

MINUTES – Sangha Meeting – September 28, 2014 – Convened at 10:50 am

Called to order by Secretary Jen Yuki

Present: Courtney Cook; Resident Teacher – Zuiko Redding; Directors – Treasurer Gina Vavra and Secretary Jen Yuki
TOTAL PRESENT: 4

COUNCIL was held.

MINUTES: Motion by Gina Vavra to approve the 8/24/14 minutes – Second by Courtney Cook – Carried.

PRACTICE REPORT – Zuiko Redding See Appendix A

TREASURER'S REPORT – Gina Vavra See Appendix B

Copies of the Second Quarter Report and current account totals were made available. After review, discussion led to a motion made by Courtney Cook to approve the Second Quarter Report with this revision: move cost for removal of the chimney from maintenance to renovation. Second was made by Zuiko and motion carried. This revision has been made to the attached report in Appendix B.

BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT – Jen Yuki

1. Sewer line project (burst-pipe): Installed by Roto-Rooter on September 10. New drain in basement was also put in (replacing the rusted iron one).
2. Work day of September 13 – Report of work completed:
 - Painting: west side of porch fascia and top panel of porch steps
 - Cleaned mud from sidewalk and basement floor (left from sewer line project)
 - Cleaned porch – washed the rails, swept, and dusted thoroughly
 - Added kapok to zafus
 - Cleaned baseboards in discussion roomThank you to Robin Groth, Doug Gustafson, Troy Hunt, Kelly Kruse, Gina Vavra, and Zuiko for their work.
Work day projects - pending: clean pantry shelves, dust baseboards, interior painting items listed below (start in library), trim periwinkle in front, other garden work, and a landfill run.
3. Hostas planted on front slope to prevent erosion and cover bare ground: Many were put in last week. Thank you to Denny Novak for assisting Zuiko with this. Zuiko and Gina will plant more after our meeting today.
4. Garden border and backyard garden:
 - Garden border project: 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). Denny Novak volunteered to assist with this and will set up a time with Zuiko after she returns from meetings in Oregon.
 - Other garden work: If anyone is interested in working in our garden to increase its beauty as a sitting place, contact Zuiko.
5. 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.
6. 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
7. Water damage areas in stairwell and kitchen: In July, paint chipping was noticed in stairwell, where water damage has occurred in the past. Fitz checked stairwell area and feels that moist air is causing the paint to chip off. It is okay to make plans to scrape and paint the stairwell. Fitz plans to check the kitchen area later this autumn and will let us know his findings.
8. Basement wall seeping: Plan is to wait until 2015 before contracting repair with Fitz.
9. Water staining under kitchen sink: Check periodically to verify that past leaking is thoroughly fixed.
10. Roof: Plan is to put on a new roof in 5 years.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Interfaith Thanksgiving Service requests: Monday, November 24 (7:00 pm) at Unity Center
Need someone to give the "benediction" and two or three people to serve as ushers/greeters.

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

1. Dharma School: Sunday, October 12 (2:00 – 3:30 pm)
2. Sesshin: October 17 – 19

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

1. **Intersections: "Challenges in Higher Education" – Friday, October 3 (11:45 am – 1:00 pm)**
Civil dialogue & Luncheon – Cost is \$10, payable at the door
Speaker: Sally Mason, president of the University of Iowa 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" – Between the Traditions series – 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.
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.

NEXT SANGHA MEETING: October 26

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

Respectfully submitted by Jen Yuki

Appendix A: Practice Report – September 2014

General Impressions

- Taking care of the Center is part of practice. We are the Center and we want to always remember that it is not something separate from us. We are all responsible for the practice that happens here.
- Members have been stepping up and doing things like the garden border, doan, and the monthly introductory evening. Two people are now training as doan, and someone will help Zuiko renew the garden border next month. There are other opportunities to take charge of things. We need writing and artwork for the newsletter. Articles are generally 800-1000 words. The newsletter also needs a setup person and someone to write notes about events and other aspects of the Center. Being on the board, being Treasurer or Secretary, are also good opportunities.
- Zuiko is very happy that we will likely get out all four issues of the newsletter this year (first time in many years). The newsletter is an important part of the practice here. It goes out to people who can't be here and encourages and instructs them. Zuiko gets many comments from people about how the arrival of the newsletter helped them through difficult times or encouraged them to continue their practice.

