

Sangha Meeting 12/3/23

1. Approval of minutes from 5/7/23. Motion by Beth Mountsier, second by Chris Chapman, unanimous vote to approve.
2. Guiding Teacher Report – Zen Master Jeong Ji reported that the sangha is thriving. She is stepping back a little to share teaching duties more with the other senior teachers. Paul Gulick, JDPSN and Chris Chapman, JDPSN will be teaching independently and leading retreats beginning in 2024. We will start having more than one Dharma Dialogue going concurrently on Sundays. The topic for 2024 Kyol Che will be the Six Paramitas.
3. Abbott Report (Paul Gulick) – (from agenda)
4. Head Dharma Teacher Report (Chris Chapman) – We will be adding a new chant soon. The possibility of an off-site retreat is being considered. There hasn't been a decision yet about resuming formal meals at retreats. Most likely we will do that with participants bringing their own food.
4. Treasurer's Report (Greg Eisen) – (see separate report) Expenses this year were a little higher than income, mostly due to the expense of the bathroom remodel. We have 50 paying members. We will need to refinance our mortgage next year. It is currently \$212,000. We had some donated stock and have some reserves invested in Treasury bonds.
5. Committee Reports:

Building and Grounds (Paul Gulick) – (from agenda). Also, discussion of need for path lighting (Jordan) and motion-activated lights (Gerald), and possibly Ring security system (Paul) related to security concerns with shoes disappearing from outside rack and someone noted to be checking doors from outside.

Finance (Greg Eisen) – Investments currently on “automatic pilot” (U.S. Treasury bond ladder)
6. Nominations/Elections (Paul Gulick) – Composition of the Board of Trustees as described in the bylaws was reviewed. There are up to 8 at-large board members with two-year terms staggered so that up to 4 are elected every year. Nominees must hold at least 5 precepts and be members in good standing. One position is being left open. Current board composition is:
President – Paul Gulick (ex officio, Abbott)
Vice-President – Chris Chapman (ex officio, Head Dharma Teacher)
Secretary – John Craycraft (elected 12/4/22)
Treasurer – Greg Eisen (term expiring)
at large – Jordan Singer (term expiring)
at large – Rebecca Hollenbeck (term expiring)
at large – Joanne Ho (elected 12/4/22)
at large – Deborah Poe (elected 12/4/22)
at large – Jim Peacey (elected 12/4/22)

Renomination of Greg Eisen (Treasurer), Jordan Singer, and Rebecca Hollenbeck was made by Chris Chapman and seconded by Jeong Bong. Approved unanimously.

7. New Business -

Status of Jeff Tipp, JDPSN - currently Teacher Emeritus and not leading retreats. JJ SSN wrote recognition and thank you in newsletter this year.

Hospitality - Is there a system for tea, etc.? (Ares and Shayla working on something), perhaps resuming potlucks after ceremonies, everyone can step up and be welcoming.

Encourage membership with (flexible) dues payment.

Could we do another art exchange? Deborah Poe organized the last one.