SCZC Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, February 23, 2016
6:35 pm – 8:30 pm

Zendo

Edie Brown
President
Neti Parekh
Member-at-large

Rev. Dana Takagi
Vice-President
Sally Aguirre
Member-at-large

Liz Milazzo
Secretary
Laurie McCann
Member-at-large

Michael Bashista
Treasurer
Rev. Gene Bush
Practice Leader

Chris Davidson
Member-at-large
Rev. Kokyo Henkel
Head Teacher

Mary Knudtson
Member-at-large
Rev. Patrick Teverbaugh
Practice Leader

Intention – Read “Heartfelt agreements”

Decide agenda for the meeting

Topic 1: How we communicate on the Board.
New member: Found being on the Board challenging the first year. Felt we didn’t really follow our guidelines, not necessarily really coming to a topic with an open mind. Questioned process: if we poll xx number of times, do we then go to majority voting?

No, model is based on consensus. If we consider a topic 3 times with no resolution, then the item gets dropped. [Please see further discussion under minutes review at the March meeting, particularly relevant text from by-laws that discusses the role of the Board President to gauge if consensus has been reached.] This member found circling back to some issues dis-heartening and discouraging. Didn’t sense “open listening,” being willing to change our minds. It made her not want to continue Board service, and question the priest ordination path. A lot of the problem is having such packed agendas – so not enough time to work through the issues. Tension between practice leaders and Board very uncomfortable to her (in ref. to question of whether Practice leaders could speak at a meeting).

Everyone has the right to name the tension, and ask the meeting to “stop” for a moment(s).

Querying other new Board members: One member felt her way of being in the world is more “inclusive” than what she encountered on the Board. Newer members not aware of the history of past times when there was tension between Board and Leaders.

Group process developmental model offered: “storming,” “norming,” then “performing.”

How best to communicate when a Board has new members, mid-level, and some with a lot of history?