

DHARMA COUNCIL MEETING

July 11, 2024

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

In Attendance: Jiko, Daikō, Sanin, Ko'in, Gabe

Absent: Jyoshin, Myo'i, Christina

Facilitator: Daiko

Location: Zoom

Recorder: Gabe

Agenda

1. Tiny Meditation
2. 60-Second Check-in
3. Approved Minutes from prior meeting
4. Next Meeting Date: September 12, 2024
5. Updates on action Items from previous meeting(s):
6. Questions/Topics for Today's Meeting:
 - a. New Member Advisor Position update (Jiko)
 - i. *Background:*
 1. Tsuho has offered to take the role first. He is interested in seeing how it works and has been handling practice advisors up to this point. Here is Tsuho's working description of the role: "New Member Advisor helps newer individuals orient to practice at Dharma Rain. The Advisor acts as a visible first point of contact for new members and can help direct people to appropriate offerings. The New Member Advisor also coordinates and leads the Taking Your Seat class as needed for new members. The term of the position is two years and ends with the completion of Taking Your Seat class."
 2. One question DC has not addressed is: How the role is filled? Is it appointed, and if so, by which body?
 - ii. *Summary of main discussion points:* After being in the role for a while, Tshuo could offer recommendations about how the role should be filled going forward. It would also be good to get reports from Tsuho about how the new role is going in general.
 - iii. **Action Item(s): Jiko will let Tsuho know that the DC supports him starting in the new member advisor role, and ask him to consider how the role should be filled in the future.**

- b. Summer social planning (Christina)
 - i. *Background:* From Christina: “After hearing some feedback from Jiko and the officers, I’ve decided not to move forward with the summer social this year. It sounded like enthusiasm was lackluster in the first place and that people got a lot of socializing at the anniversary. I’m open to concerns or feedback about that decision if you have them”.
 - ii. *Summary of main discussion points:* The 50th anniversary celebration took lots of energy. Let’s get started earlier next year in planning for the summer social.
 - iii. **Action Item(s): Daiko will put summer social planning on the DC agenda early next year.**

- c. Question/Topic: What is happening with the potential art-related workshop?
 - i. *Background:* This was a workshop suggested by Zonnyo, to be led by Jane Aukshunas.
 - ii. *Summary of main discussion points:* Workshop status seems to be in limbo. It was suggested that a senior student co-lead, but the one person who was asked had limited interest.
 - iii. **Action Item(s): San’in will follow up with Zonnyo and Jane Aukshunas about the status of the workshop proposal.**

- d. Topic: What is the status of the Precept Class Series evaluations? (San’in)
 - i. *Background:* San’in has them but has not processed them yet.
 - ii. **Action Item(s): San’in will process the evals from the Precept Class Series for our next meeting.**

- e. Health of the Sangha - any observations? (standing agenda item)
 - i. *Summary of main discussion points:* Attendance seems to be high!

7. Recurring Monitoring Reports and Announcements

- a. Temple Officers: Evaluating continued rental of space to Recovery Dharma. 50th Anniversary debrief - very well attended, positive feedback, but didn’t raise as much \$ as we would have liked. Three Robes Retreat debrief - 32 participants! Festival in the Park 6/28 - positive feedback on that. Shuso will routinely make announcements on Wednesday evenings. Will experiment with ways to handle the coffee line on Sunday mornings.
- b. Dharma Rain Active Transmitted Teachers (Jiko): No meeting this month.

- c. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (Christina): No meeting this month
- d. Affiliated Groups: Dharma Cloud day scheduled to be at DRZC on Saturday April 25th, 2025.
- e. Other Reports/Announcements: No announcement in e-bulletin that Dosho passed away, but this is in the works. Dosho had been receiving visits from the Hand in Hand program for some time. Getsushin recently started receiving home visits from Hand in Hand. The Avatamsaka Sutra chanting group is going great. Lots of folks joining!

8. Action Item Assignments