

Dharma Rain Zen Center

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 16, 2025

Present: Sam Murphy (1), Jean Renso Bond(1), Lindsay Pour (2), Zonnyo Riger (3), Kakumyo Lowe-Charde (A), Alison Muchaku Dunfee (3), Alice Chan (1), Carrie Schultz (3), Choten Robinson (2)

Quorum: Met

Member Concerns: none

Committee Reports

Open Gate: No report

Financial: Time was spent reviewing the 2025 budget.

Building and Grounds: We have had some instances of theft, including a break-in to the barn. Staff is shoring up security including the installation of a stronger back door on the barn.

Health and Safety: No report

Dharma Garden Quarterly Report: No incidents to report. All background checks are complete. Working through appropriate training. Committee has requested we consider spacing out background checks, so they aren't required each year. Kakumyo will check to see if annual checks are a condition of our insurance.

Agenda Items

Banking: Kakumyo is finishing paperwork to open a money market fund at Fidelity and will move \$60,000 into it.

Grants: Recently submitted for a \$90k grant. Getting organized, along with several other Sanghas, for this year's PCEF grant. The board discussed the pros and cons of applying just for money to do energy improvements on current buildings vs. a more complicated application including our new building.

Board Positions: Discussion and voting on officers for the board in 2025, unanimous

Chair – Renso

Vice Chair - Zonnyo

Treasurer - Alice

Secretary - Sam

Budget: There was a lengthy discussion of the 2025 budget proposed by Alice and Kakumyo. We unanimously approved a budget showing a modest accounting loss with a modest positive cash flow.

Alice also suggested, and the board agreed, that she should do an internal audit of Brilliant Sea of Clouds. Keeping this segregated from operating expenses is complicated and we need to make sure we have the right structure in place.

Spring Appeal: We will not do a direct appeal, but we will circulate an email to members asking they bump up their membership commitment to keep up with inflation.

Policy Review: The board reviewed and updated policies for childcare and scholarships.

Action Items

Renso – Ask DG Council to nominate a member for the strategic planning committee. Delete outdated childcare policy and draft new wording for scholarships

Kakumyo – Draft Spring membership letter, let Zacchary know about pay increase, check insurance re background checks

Alice – Divvy up thank you notes for year-end appeal, set up internal audit

Adjourn 9:04

Upcoming Meetings:

February 20

March 20

April 10

Submitted by Sam Murphy, Secretary