

# Santa Cruz Zen Center



## Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

6:45 pm - 8:30 pm

<https://zoom.us/j/2951668406>

Zoom meeting ID 295 166 8406, password 753

### Members

Name	Role	Name	Role
Mari Tustin	President	Neti Parekh (Absent)	Member-at-large
Sara McLellan	Vice-President	Rene Netter	Member-at-large
Ken Collins	Secretary	Gilbert Ramirez	Member-at-large
Yaro Jane Army	Treasurer	Anita Elliot	Member-at-large
		Sandra McCann	Member-at-large
Rachel Grad	Member-at-large	Eugene Bush	Practice Leader
Will Peck	Member-at-large	Patrick Teverbaugh	Practice Leader

Open with Zazen (5 minutes)

### Updates

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

Membership:

#### **Property Management:**

*There are leaks in the irrigation system that required being shut off recently due to the timer settings. Will (who helped lay the irrigation system) mentioned that the irrigation pipes are not meant to be buried, making it difficult to locate leaks. It will need to be redone the next Sangha Day (Will). Mari, Patrick, Ken, and Liz (Gardener) to learn the irrigation system shut offs, as well as the property's water and electrical shut offs in and around the property. Mari will prepare a colored coded chart that illustrates shutoff points.*

*Gene mentioned that we should systematically begin to alert Glenn (113) of upcoming events involving the house for community events*

## Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda (cont)

*and activities as we gradually move towards less COVID restrictions in the coming months. Contact information was made available to members who would need to contact Glen ahead of time for SCZC community uses on the first floor and kitchen only as was agreed upon in the lease for the rental use of 113.*

Nomination:

Executive:

### **Finance:**

#### **SC County Credit Union:**

\$42,468.69

#### **RBC Investment Account:**

\$645,385.42

*Neti is leaving for Australia June 30th. Mari has ordered the carpets, painting and cleaning, new toilet, etc. for 119A to renovate during the month of July in preparation for renting it out starting August 1st. \$10,000 was allotted but Mari expects that it will require less.*

### **Practice Leadership.**

**See Regular Agenda 2.a and 2.b Below**

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### **Regular Agenda**

1. Approve April 2021 meeting minute:

**APPROVED**

2. Practice Committee discussion/actions:

- a. Reverend Bush will present a review of the consensus decision making protocol that is used by the Board:

*Discussion began in posting the Board Agenda on the website so the community can have time to consider attending or notifying the Board to make any comments during the Community Comments portion of the Board meeting. The Minutes are on the website after they are approved by the Board. Rachel to begin posting the Agenda on the website so as to allow the community to review and respond if they wish to participate.*

## Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda (cont)

*Gene gave a visual presentation on the "Elements of participatory Decision Making" for the Board," It's based on values we would have in common such as mutual respect and in making sustainable agreements within groups such as the Board. Presentation was offered as a refresher to the Board's present decision-making process, as well as to help describe and familiarize the Board with the dynamics and reasoning for the polling process as described briefly below:*

Table 1. A five point gradient of agreement

1	2	3	4	5
Wholehearted Endorsement	Support with a Minor Point of Contention or Reservation	Neutral	Major Reservations	Veto
"This decision is good for our group"	"This decision is adequate for our group, but I have something to add or clarify"	"I don't feel strongly one way or the other" or "I defer to the wisdom of the group" <sup>1</sup>	"I don't understand the issues well enough yet." or "This decision is problematic but I'm not going to hold up the group" or "If we don't address XYZ issues this will be a bad decision for our group"	"On principle, this would be a bad decision for our group"

*The material Gene presented is based on the book "Facilitators Guide to Participatory Decision-making" co-authored by our own Reverend Cathy Toldi which has been utilized all over the world. There is a copy available in the SCZC office as a reference.*

- b. Reverend Teverbaugh will review the process of opening the Zendo for practice:

*In mid-June, plans are directed towards moving all the Zoom sittings in the zendo (Zoom evenings {M,T,Th,F}) with one person (masked) to perform the chanting. As COVID precautions ease, tentative plans are to begin opening morning and noon sittings in the zendo with Zoom participation by late Summer. Wednesday Dharma Talks will likely return last due to its higher attendance. Zoom sittings in the zendo will become more formal*

## Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda (cont)

*as restrictions ease, requiring a need for refresher class for practice roles such as the Doan, Fukudo, etc. The refresher for participants is set for June 14th, and starting June 15th we will start formal evening services from the zendo (M, T, TH, F). Discussed was the influence and benefits of continuing Zoom as we proceed and resume our formal practices in the zendo. Also discussed were several methods and discussions on what equipment would best meet our needs to continue an ongoing hybrid version of Zoom and zendo participation. Patrick and Rene' have been researching equipment versions with considerations offered and shared by the other Board members.*

***Proposal was made to have a subcommittee of both Patrick and Rene' research audio/visual equipment that best suits our needs to accommodate long distance practitioners, and which would also allow for the flexibility of having speakers who would not otherwise be able to attend or participate in person to give dharma talks or offer a class. An approximate budget of \$1700 (camera, computer, tripod, etc.) was offered by the Board for purchase:***

**APPROVED**

*Notes taken by Ken Collins (Board Secretary)*