

Dharma Rain Zen Center
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes

February 29, 2024

- Meeting called to order 7:04
 - Zonnyo, Alice, Choten, Kakumyo, Lindsay, Muchaku present. Sam, Renso, Carrie absent. Zonnyo leading meeting, Kakumyo taking notes.
 - Silence/Check in
- Member Concerns
 - Two different sangha members brought up an interest in contributing to an exercise area for residents and retreatants. Discussed options and constraints and decided on a wait and see approach. It's unlikely that a space will be devoted entirely to that, but that function could, and does, happen in several different spaces. It's also unlikely that the temple will invest space or money in equipment unless it is broadly relevant.
- Subcommittee and Standing updates
 - Open Gate Committee finalized their name change from DEI Committee. Having a conversation about whether to continue leading with race.
 - Financials review, see attached. Had a bunch of landscaping related expenses, received the money from the loan repayment, overall a good month although because of inflation the number of months that we are covered for operating costs has decreased a bit.
 - Thank you letters for year-end donations? Most have been mailed.
 - Health and Safety Committee - will catch that next month.
 - Buildings and grounds update - mostly transitioning from winter to spring, with some landscaping in the courtyard, street tree planting, winter pruning, garden prep, barn organization happening recently.
- Agenda Items 7:45pm-9:00pm
 - Dharma Garden
 - Salary for Frog Song. Made a motion to accept Shinyu's suggestion to make Elizabeth's pay be salary instead of hourly.
 - Had a brief discussion about succession planning for Dharma Garden Council, but we will return to this in March when Sam is back.
 - Will also discuss Frog Song's earned income from a more structural perspective next meeting.
 - Email from Jen, define use of word "incident". Anything that could be a legal liability - physical injury or gross malpractice. If they want to tell us more, they can.
 - Grant update - Received a \$100,000 grant from the Hemera Foundation. Applied for a \$1,300,000 grant through Portland Clean

Energy Fund, we're unlikely to find out whether that was accepted until August. Discussed applying for a Community Resilience Hub/Network grant.

- Classroom Building Pre-Application Conference is set up. So we have spent \$14k so far, all that was approved. The next step is to continue design process. Had a conversation about when and how to decide to approve the classroom building. Approved a motion to spend ~\$30k to do enough design and pay necessary city fees to go through the Conditional Use/Zoning process (K proposed, Lindsay seconded, unanimous vote). If PCEF grant doesn't go through, we can either delay and reapply or reduce the scope. If it does go through then highly likely we proceed.
- Rocky Butte Farmers Market - They have a new market area and are hoping to use a DRZC parking site for storage. Motion by K, seconded by Alice, unanimous vote.
- Resilience Hub Discussion - Had a discussion about the degree to which Dharma Rain wants to lean towards being a resilience hub. We've already taken on hosting the local neighborhood emergency team, and have plans to offer a misting station. We could offer indoor shelter for warming and cooling during extreme weather. This would cause more disruption and require more coordination. Will continue to investigate via several means.
- DRZC 50th Anniversary (June 2024) update by Zonnyo on day of logistics; landscaping; fundraising; communications;
- Equity hiring policy was finalized and is up and on the website.
- 82nd Ave TIF update. Zonnyo is on a citizen committee to help allocate TIF funding along 82nd. Gave an update on that process and invited board members to a community event.
- Next meetings: 3rd Thursdays at 7 pm
 - March 21, 2024
 - April 18, 2024
 - May 16, 2024
- Action Items
 - Renso - add DGC succession planning and Frog Song earned income to March agenda.
 - Kakumyo - bring the Board's decisions back to Jenn, the Rocky Butte Farmer's Market, and those bringing the member concern, about their questions. Also, send pro forma to Board.
 - Lindsay and Kakumyo - evaluate relevance and priority of CRB grant, apply if warranted.