

DHARMA COUNCIL MEETING

February 8, 2024

The Dharma Council provides oversight and stewardship of Dharma presentation and practice at DRZC to support its core mission and values.

In Attendance: Daikō, Jyōshin, Sanin, Thomas, Gabe, Myo'i

Absent: Jiko, Christina

Facilitator: Daiko

Location: Uji

Recorder: Gabe

Agenda

1. Tiny Meditation
2. 60-Second Check-in
3. Approved Minutes from prior meeting
4. Next Meeting Date: March 21, 2024 (**Changed due to ESLT**). April Meeting Date: April 18th (**Changed due to Denko-e**)
5. Updates on action Items from previous meeting(s).
 - a. Myo'i will follow up with Shin'yu, Sangha Council lead, on the topic of training more folks for the Managing Stress and Cultivating Compassion Workshops. **Update: Shinyu and Genko will look for more folks for these workshops.**
 - b. Jiko will check in with Kakumyo about developing supportive structure/guidelines for Wednesday evening discussions. **The consensus is that there is adequate structure in place (see Temple Officers report below).**
 - c. Jiko will check with the current membership coordinator to explore the "new member advisor" idea and will f/u at February DC meeting. **The current membership coordinator and the practice advisor lead are in favor of this idea. Action item: Jiko will develop a job description and run it by DRATT as a next step.**
 - d. Myo'i will review the [Proposed New Programming - Questions to Consider](#) document with regard to the Artistic Expression in Dharmic Practice Workshop proposal and report back to the Dharma Council. **Myo'i spoke with Zonnyo to gather more info and based upon that feels like it is a good fit for DRZC currently. A senior DRZC co-lead still needs to be identified. Action Item: Daiko will communicate DC approval to Zonnyo and ask that the DC be kept updated on developments.**
 - e. Jyoshin will check in with Kakumyo regarding next steps in the new Strategic Plan process. **DRZC won't start working on the new Strategic Plan until next year.**

- f. Sanin will check to see if there are other evals needing to be reviewed by DC. **No additional current evals evident. Question of whether it makes sense for the whole DC to review all the class evals. Action item: Going forward Sanin will create a more condensed report of class evals to be available for the DC and DRATT.**
6. Questions/Topics for Today's Meeting:
 - a. Recruiting New Member of Dharma Council
 - i. *Background:* Thomas is going to join the Dharma Garden Council so we have a vacancy. Do we want to bring on a new member soon?
 - ii. *Summary of main discussion points:* No objections to bringing on a new member. Question of whether it might make sense to ask someone on the DEI committee, or someone interested in joining it, since DEI liaison is a DC role that we are looking to fill.
 - iii. **Action Item(s): All DC members will consider potential candidates to join the DC.**
 - b. Health of the Sangha (standing agenda item) - any observations on trends or other items of note?
 - i. *Summary of main discussion points:* Robust attendance at precepts classes and ~24 people will be taking the precepts this year!
7. Recurring Monitoring Reports and Announcements
 - a. Temple Officers: Plan for summer Wednesday night offerings:
 - i. Teachers to give Shuso list of people who have had success leading dharma offerings. The person leading the discussion/class will provide an outline to be approved by a teacher.
 - ii. Kengan exit ceremony rescheduled for 2/11.
 - iii. Community Lunches will start after Dharma School gets out.
 - iv. Change in precenter language regarding bows and jisha language regarding sanzen.
 - b. Dharma Rain Active Transmitted Teachers: Most recent meeting focused on planning for Jukai retreat, and for the next lay disciple ordination.
8. Action Item Assignments
 - a. **Daiko will communicate DC approval of the Artistic Expression Workshop to Zonnyo and ask that the DC be kept updated on developments.**
 - b. **Going forward Sanin will create a more condensed report of class evals to be available for the DC and DRATT.**
 - c. **Jiko will develop a draft job description for the proposed "New Member Advisor" position and run it by DRATT as a next step.**
 - d. **All DC members: consider potential candidates to join the DC.**