

Cedar Rapids Zen Center – Jikyouji

MINUTES – Sangha Meeting – August 27, 2017 – Convened at 10:57 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, Rev. Tonen O’Connor, Rev. Reirin Gumbel, Jenn Day, Henry Higgins-Freese, Reuben Higgins-Freese, Kristian Leitzen, Lynnde Leitzen, Chris Lui, Lauren Manninen

COUNCIL was held.

MINUTES of 23 July - Motion to approve by Zuiko – Second by Eric – Carries

PRACTICE REPORT – Zuiko Redding - See Appendix A

TREASURER’S REPORT – Myoho Kendall – See Appendix B for 2nd Quarter Financial Report

Accounts as of 8-26-17

Checking (Hills)	\$3,253.39			
Savings (Hills)	\$7,226.75			\$10,480.14
N. T. F. Savings (LACCU)	\$6,516.46			\$6,516.46
CD	\$10,465.02	07/16/18		\$10,465.02
CD	\$22,849.20	04/12/19		\$22,849.20
CD	\$29,362.49	05/25/19		\$29,362.49
CD	\$21,920.26	06/03/19		\$21,920.26
Mutual Funds (ING)	\$34,310.83			\$34,310.83
Grand Total				\$135,904.40

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 – August 12. Worked on front yard – mulched, weeded, planted new hostas. Thanks to Jennifer Day, Myoho Kendall, Kelly Kruse, John Rathbun, Julie Shaw, and Sally Taylor.

Next work day: September 9

Pending projects

- Garden work – need people to help
- Need to get work done on the backup sump pump. The control panel seems to be broken. Zuiko will work on this.
- Zuiko will call electrician to put in a new outlet over the cutting board so we can move the hot water pot to that side of the kitchen. It shouldn’t be difficult since there’s a light switch on the other side of the wall.

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- Garbage disposal – need to look into replacement. Gus will call Ken to see what he's done and work from there.
- Alliant is offering rebates on thermostats. Would someone like to investigate modern thermostats? Lauren will research this. Jenn possibly has a thermostat to contribute.

Projects needing attention

- None this month

Finished projects

- Radon test kit installed by Brian Merrick.

New projects

- None this month

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.

Did we miss anything?

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

OTHER BUSINESS – Strategic Plan

- Passed out documents for brainstorming session
 - Old strategic plan done with professional facilitator
 - Core values of Bandag (business with Buddhist owner)
 - Community Venn diagram from Hoko
- Space
 - Gus – we have a core group of people, might outgrow this place
 - Slow, organic growth is a good thing
 - Finish attic or basement to have meeting space if zendo has to expand into current discussion space.
- Jenn – Center is hard to find
 - Tonen/Zuiko – ordinances limit who can put up signs
 - Reirin – could the outside look more Zen-like? She is doing a “Shinto” gate for her temple
 - Statue or wheel/spoke symbol
- Youth
 - Most kids have outgrown dharma school
 - Reirin – some communities have coming-of-age group with ceremony at end
 - Ashley Spencer mentioned some teens who would like volunteer opportunities at a previous meeting
- Welcoming culture
 - Gus/Zuiko – “Random” visitors to Center

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- Memorial services
- Endowment – decided not to do a few years ago
- Visibility
 - Myoho will investigate outdoor zazen at New Bo, New Bo has own rules in addition to city's
 - Tonen mentioned Burma march that turned into zazen flash mob, could do kinhin to introduce that to people
- Foster feeling of sangha – could do lunch/dinner before or after other activities
- Encouraging more people to attend sesshins
 - Myoho – have discussed doing road trip to a monastery for people who want to try a longer Sesshin
 - Tonen – for long meditation retreats, people have to be willing to use bench
 - Reirin – Us and Milwaukee Zen Center could do sesshin or 1-day sitting together
 - Try doing oryoki at other activities to demystify it

ANNOUNCEMENTS for CRZC

Monday Night Dharma – September 4, 11, 18, 25 6:30 PM

Baika Practice – September 14, 28

Introduction to Zazen - September 20 7:30 PM

Sangha Meeting – Sunday, September 24 following dharma talk

ANNOUNCEMENTS of other events in the Cedar Rapids Area

Inter-Religious Dialogue: Defining Religion and its Purpose – August 27 2-4 PM, Mt Mercy University, Basile Hall, Flaherty Community Room

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

NEXT MEETING: September 24

Meeting adjourned at 12:35 PM

Motion to adjourn by Kelly – Second by Myoho – Carries

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Kruse

Appendix A:

Practice Report – August 27, 2017

General Impressions

There's the usual late summer lull, but life should pick up soon. Zuiko had a very busy August and is looking forward to September. Daiki Barlow's ordination ceremony was a good opportunity to meet other teachers from around the local area.