Center Activities

- Dharma school – Four children came and we had a fine time. The story was about fighting squashes and we learned the Japanese words for "please have some" and "thank you."
- Introductory evening – Three people came. Zuiko did the evening.
- Sunday orientation – no one this month
- Sunday sitting – Attendance has picked up. We had eight this past Sunday (September 21).
- 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 has begun again this month. We now have three people besides Zuiko.
- Rakusu sewing – Two people are sewing and almost finished. Thinking to have the ceremony in the fall.

Special Events

- All-day sitting – one other person this month. Zuiko did a memorial service for her friend Kyogen Carlson at noon.
- Anamosa sitting – three regular attendees
- Zen Practice and Tradition course – one person

Zuiko's Activities

- Mt. Pleasant – no sitting this month

Members' Activities

- Eric continues to keep our website up to date. He also installed Firefox and a new version of Eudora.
- Jen continues to represent us on the Inter-Religious Council.

Practice Report (Appendix A) continued...

Announcements

- Zuiko will be at Great Vow Monastery in Oregon, October 1–7, for meetings of Sotoshu and SZBA.
- Shoryu Bradley will be joining us for October sesshin.

Appendix B: 2014 SECOND QUARTER REPORT

	Full Year	To Date		
Income	2013 (Jan. - Dec.)	2014 Budget	2014 (Jan.-June.)	% Change
Bookstore/Library	\$1,231.71	\$1,000.00	\$31.95	3.2%
Contributions	\$9,765.13	\$12,700.00	\$6,622.05	52.1%
Major/Special Gifts	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Fundraising	\$8,723.00	\$7,800.00	\$772.00	9.9%
Teaching Engagements	\$956.00	\$800.00	\$479.00	59.9%
Practice	\$875.00	\$500.00	\$473.00	94.6%
Prison	\$327.00	\$0.00	\$15.00	na
Great Sky	\$670.35	\$0.00	\$150.14	na
Miscellaneous Income (rebates)	\$656.10	\$200.00	\$10.00	5.0%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$43,113.29	\$43,000.00	\$8,553.14	19.9%
TOTAL W/O Major Gifts	\$23,113.29	\$23,000.00	\$8,553.14	37.2%
Expenses				
Housing				
a. Mortgage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
b. Maintenance	\$1,488.62	\$1,000.00	\$1,093.26	109.3%
c. Renovation	\$2,123.70	\$5,000.00	\$3,698.03	74.0%
Insurance (house/org./work comp.)	\$1,774.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,722.00	95.7%
Utilities	\$3,042.49	\$3,000.00	\$1,727.59	57.6%
Personnel (health ins./wages)	\$3,712.68	\$5,500.00	\$3,075.81	55.9%
Office Supplies & Services	\$1,873.79	\$2,000.00	\$486.40	24.3%
Fundraising	\$254.72	\$500.00	\$187.80	37.6%
Bookstore/Library	\$1,446.87	\$1,000.00	\$205.88	20.6%
Practice	\$1,871.56	\$1,900.00	\$1,183.84	62.3%
Dharma School	In line item 8	\$100.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Prison	Not included	\$400.00	\$168.93	42.2%
Community Support	\$250.00	\$700.00	\$465.00	66.4%
Great Sky	\$304.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$400.66	\$100.00	\$0.00	0.0%
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$18,543.83	\$23,000.00	\$14,014.54	60.9%
Net Excess (Deficit)	\$24,569.46		-\$5,461.40	
Net W/O Major Gifts	\$4,569.46		-\$5,461.40	

Accounts as of 9-27-14

Checking (Hills)	\$1,912.67			
Savings (Hills)	\$412.48			
Other Savings (UICCU, LACCU)	\$13.13		Working Accounts	\$2,338.28
* N.T.F. Savings (LACCU)	\$4,503.15		New Teacher Fund	\$4,503.15
36 mo. CD (LACCU)	\$15,465.14	06/12/15	1.492 % [1.5 % APY]	\$15,465.14
48-59 mo. CD (Hills)	\$21,542.42	02/15/16	1.99 % [2.0 % APY]	\$21,542.42
36 mo. CD (LACCU)	\$21,095.02	07/19/16	[1.3 % APY]	\$21,095.02
49-60 mo. CD (UICCU)	\$20,575.05	04/01/17	2.13 % [2.15 % APY]	\$20,575.05
Mutual Funds (ING)	\$26,100.83	52.8% CRZC	47.2% NTF	\$26,100.83
Grand Total				\$111,619.89