

DHARMA COUNCIL MEETING

July 13, 2023

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

In Attendance: Kengan, Christina, Sanin, Gabe, Jiko (via Zoom)

Absent: Daikō, Jyōshin, Thomas

Facilitator: Kengan

Location: Uji

Recorder: Gabe

Agenda

1. Tiny Meditation
2. 60-Second Check-in
3. Approved Minutes from prior (May) meeting
4. Next Meeting Date: September 14, 2023
5. Updates on action Items from previous meeting(s)
6. Questions/Topics for Today's Meeting:
 - a. August 19th Summer Social party
 - i. *Summary of main discussion points:*
 1. Some confusion about food for the party. At this point it looks appropriate to ask the kitchen to make food (potato salad etc...)
 2. Games: Cornhole, Bocce. Likely too hot for Badminton given lack of shaded areas.
 3. Time: 1-5pm (extending 1 hr from previous plan)
 4. DC members will commit to help with set up and clean up.
 - ii. **Action Item(s):** Jiko and Christina will talk to Genko to clarify what the kitchen will provide in terms of food and drink, and what we might supplement with (ice cream?), as well as double check what timing is best for the kitchen. DC members will help with set up and clean up.
 - b. Process for evaluating classes (discussion deferred)
 - i. Review and discuss current [evaluation process](#); should anything change now that we have a point person for classes?
 - ii. Review recent class evaluation(s) if they are available
 - iii. **Action Item(s):** Sanin will work on accessing and sharing recently completed class evals for DC to review.

- c. DC Process/Policy Documents: What is there and where is it kept?
 - i. *Background:* There have been questions about process and “how to” recently, so this seems worth discussing). Example documents are [Request to Use Space](#), and [Criteria to Hold Programs](#)
 - ii. *Summary of main discussion points:* It would be useful to work on organizing the new DRZC Dharma Council Google Docs folder.
 - iii. **Action Item(s):** Gabe will check with Jyoshin about how to approach organizing the DRZC Dharma Council Google Docs folder.

 - d. Health of the Sangha - any observations on trends or other items of note?
 - i. *Summary of main discussion points:* Lots of folks coming for weekday morning program and sanzen. Steady influx of new people. The more robust energy and connectivity feels like it represents continued recovery from the impacts of the pandemic.
7. Recurring Monitoring Reports and Announcements:
- a. Temple Officers: Plan to resume once/month Tisarana on Sundays. Jyoshin is planning a class on form. Intention is to offer the Taking your Seat again this year instead of alternating years.
 - b. Dharma Rain Active Transmitted Teachers: In process of planning for future Daily Liturgy Seminary classes.
 - c. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Working on an equity tool at the request of the Board. Meant to be used when considering policy decisions, programs, etc. Once complete we can take a look and see if this is something we want to use in Dharma Council.
 - d. Other Reports/Announcements:
 - i. Library update: New furniture and altar! Significant reorganization and re-labeling of books; New library laptop; New scanning technology which will allow us to start a fresh new inventory process.
8. New Action Item Assignments and Deadlines