

Dharma Rain Zen Center

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2023

Present: Kakumyo Lowe-Charde (A), Todd Tsuho Sattersten (A), Alice Chan (2), Sam Murphy (2), Carrie Schultz (1), Stacy Zonnyo Riger (1), Jean Renso Bond (1), Alison Muchaku Dunfee (1)

Absent: Rick Hogetsu Mitchell (3)

Quorum: Met

December minutes have been approved. The next Board meeting is February 9 at 7 pm in-person or via Zoom.

Member Concerns: None

Committee Reports

Financial. Will review year end financials at next meeting, Zacchary has been busy closing the books and Alice has sent out donation confirmations for tax purposes.

Health and Safety. No updates.

Building and Grounds. 5 new oak trees planted on the property. Dorm upgrades continuing. Benches have been added by the pond. Conversations about potential use of the lot next door continue.

DEI. 10 people attended the Sangha DEI Forum. Many interesting questions were raised about how to engage DEI at DRZC. The committee will work through these and consider next steps.

Housing Working Group. The two developers of potential affordable housing have re-engaged with Kakumyo and the working group, and one has brought its design team to look at the site. The board agreed with Kakumyo to focus on Cultivate Initiatives as a service provider for a potential safe rest village at DRZC for the houseless. The current concept is that we could host a houseless village in the short term while planning to construct affordable housing longer term. This would allow us to test how it works having others live on site before committing to a permanent housing option.

Agenda Items

Ethics Council has requested we create a clear and separate sexual harassment policy. Annen forwarded an example from the SZBA. The board will review and fine tune this for our next meeting.

Fundraising. The year-end appeal was very successful, with 48 donors giving \$33k, more than double what was budgeted. For our spring appeal it was decided to do a live event with grilled pizza and inviting our neighbors and groups we work with. Given the success of the year end appeal it was decided we could focus more on building community and combine that with fund raising. The tentative date is June 17.

Solar Power Initiative. DRZC was approved for a grant of \$15k for a solar power installation that will provide electricity for our site and act as a limited backup in case of the grid being down. There are many moving parts and players and it is complicated and moving slowly.

Budget Approval. There were several capital expenditures (acoustic panels, server, library improvements) passed by the board last year pending a successful year end appeal. The board unanimously approved these expenses.

Action Items

- All: review and comment on sexual harassment policy circulated by Annen
- Tsuho: communicate with Annen re policy
- Kakumyo: pull together spring appeal/celebration committee, contact Cultivate Initiatives and express our interest in moving forward to a fleshed out plan.
- Zonnyo: develop a communication plan for Sangha and neighbors regarding potential houseless village on our site.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sam Murphy, Secretary.