

Santa Cruz Zen Center



All Sangha Meeting Minutes

Saturday November 16, 2019

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Open with Zazen (5 minutes)

1. Welcoming Comments
 - a. Thank You
 - b. Introduction of Existing Board Members
 - c. Welcome to Gilbert (newly elected Board Member)
 - d. Explanation that we have decided to have ten board members therefore all people on the ballot are now on the board

2. Review of the Year
 - a. New website rolled out

Congratulations and support of the new website given. Noticeable increase in response and attendance to SCZC offerings attributed to the new website.

- b. Decision to transfer administrative responsibilities to contract workers

As stated in past minutes, Kokyo's previous responsibilities have been divided, with a portion of his salary to pay the contract workers salary (20 hours per month for each worker at \$20 an hour).

- c. Began discussion of changes in Practice Leadership

Cathy Toldi will step down from her leadership role involving administrative and decision-making, but will continue her role as a teacher offering classes, offering dokusan (practice discussion), and giving dharma talks at SCZC.

- d. Annual examination of the reserve study led to Board decision to remodel the kitchen and the interior bathroom

April 15th of 2020 is the planned start of the remodeling. Three months minimum expected with indoor house bathroom being

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the larger project. Will make other repairs as necessary during this time.

3. Changes in Practice Leadership
 - a. Explanation of the [Practice Leadership Model](#)
 - b. Reading of Cathy's comments (Anais to read)
 - c. Gratitude for Kokyo and announcement from him regarding his Departure (Kokyo to say a few words)
 - d. Continuation of the model for now with Gene and Patrick staying in their current roles
4. Program / Calendar of Events and discussion of new programming experiment with space. (Gene and Patrick)

January thru March: Kokyo will offer a Study Focused class.

April thru May: Patrick to offer a class (Buddha's birthday April 8th).

June: we will have a Community Meeting led by Gene to assess how things are going with the changes in 2020 and allow for input from the larger Sangha community.

August: Cathy will offer a class on the Mountains and Rivers Sutra.

October and November: Gene will lead the Fall Practice Period and teach a class.

December: Patrick will lead Rohatsu sesshin.

What will continue?

Schedules! meetings

Calendar! ceremonies

Alternating months with sesshins (meals will be bag lunch during remodel period), day sits, half-day sits

Sangha Days

Informal study including: Monday morning breakfast group (eventual location during remodel period not yet officially finalized), Awakening Together group, cooking for Outreach programs (Patrick or Alexander have offered the use of their kitchen for homeless cooking during remodel), and sewing classes.

What will be different?

The Jewels of the World group will be replaced at the same time spot with a new group of offerings on the Foundations of Buddhist practice starting in 2020.

Practice Leaders may not be available for all events (Patrick and Gene).

Added events and notes:

There will be an event planned for Kokyo and Shoho's departure, as well as Kokyo leading a Chosan event (question and answer period

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allowing the opportunity for each person to ask a brief practice-related question to the teacher).

SCZC no longer burns incense in the zendo or in porch area. There will be a transition from the use of chip incense to the use of flower petals.

We had a great turnout of mutual support and encouragement from the Sangha during the All-Sangha meeting as we transition into the upcoming changes of the new year.

Thanks everyone for your ongoing practice and support!

Notes submitted by Ken Collins 11/19/2019