 % APY]	\$21,164.14
49-60 mo. CD (UICCU)	\$20,685.51	04/01/17	2.13 % [2.15 % APY]	\$20,685.51
Mutual Funds (ING)	\$26,052.05	52.8% CRZC	47.2% NTF	\$26,052.05
Grand Total				\$110,936.60

BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT – Jen Yuki

- Work day: Reviewed needs and scheduled next date – Saturday, November 8 (9:00 am – 2:00 pm)
 Depending on the weather, indoor or outdoor projects can be done.
 Pending work day projects: clean pantry shelves, dust baseboards, paint interior items listed below in #6 (start in library), trim apple tree, trim periwinkle in front, other garden work, and make landfill run.
- Stove, left front burner (does not seem to be getting gas): Troy Hunt volunteered to check on this.
- Apple tree: Trimmed at October sesshin, but more needs to be done – either now or in March.
 Plan made to finish this at November 8th work day if the weather is good.
- Relocate library: Began discussion about the possibility of elevating floor in part of the basement and building a place for the library there. This will allow more space upstairs for overnight guests. Need to start looking into feasibility of this, potential cost, and all that it would entail. Travis Hunt brought up the question of lighting. Using lamps or possibility of adding overhead lights was noted.
- Garden border and garden:
 - Garden border project: Denny Novak volunteered to assist with this and will set up a time with Zuiko (mid-November). The plan is to dig out current railroad-tie border (wood is rotting), lay a brick border (bricks from past chimney), and spread gravel (need to purchase more gravel).
 - Other garden work: If anyone is interested in working in the garden to increase its beauty as a sitting place, please contact Zuiko.
- Painting:
 - Exterior – touch up garage
 - Interior, upstairs – woodwork and walls in library, hall, office, Zuiko’s room, and stairwell
 - Interior, downstairs – a few places where cracking
- Water-damaged areas in stairwell and kitchen:
 Fitz checked stairwell area and feels that moist air is causing paint to chip off. Need to check back with Fitz as to whether it is okay to scrape and paint the stairwell. He plans to check the kitchen area before winter and will let us know if anything needs to be done before we paint there.
- Weeds in decorative brick work at street corners (Bever Ave. & 16th St. and Bever Ave. & 17th St.):
 Once or twice a year check brick work and remedy problem by using hot water, salt, or other.
- Basement wall seeping: Plan is to wait until 2015 before contracting repair with Fitz.
- Roof: Long-term plan is to put on a new roof in 5 years (2019 or 2020).

OTHER BUSINESS

1. A couple of questions for people to think about:

- What do you like about CRZC?
- What ideas do you have for making it bloom?

Zuiko introduced these questions to start a continuing conversation about how we can grow together at CRZC. Please send any thoughts you have about these two questions to Zuiko. We would like to discuss all ideas at future sangha meetings.

2. CRZC involvement at Interfaith Thanksgiving service: Monday, Nov. 24 (7:00 pm) at Unity Center

- Ushers/Greeters: the Higgins-Freese family (Eric, Jonna, Reuben, and Henry) and Jen Yuki
- Benediction: Zuiko or Jen Yuki...unless someone else volunteers

3. Resignation of president: Amy Eble needs to step down from her role as president. She will continue on the board in a non-officer capacity.

4. Board of Directors: Begin to think about serving on the board. Every year, at the annual meeting, we elect two or three directors. Often current directors agree to serve another 3-year term, but it would be great to have new people. Let Jen Yuki know if you would like to be on the next ballot.

5. Building & Grounds Coordinator: Request for someone to serve in this role. This involves communicating with Zuiko and others about needs and providing a report for sangha meetings. If you are able to do this or have any questions about this commitment, contact Jen or Zuiko.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – See also the last section of Practice Report, Appendix A

1. Dharma School: Sunday, November 2 (2:00 – 3:30 pm)

2. All-day sitting: Sunday, November 16 (5:00 am – 4:40 pm)

3. Sesshin: December 5 – 7

4. Multimedia show of SZBA 2014 Conference at Great Vow Monastery in Clatskanie, Oregon:

"Scenes from the SZBA" was put together by Hoko Karnegis of Hokyoji Zen Practice Community, Director of Communications. There are nearly 1000 frames and the show runs about 19 minutes. Zuiko attended these meetings of the Soto Zen Buddhist Association in early October. A link to Hoko's Facebook page can be found on the CRZC Facebook page. The link is also given below.

