

Dharma Rain Zen Center

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2022

Present: Kakumyo Lowe-Charde, Alice Chan, Todd Tsuho Sattersten, Rick Hogetsu Mitchell, Sam Murphy, Carrie Schultz

Absent: Stacy Zonnyo Riger (on sabbatical), Jean Renso Bond

Quorum: Met

March minutes have been approved. The next Board meeting is Thursday, May 21st at 7 pm in-person or via Zoom. Board Retreat is scheduled for July 9th, 2022.

Committee Reports:

Financial: Through March DRZC generated \$116K in Revenue and \$23K in Net Income. Our cash balance is \$116K, which is about 7 months of operating expenses. It is challenging to compare the current year versus last year given the impacts of COVID and the timing of our annual spring fundraiser. Alice pointed out that cash is probably the best measure of financial health for a small organization like ours, and that has remained quite stable at 6-7 month of our operating expenses.

The board continued to discuss financial policies. It was confirmed that there is a separation of financial duties with Zacchary keeping the books and Jiko signing checks. Alice, Kakumyo and Zacchary plan to meet this summer to continue to update and organize our financial policies.

Health and Safety: Most of this month's H&S committee's time was focused on setting up policies around COVID for dharma camp this summer. The policies meet or exceed the requirements put in place by Oregon and were approved by the committee. There are no other changes to COVID policies currently.

Building and Grounds: The weekend of April 30 DRZC is hosting a sale of native plants by Sparrow Hawk Nursery. This is an annual event.

The part time garden manager we hired has quit based on time constraints. The garden is looking good, and Kakumyo is comfortable we can manage it now that Jyoshin is back full time. This will also save the expense we had budgeted to hire the garden manager.

The biggest discussion revolved around the land that had been leased to the Siskiyou Cohousing project. With that lease terminated Dharma Rain now has full control of that

property. 1/2 of it is leased to a group doing organic gardening, primarily as a teaching and community engagement project.

The board began discussions about working with a nonprofit management group to build a small-scale temporary housing enclave for the houseless on the remaining 1/2 of the property. Several faith communities in the area have done this in their parking areas. The idea is to work with the city and the nonprofit management group to build a community of small temporary cabins and to work with people to help them get back on their feet and find permanent housing. There was an in-depth discussion of the many challenges and benefits of participating in this and how it fits with our mission. Kakumyo will share a study on the concept from Portland State University and is meeting with a city representative next week. The board agreed that there were several issues that needed to be understood, but that this was a project worth investigating further.

The office copier died. Our provider suggested a refurbished copier we could purchase for \$2,500. The board unanimously approved this purchase.

Previous Action Items:

Fundraiser: Still a work in process. Tsuho, Hogetsu and Kakumyo are meeting to finalize some ideas and communications for the Sangha.

New Business:

The annual board retreat was scheduled for July 9.

Action Items:

Tsuho, Hogetsu and Kakumyo will report back on more specifics on the spring fundraiser.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sam Murphy