

Dharma Rain Zen Center

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2022

Present: Kakumyo Lowe-Charde (A), Alice Chan (1), Todd Tsuho Sattersten (A), Rick Hogetsu Mitchell (2), Sam Murphy (1), Carrie Schultz (3), Stacy Zonnyo Riger (3)

Absent: Jean Renso Bond (1)

Quorum: Met

September minutes have been approved. The next Board meeting is November 17 at 7 pm in-person or via Zoom.

Committee Reports

Financial: Financial results continue to be solid and better than budget. For Q3 Revenue was \$92K, expenses were under budget, and a net loss of -\$11K was more than \$35K better than budget.

Health and Safety: Nothing to report

Building and Grounds: Update to dorm rooms is planned for this fall/winter.

DEI: Held a summer discussion focused on gender and pronouns. Planning a winter forum focused on racial issues.

New Business

Discussed liability concerns.

Zendo Acoustics: There have been several complaints about the acoustics in the Zendo and the challenge of hearing/understanding talks. A study was done to determine what can be done to ameliorate the issue. The study showed that for \$5-7K we can add panels to the ceiling that will bring the zendo in line with ideal acoustics. The board unanimously agreed that this investment will be worked in to the 2023 budget.

Server Upgrade: Our server has reached the end of its expected useful life and its warranty has run out. Upgrading is a major undertaking in both labor and technology and will cost roughly \$9,000. The board unanimously agreed to add this upgrade to our 2023 budget.

Sangha Forum: The annual fall forum is October 16. The board discussed presentations around the three primary topics for discussion: Financials and loan paydown, Guidelines for public comment by DRZC, and possible options for housing on our site.

Most of the time was spent discussing the possible options for housing on our site. Kakumyo had discussions with three organizations interested in building temporary shelter for houseless populations and two organizations interested in building permanent affordable housing. The permanent plans include lease payments and/or building classrooms or additional housing for residents in payment for use of the site. There was extensive discussion around the temporary vs. permanent options and how these fit with the mission and values of DRZC. The forum will

be a good opportunity to solicit sangha feedback to help shape our plans. This is a complex decision with risks and challenges balanced by a real opportunity to alleviate suffering in our community.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sam Murphy, Secretary.