View from Hoko's Facebook page – <https://www.facebook.com/hoko.karnegis> (posted Oct. 17)

You can also see this on YouTube at http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=SZBA+2014

ANNOUNCEMENTS of other events in the Cedar Rapids area from the Inter-Religious Council

1. **Intersections: "The New Jim Crow" – Friday, November 7 (11:45 am – 1:00 pm)**

Civil dialogue & Luncheon – Cost is \$10, payable at the door

Speaker: Harvey Harrison, retired attorney Location: First Presbyterian Church – 310 Fifth St. SE

Reservations are required: Please call 319-364-6148 or e-mail crintersections@interfaithallianceiowa.org.

For more information about topic and speaker, visit <http://interfaithallianceiowa.org/events/intersections>.

2. **"Concepts of God" – Sunday, November 9 (2:00 – 4:00 pm)** Location: St George Orthodox Church
Father Shaheen, Rabbi Thalblum, and Imam Tawil will present the view of their faith tradition.

3. **Women in Interfaith Dialogue: "Water: All Water is Holy Water" – Saturday, November 22 (10 am – 3 pm)**

Location: Prairiewoods Cost is \$15 for the day and includes lunch

REGISTER: Call Prairiewoods Spirituality Center at 319-395-6700 or Barbara Schlachter at 319-351-4380

4. **Interfaith Thanksgiving Service (Inter-Religious Council): Monday, November 24 (7:00 pm)**

Guest Speaker: Clint Twedt-Ball, Co-founder & Co-executive Director of Matthew 25

Location: Unity Center of Cedar Rapids – 3791 Blairs Ferry Rd. NE

Offering: Non-perishable food items and/or cash will be donated to the Linn Community Food Bank.

Refreshments will be served following the service.

5. **Judaism course with Rabbi Todd Thalblum – Sundays in January 2015 (Noon to 1:30 pm)**

Location: Christ Episcopal Church, 220 40th St. NE

6. **Buddhism course with Zuiko Redding – IRC University of Religion course – Saturdays in February 2015**

Location and Time: TBA Cost: \$20 for all four sessions

NEXT SANGHA MEETING: November 23

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 am. Motion by Courtney Cook to adjourn – Second by Zuiko – Carried.

Respectfully submitted by Jen Yuki

Appendix A:

Practice Report – October 2014

General Impressions

- . Nearly 100 teachers attended SZBA in Oregon. We have pretty much reached consensus on the regulations for training as a teacher – this is a wonderful step.
 - + I'm hoping we establish a lay organization in a few years.
 - + Things I brought back – information from a training on council. There are copies to pass out.
 - + Tempyo-zan, the new monastery, is coming along. They're beginning to build buildings.
 - + There was a baika workshop led by Hoko Karnegis – Zuiko helped.
 - + We talked more about finding teachers for centers when the teacher retires. There are a number of younger people now and many of them are willing to live very simply in order to teach fulltime.

Center Activities

- . Dharma school – Three children came. We talked about fall, the poet Ryokan, and wrote poems.
- . Introductory evening – Three people came. Kelly Kruse did the evening and Zuiko observed.
- . Sunday orientation – No one this month.
- . Sunday sitting – Attendance has picked up. We had eight this past Sunday.
- . Daily sitting – We have regulars at noon zazen again. And sometimes people at evening zazen. It's good to have people to sit with.
- . Baika meets twice a month. We now have three people besides Zuiko and are open to people who want to learn.
- . Rakusu sewing – Jake Snyder and Beth Niswander from Bloomington-Normal may be joining the group.

Special Events

- . Sesshin – Shoryu Bradley led sesshin on October 17 – 19. Dharma talks were on the Buddha's use of fire as a metaphor – these are on our web site. A total of three people came. We were also happy to have Daishin McCabe from Ames on Sunday. Zuiko hopes to build connections with him and his wife, Jisho Siebert. A teacher from Florida, Genjo Gallagher, also sat with us on Sunday.

Zuiko's Activities

- . Attended Soto Zen Buddhists Association (American teachers' organization) and Sotoshu meetings in early October at Great Vow Monastery in Oregon.
- . Anamosa – three people, Mt. Pleasant – also three people.

Members' Activities

- . Denny Novak and Gina Vavra helped plant hostas on front slope.
- . Kelly Kruse is learning to do the intro evening.
- . Bryan Davis, Jean Kirby, and Gina Vavra took care of zazen and dharma talks in Zuiko's absence.
- . Travis Hunt and Courtney Cook are training as doan.
- . Jen Yukl continues to represent us on the Inter-Religious Council.
- . Tim Macejak and Tim Yukl continue to sit with the Anamosa men.

Announcements

- . Another baika teacher – next year on Saturday, May 16, 2015