Center Activities

- Introductory evening – no one came.
- Sunday and daily sitting – We're having the usual late summer thinning.
- All-day sitting – We had a total of four people.
- Baika practice – Three people these days. Next meeting is September 14.

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- Study class – We have three to four people at the moment. It will pick up in September.
- Rakusu sewing – We have three people sewing at the moment. Everyone is invited to help.

Special Events

- Baika workshop was cancelled because Hoko was unable to come. She was here on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday and helped with the garden.

Sangha Members' Activities

- Tim Macejak and Tim Yukl visit the Anamosa group.
- Kelly does the introductory evening.
- Lauren is managing our Facebook page and the newsletters.
- Myoho is our representative to the Inter-Religious Council and will begin visiting Anamosa today.
- Eric is managing our website.
- Gus writes thank-you notes to donors and supplies sayings for the website.

Zuiko's Activities

- August 8 – memorial service at Anamosa for Paeng Saengaroun
- August 13 – Sitting at Anamosa
- August 19 – attended Daishin McCabe's ordination of Marcus Barlow (Daiki) at Pure Land Center in Des Moines
- August 24 – Sitting at Ft. Madison
- Editing translations for Sotoshu and writing for Facebook page, monthly newsletter, and *Ancient Way*

Announcements

- August 27 – Rakusu sewing 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. – potluck lunch beforehand – will usually be on the fourth Sunday of each month for several months
- September 5 – Zen Practice and Tradition begins
- September 17 – all-day sitting
- September 30, October 1 – Zuiko and Myoho will be in Bloomington-Normal
- October – next newsletter will be published – please write for it
- Possible date for Precepts Receiving Ceremony – July 7, 2018

Communications Report – Lauren Manninen

- Picture posts good, video slideshows great
- “Likes” creeping up
- Paper newsletter and E-newsletter overlap, but go to different populations

**Cedar Rapids Zen Center
2017 Second Quarter Financial Report**

	Full Year	Full Year	First & Second Quarter	
Income	2016 Actual	2017 Budget	2017 Jan.-June	% of budget
Bookstore/Library - UR	\$415.07	\$300.00	\$97.00	32.3%
Contributions - UR	\$13,770.51	\$13,500.00	\$9,477.93	70.2%
Fundraising - UR	\$8,179.94	\$8,500.00	\$1,862.44	21.9%
Teaching Engagements - UR	\$1,372.00	\$800.00	\$560.00	70.0%
Practice - UR	\$1,060.00	\$900.00	\$1,155.49	128.4%
Prison Fund - TR	\$70.00	\$0.00	\$35.00	na
Miscellaneous Income (rebates) - UR	\$15.28	\$100.00	\$33.58	33.58%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$24,882.80	\$24,100.00	\$13,292.44	55.2%
Expenses				
Housing				
a. Mortgage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	na
b. Maintenance	\$1,601.88	\$1,700.00	\$507.82	29.9%
c. Renovation	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,273.90	113.7%
Insurance (house/org./work comp.)	\$1,633.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,589.00	79.5%
Utilities	\$2,991.21	\$3,000.00	\$1,926.60	64.22%
Personnel (health ins./wages/mileage)	\$3,253.99	\$6,600.00	\$3,514.87	53.3%
Office Supplies & Service	\$2,340.64	\$2,500.00	\$415.72	16.6%
Fundraising	\$608.02	\$650.00	\$481.88	74.1%
Bookstore/Library (inventory)	\$456.93	\$450.00	\$475.37	105.6%
Practice	\$2,236.89	\$2,300.00	\$1,857.93	80.8%
Dharma School	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	0%
Prison Practice (reimburses bookstore)	\$629.89	\$500.00	\$101.09	20.2%
Community Support	\$270.00	\$500.00	\$185.00	37.0%
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$115.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
New Teacher Savings (transfers to savings)	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00	\$2,400.00	50.0%
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$20,937.45	\$27,100.00	\$15,728.18	58.0%
Net Budget Excess (Deficit)	\$3,067.93	-\$3,000.00	-\$2,435.74	81.2%

TR = Temporarily Restricted

UR = Unrestricted