

Santa Cruz Zen Center



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

6:45 pm - 8:30 pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83915217664>

Members

Name	Role	Name	Role
Anais Schenk	President	Will Peck (Not Present)	Member-at-large
Mari Tustin	Vice-President	Neti Parekh	Member-at-large
Ken Collins	Secretary	Rene Netter	Member-at-large
Yaro Jane Arny	Treasurer	Gilbert Ramirez	Member-at-large
Sara McLellan (Not Present)	Member-at-large	Eugene Bush	Practice Leader
Rachel Grad	Member-at-large		

Open with Zazen (5 minutes)

Updates

- 1) Community Comments
- 2) **Subcommittee Reports:**

Membership: Request for another volunteer to help develop and coordinate information in creating an electronic membership directory. Discussion involved allowing members flexibility in choosing privacy options regarding contact information. Michael B. (previous Treasurer) is said to have set up the last past directory, and is also aware of how to set up an electronic version of the membership directory. Yaro and Will are to contact Michael B. to request his assistance.

Property Management: Construction to begin May 3, 2020. Contractor has already ordered cabinets and countertops. Will begin receiving progress billings by Contractor as supplies are purchased and received.

Nomination:

Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda (cont)

Executive:

Finance:

SCCCU:

checking \$18,274.18
saving \$13,313.85
remodel \$11,476.11

RBC: \$539,625.83

Practice Leadership:

Regular Agenda

1. Approve February meeting minutes. Attachment 1 (All)

APPROVED

2. Consider approval for purchase of either a wifi extender or an improved router plus wifi extender to allow for increased connectivity in the zendo and other areas of the property. (Gene / Rachel)

*Connected in part to Regular Agenda question 3 below. Practice Leaders discussed the possibility of a hybrid version upon returning to the physical SCZC property using Zoom. However, the present wi-fi connection is not reliable at this time. Request is to purchase an improved wi-fi connection to allow for future capability. **Request for 1) Rachel to meet with Cruzio onsite to determine wi-fi capability. 2) Investigate cost of wi-fi. 3) Research possible need for a wi-fi extender. And 4) Consider changing the wi-fi provider to accommodate for necessary upgrading needs if Cruzio cannot meet them.** Rachel and Yaro will work together regarding budgeting and cost. If Cruzio internet cannot provide the capability, Rachel will notify the Board to approve a recommendation for another internet provider.*

APPROVED

Also included in the above APPROVAL is, 5) Board recommendation to install a digital phone line to allow messages to go directly to email that would allow easier access from offsite locations.

3. Discuss how to physically open the zendo again. Many people have come to appreciate the online offerings. The Board should consider

Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda (cont)

how we roll out our programs after the shelter in place is lifted. A hybrid approach of in person and online has been proposed as a possible means of softly reopening and maintaining an online presence.

*Discussed transitioning and easing towards the eventual return to the zendo and SCZC property. Consideration was made to set up a hybrid version that would assist long distance practitioners who are presently participating in SCZC Zoom sittings and other activities. Privacy issues and technical capabilities were discussed. It was mentioned that Great Vow monastery in Oregon could be used as a model in transitioning towards the hybrid form of physical and internet access. **Poll in wanting a hybrid version upon reopening: (Since in Stay-In-Place orders have not changed at present, details will be presented at future Board discussion before implementing).***

APPROVED

Renee volunteered in assisting in the technical aspects of the eventual setting up of a hybrid version.

4. Discuss whether SCZC should have an emergency response plan for different contexts including natural disasters, threats of violence, or health emergencies. Consider creating a subcommittee to develop an emergency response plan, a phone tree, and possibly training for specific groups responsible for implementing the plan. (Anais)

Ken volunteered to lead the Emergency Response Plan

subcommittee. *Ken to develop and present an emergency response plan to the Board. Rachel to make a request for added volunteers to participate within the subcommittee via SCZC website.*

APPROVED

5.(May be deferred depending on time) There has been interest in having a youth group at the SCZC. However, within our "Violence & Abuse Prevention Policy" it is stated that: Parents are informed that they are responsible for being in the presence of their own children (any one under the age of 18) when their children are on the premises of the Santa Cruz Zen Center." There has also been some concern that there may be an insurance issue related to unaccompanied minors. Cathy and Gene are looking into these issues to see if more youth participation can be facilitated on site. The Board can share ideas on how to address these potential hurdles to support this effort. (Gene)

Mari volunteered to look into the insurance policy for clarification. Renee to compare what other like organizations set up their Violence & Abuse policies.

Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda (cont)

Gene and Cathy will await response from Renee and Mari before moving forward to clarify the above agenda.

NOTE: The discussion regarding SCZC affiliations with political movements will be continued at the next in-person Board meeting.